



Time to relax: Festival-goers enjoying the food and music in Cherry Tree Wood

Like it had never been away!

East Finchley Festival made a triumphant return to Cherry Tree Wood on a sunny Sunday last month after being postponed earlier this year and cancelled altogether in 2020. Rebranded as the Late Summer Social, the festival revived its usual brilliant mix of live music, food, community and friendship for a six-hour event that drew in thousands of visitors.



DJ Pat 'Havemercy' Leacock keeping everyone entertained



A free karate workshop with Kaishi Karate School



Rangoon headlining the music stage

It was a major feat of organisation for a hardworking group of volunteers at the East Finchley Festival CIC (Community Interest Company) who put the whole thing together in a matter of weeks once they knew that government restrictions would allow it. And they were joined by dozens more volunteers on the day who signed up to marshal stallholders, help the crowds and sell raffle tickets and merchandise.

The inflatable slides and climbing wall had been replaced by a soccer shoot-out area, a storytelling tent and a wellbeing area for all ages, and space had been left for families to spread out with their picnics. Dozens of local makers exhibited beautiful crafts in the sunshine and a slick contactless food ordering app ensured that there were no queues for food.

Congratulations to everyone involved in staging the Late Summer Social and making it a reason for people in East Finchley to come together again after 18 months of isolation and keeping a distance. And thanks to our own Mike Coles for capturing some of the best moments of the day in these festival photographs. We hope you enjoy them!



East Finchley rapper, WondR WomN



A huge range of local crafters and makers shared their wares



Kids' yoga with Sunnah Rose in the Wellbeing Zone