

## Festival 49 is unforgettable!

Not many of us can say we're better than ever at 49 **but East Finchley Festival** can! Organisers had no intention of waiting until the event's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year to deliver one of the best parties in the park that we've ever had.

Cherry Tree Wood was transformed on Sunday 18 June. The quality of entertainment on the two stages was truly outstanding and the sheer creativity and variety of all the market stalls meant visitors were never short of something new to discover.

The crowd of thousands was made up of all ages, proving that East Finchley's summer highlight is totally inclusive. There was laser tag in the woods, a storytelling zone, an arts and crafts tent and a football shoot out. All the while, fabulous food was being served up and beer, gin and cocktails flowed. Congratulations to the volunteer team at East Finchley Festival CIC, who put in so much work to make it a success every year. Thanks also to all the stewards and raffle ticket sellers who volunteeredtheirtimeontheday.



A special mention must go to the 224 North London Air Scouts whose hard-working young litter pickers patrolled the park throughout the six hours of the festival and afterwards to leave Cherry Tree Wood looking pristine. Photographers Mike Coles and Tetiana Shedko were there all day too and we hope you enjoy this selection of photos that really capture the festival spirit. Find more on Facebook and Instagram@EastFinchleyFestival. And roll on Festival 50 in 2024!



Michelle Collins opens the festival



Host Pat "Have Mercy" Leacock



Shoppers delight: the many craft and makers stalls



Cllrs Alison Moore and Arjun Mittra on stewarding duty with Cllr Ann Clarke and Helen Pugh and Sara Sibley of Finchley Foodbank



Tennis coach Paul Salter and the TP Tennis team ran free coaching sessions in the courts



Double trouble: Life of Riley rocking the main stage



Crowds filled Cherry Tree Wood



Delicious: Fala Portugues



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The Archer Academy school choir on the community stage