

Seafest 2009 Post Event press release. Word count: 297

What a day, What a party!

The sun shone, the crowd came and Seafest 2009 has been tagged as 'one of the best' by both attendees and event convenors John Macphail and Janice Dreaver. "The stallholders and festival attendees joined forces to give us a fantastic day with everyone enjoying themselves."

A sell out event, the annual festival once again provided the mix of food, beverage and entertainment that Seafest has become known for. Basking in the sun with a glass of local wine, Texans Jerry and Nelda Kimble said "Kiwis are the most relaxed partiers! It seems to come so naturally to everyone to just have fun. Seafest was a great experience"

Costumes saw the site filled with pirates, Popes and Bishops, Hippies, Mermaids, Jelly Fish and many more intriguing outfits. Two Rivers Wines seemed aptly named taking out two wine awards with their 2007 Riesling awarded 'Wine of Seafest' and their 2008 Pinot Noir the 'Red Wine of Seafest'. 'Finest Seafood' took out the best seafood item with their Scallop boat. The Scallops had a chilli and macadamia crust and were "delicately flavoured and absolutely delicious" said food judge Tony Gillan. 'A taste of North Canterbury' stall took out a special award for their 'creative collection of businesses working together.' Judging the whitebait fritters took some time as there were 7 on offer with Kaikouras own Strawberry Tree taking out the award.

Chairperson Neroli Gold said all the months of planning and hard work leading up to the Big Top Bash and Seafest are well and truly rewarded when the event runs smoothly and everyone enjoys themselves like this year. "The cold southerly held off until we were taking down the last tents on Sunday!"

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## **Results**

Best Seafood item 2009: Finest Kind – Scallop boat with chilli and Macadamia nuts crust

Best food item 2009: Strawberry Tree – First class whitebait pattie

Seafest special award 2009: A taste of North Canterbury. (collective of North Canterbury Wine and Food Trail members)

Seafest special award 2009: Pancake Heaven – Dutch Proffertjes

Best presentation award 2009: Glasseye Creek –for best presentation and marketing with their food service tray.

Wine of Seafest 2009: Two Rivers – 2007 Riesling

White Wine of Seafest 2009: Momo Chardonnay 2008

Red Wine of Seafest 2009: Two Rivers – 2008 Pinot Noir