



# Festival fun in the heat and sun

*“This is my first time here, it’s amazing”* and *“It’s like everybody in East Finchley is here”* – just two of the reactions from visitors to the hugely successful Community Festival that filled Cherry Tree Wood on Sunday 21 June.

With temperatures nudging 29C and close to unbroken sunshine for the whole day, it was the perfect day to be outside enjoying the entertainment on two stages, family activities, community stalls, creators’ market and all kinds of food and drink.

BBC newsreader Reeta Chakrabarti got proceedings underway at 12pm as the festival parade arrived on the field after making their way down the High Road from Martin School.

Thousands of visitors came by during the course of the afternoon, bumping into friends and soaking up the vibrant atmosphere that filled every corner of the park. And the slightly cooler spots in the shaded areas under the trees on all sides were fully occupied for picnics and family gatherings well into the early evening.

This annual highlight in the East Finchley social calendar has been running for more than 50 years but it can’t happen each June without the hours of hard work that are put in all year by the team of volunteers who organise it so brilliantly and fundraise tirelessly to keep it a free event for everyone.

And not forgetting the dozens more volunteers who lend a hand setting up and on the day to make sure everything runs smoothly.

A huge THANK YOU from all of us to everyone involved!



Festival photos by Mike Coles