



We were delighted to receive this grant towards the first Free Open Air Prom staged by Music in Felixstowe to mark our 10th year on Saturday 11h August 2018.

This afternoon and evening of performances cost a total of £10,000 to put on, much of which was spent on the hire of a marquee, chairs, amplification equipment and payment of the musicians. It was extremely successful, with over 1000 people attending over the course of the afternoon, which started at 2.00pm and finished at around 10.00pm.

Thankfully, along with the Town Council and the Scarf Trust and many personal donations, we were able to cover the cost entirely. We were very pleased that the Mayor was able to attend, and we believe he was very impressed, and it certainly added to the attractions of Felixstowe for tourists that weekend.

We hope to stage a similar event in 2019 for which we have already requested a grant from Felixstowe Town Council, but on this occasion we shall apply for permission to take a collection from this attending to defray part of the cost.

This year, Music in Felixstowe has been very busy in the Town and the district in bringing top quality musicians to Felixstowe for the benefit of young people and particularly the elderly, so that they are able to enjoy excellent music.

Throughout the year we have put on performances at the Orwell Hotel on a monthly basis, which have been arranged to take place at 11.30 am and last for just over an hour. This means that older citizens can more conveniently travel to the easily accessible venue, and get home in the light. The FACTS bus has also helped to transport some people to the venue.

During the Summer we have written, and supervised, the rehearsal of 'Felix the Cat' a musical produced for the 7 local Primary schools which was performed at a local Primary school. The performance was packed with other children and their parents for a thoroughly enjoyable evening, and has given those performing a great insight into a musical production and the joy of singing.

Later in the year, we staged the Young Musicians Showcase, on Wednesday lunchtimes during July and August, when locally talented youngsters were able to perform a programme of their choice in St Andrews Church. Many of them are at, or about to go to, Music Colleges, and one is now the Organ Scholar at Wells Cathedral before taking up his place at Cambridge University to study music.

We have also presented several concerts in a variety of styles on Saturdays and Sundays, including 'Last Night at the Proms' at St John's Church in September, and a New Year's Concert of Strauss music at the Orwell Hotel on New Years Day.

The highlight of our year was the free 'Open Air Prom' staged in the Seafront Gardens in August last year, to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Music in Felixstowe. This lasted all afternoon and evening, with a variety of music and musicians, and was attended by over 1000 people, including the Mayor and lots of tourists. Luckily the weather was very kind!

We are fortunate that local people come and support these concerts, which we feel adds so much to the range of cultural activities the town is able to offer.