



THE WIMBLEDON FOOTBALL COLLECTIVE IN THE COMMUNITY

Last Sunday the largest open air community event returned to Wimbledon Common after an absence of three years due to Covid, and out of respect for the Queen's passing last year.

It was the largest event ever staged and included the Wimbledon Fair as well, attracting an estimated 10,000 plus visitors.

WISH, Dons Local Action Group, and the Foundation all came together to represent Wimbledon football as the only club in the world that has three charities under its partnership umbrella, recognised by the EFL as the community club of the year for the last two years.

A sea of yellow and blue with our three gazebos we were joined by both Haydon and Wandle Wombles, once again the star attractions under extreme weather conditions. Kirk Pritchard and Dean Parsons went above and beyond once again as our club and heritage mascots.

We were also joined for the first time by The Dons Den Speedway historians with their pop-up museum.



It was great to interact with the attendees and other local organisations, some of whom were not aware that the Club had returned to Wimbledon. Further evidence that we need to be at every community event possible to spread the word.

WISH is grateful for the support from DLAG and the Foundation. It's great to be working as a unit along with our Wombles and an ever-growing number of partners both local and national which will facilitate a number of new heritage points right across the borough in 2024.

WISH will be working with them next year on a film project, a new speedway heritage installation, and a destination point within the stadium precinct, celebrating their history at the stadium. We're hopeful that they'll bring the speedway riders reunion meetings to the Cherry Red Records Stadium as well, adding to the increased number of multi-sport events held next year.

