

Salisbury International Arts Festival 2011

Party in the Close Salisbury Cathedral Close

There was a very good sized, happy crowd for this year's Party in the Close.

As well as the main bands, there was a mobile tea service by street theatre company Wet Picnic, circus skills workshops with Bristol's Cirque Bijou and a wide range of activities for children.

I enjoyed Kanda Bongo Man and was pleased to catch the opening set by Caught in the Crossfire, who I really wanted to see. This young Salisbury band came across so well and so confidently, playing to a crowd of nearly 3,000, that at first I didn't realise it was them! It was great to see so many young people coming along to support them.

I couldn't stay for the top-of-the-bill band Soothsayers and Red Earth Collective, as I had to leave to get ready to do the Midnight Walk on stilts, but I was still able to enjoy the spectacular fireworks display from my vantage point in Churchill Gardens. Next year I'll make sure I stay for the whole event.

Kevin Follett
Young Critic