

Young local talent performed live in Kinross In aid of Help Musicians Scotland

Last Sunday in August (30th) was celebrated in Kinross with a long awaited live performance of young local musical talent organised by KLEO (Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation). The concert was supported and hosted by the Green Hotel in the beautiful surroundings of their courtyard. Just over a hundred local residents attended this event which was well managed according to the COVID rules on distancing and outdoor events agreed with the Perth and Kinross Council following the Scottish Government guidelines.

The musicians, hotel and organisers gave their services for free and with free entry, the audience were asked to make voluntary contributions in aid of Help Musicians Scotland. This charity provides "help, support and opportunities to empower musicians, including Health and Welfare services and Creative development funding".

The programme presented by the young talented musicians ranged from light classics, popular songs, film music, blues and rock.

There were beautiful performances of classics such as 'Meditation' and 'Salut D'Amour' for violin and Debussy's 'Arabesque No.1' for piano. An arresting contribution of the famous aria from opera 'Pagliacci' was played on cornet. Jazz, pop and film music was performed on various combinations of violin, guitar, piano and voice. A high energy performance of original songs and covers by local rock band 'Trading Glances' finished the show with aplomb.

It was very well received by the audience who showed their appreciation by generously donating £315 pounds to Help Musicians Scotland. Andrew Mitchell of Oakford Media, who recorded the event, commented on the quality of music that "the talent on display was amazing" and "it was a joy to hear LIVE music again after so many months! ". Sharon Doyle, local violin teacher and musician, said the concert was "wonderfully uplifting at a time when musical activities and performance opportunities had declined".

This concert fulfills the desire of the Musicians Union Scotland whose Regional Officer for Scotland and Northern Ireland, Caroline Sewell, suggested that "outdoor live performances could be a very helpful first step "in helping musicians at this time in not only bringing them income but would "allow community to re-engage with music" ("What next for the arts in Scotland" online debate, 3 July 2020).

There is also a Justgiving page open for kind donations in support of Help Musicians Scotland on <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/helpmusiciansscotland>