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Local News is our Aim

The Archer



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CARS & COURIERS

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A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.

Hit me with your rhythm stick!

Co-host Pat 'Have Mercy' Leacock lets rip on the drums during soul/funk outfit *Dex and Mercy's* live performance at the East Finchley Community Festival in Cherry Tree Wood.

Bands, dancers, singers and performers supplied a non-stop programme of entertainment for the thousands of visitors who enjoyed the warm weather and the fun of being amongst friends and neighbours on Sunday 25 June.

Once again, the organising team from the East Finchley Community Trust, along with dozens of willing volunteers and scores of stallholders gave us another memorable and free festival with something for everyone. Congratulations to everyone involved in making it such a success!

And if you enjoyed the day you can help make next year's festival just as good by offering your ideas and help at the first festival planning meeting on Monday 25 September at Martin Primary School, Plane Tree Walk, N2, starting at 7.30pm. This year the event was filmed from start to finish so watch this space for details of where you can see relive the highlights. Meanwhile, turn to page 6 for our brilliant photos from the day.



Pat 'Have Mercy' Leacock on stage with *Dex and Mercy*. Photo: Stuart Mitchell

The Archer treasure hunt was won by Molly Welch of Sussex Gardens, N6.

Fire safety under review in all tower blocks

Barnet Homes has sought to reassure residents of tower blocks in East Finchley following the Grenfell Tower fire last month in which at least 79 people are believed to have died.

The arms-length organisation, which manages council housing on behalf of Barnet Council, said all blocks with communal areas were subject to regular fire safety inspections.

Any blocks with external cladding, thought to have been a factor in the Grenfell Tower fire, are being urgently re-inspected. East Finchley's three towers in Prospect Ring and Norfolk Close do not fall

into this category.

Prospect Ring resident Dermott Donnelly told *The Archer*: "The immediate response is that our building appears to be perfectly safe from a similar disaster. However, we are not experts and would expect Barnet Homes to inspect the buildings in Prospect Ring immediately, if only to put our minds at rest."

"All residents have recently

been required to have fireproof doors fitted to each individual flat, an expensive demand at the time,, but now? And there are fireproof doors between each floor. The building seems to be constructed throughout of brick and concrete which suggests that there would be little inflammable material at risk."

Know the plan

The advice from London Fire Brigade for people who live in high rise properties or purpose-built flats and maisonettes, aside from having a working smoke alarm, is to make sure you know your escape plan.

Further information is available on the LFB website at www.london-fire.gov.uk/know-the-plan.asp.

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