

Music In Felixstowe report to Felixstowe Town Council March 23rd 2023

You granted £1,000 towards putting on free music events throughout the year.

These started with a session in the children's area at Felixstowe Library with a violin, harp and cello, There was also an opportunity for the kids to try out the instruments, which they did! The library actually asked to do a session in the afternoon for a group of needy people, which 2 of us did, the harpist and me. That again was really well received. We have subsequently returned for further sessions.

To celebrate the Jubilee weekend we did a performance on the old platform in the Co-op car park. People brought deck chairs and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The youth series in the summer was a bit disappointing in that not many people came to see the amazing young musicians. We think this was because of the extreme heat for at least 3 of these concerts. The young performers got masses out of it, however. One parent wrote "thank you so much for giving Seb a chance to perform. I think it is so beneficial for aspiring musicians, it makes such a difference to them. It is rare that they get the opportunity to perform more than one piece at a time" A very young pupil of mine, also called Seb, was very inspired and insisted on learning one of the pieces played by his namesake.

The major free event we put on was "Proms on the Prom" in the Spa Gardens held on August Bank Holiday. We were very lucky to catch the end of the good weather experienced throughout August and hundreds of people took advantage of it, One of our trustees sorted out really widespread publicity for this, including large banners. It was an afternoon and evening of free music which included the Andi Hopgood jazz trio, Felixstowe Community Choir with Festival Orchestra, Children's favourites, preceded by a try out an instrument session.

There was a performance by a well known singer/songwriter Tony Shevlin and one by the recently formed folk group, The White Horse Brawlers, an amateur group delighted to play for us. Several people have followed this up by going to watch them in their weekly session at the White Horse pub on Church Road.

The evening was a concert of Film Music by the Festival Orchestra. Some people stayed for the whole day including our oldest regular punter, who sat on her walking frame for the whole time. Her only problem was getting a taxi at the end, but we sorted out a lift home for her.

I have to say that it was an amazing event and people were commenting how brilliant it was to have this free music going on. We are hoping to do this every year, but being the sole organizer I would need a band of helpers another year! Having said that, we had volunteers who went amongst the crowd with buckets and raised just under £1,000.

We estimate that upwards of 1,000 attended this event throughout the day.

We have recently played to 2 groups of Memory Lane attendees which was very well received both by those afflicted with memory loss and their carers and helpers.

All the above events will be repeated during 2023-24

Music In Felixstowe is very grateful for your help in putting on these events.

MUSIC IN FELIXSTOWE

Photos from Open Air Proms on the Proms August Bank Holiday 2022

Try an instrument session



Community Choir and Festival Orchestra Prom

Evening Orchestra Prom



Station Platform Jubilee Concert



Library Joining in with the musicians

