

Bridge Inn Community Farm Host 'Geoffest' Memorial Concert for Late Colleague in Southport's Victoria Park

Formby's Bridge Inn Community Farm recently held a special concert entitled 'Geoffest' in Victoria Park, Southport on Saturday 18th May in memory of colleague Geoff Spencer.

Geoff Spencer unexpectedly passed away of a heart attack last September, aged 54.

'Geoffest', a celebration of Geoff's life and his love of music, was organised by his wife Karen, his two children Hannah and Jack, his other relatives, friends and colleagues at Bridge Inn Community Farm, where his friendship and enthusiasm remain greatly appreciated.

Bridge Inn Community Farm where Geoff worked is a centre which offers a wide range of opportunities for individuals who have learning disabilities.

Geoff himself had worked in special education for years and was the football coach for The Southport Special Athletes.

To celebrate Geoff's love of music, some of the proceeds from 'Geoffest' will go to The Joe Strummer Foundation, a charity which supports projects that aim to create empowerment through music.

This marks a fitting tribute to Geoff, who formed a rock band with his students from Bridge Inn Community Farm called Hayburner, who performed onstage at the event alongside other local bands Fag Ash Lil, Building Giants, Raw Deal and L'il Devil.

The remaining proceeds will raise money for providing defibrillators in the community.

Rachel Farrell, one of the organisers at 'Geoffest' said: "There are defibrillators around in Southport and Sefton, but not everyone knows exactly where to find them in an emergency situation.

"Donations from our audience at 'Geoffest' are crucial to raising lots of money to put as many defibrillators into the community as possible."

Other parts of 'Geoffest' included a rock DJ, an ice cream van, food made by Willow Catering and alcohol provided by The Cellar Bar.

The event also celebrated Geoff's love for Volkswagens-two Volkswagen camper vans which Geoff had helped to work on, were used on site as a photo booth area for 'Geoffest' attendees.

The response from local organisations has been positive, with its sponsors including The Southport Comedy Festival, Mersey Rail and Tripoint Automotive.

If you would like to make a donation to help celebrate Geoff's legacy, please contact Bridge Inn Community Farm on 01704 830303 or email bridgeinnfarm@talktalk.net