



Peterborough Flute Choir

NEWSLETTER

December 2024

Twas the week before Christmas...

It wasn't the nicest evening to trek to Pondersbridge Village Hall, but we're so grateful to the fantastic turnout which filled the venue - even the resident cat didn't get a seat.

It's fair to say that we've been hoping to put a Christmas concert on for a few years now, so we were very excited to be booked back in February this year.

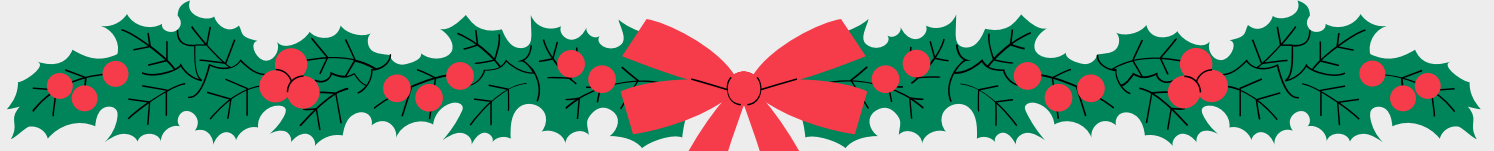
As an ensemble, we like to showcase a variety of repertoire, and the festive library is shaping up nicely.

We had plenty of firm favourites, like Leroy Anderson's Sleigh Ride, but we like to think we complemented them with lesser known arrangements, for instance Grovlez's Petites Litanies de Jesus.

The ladies and guests of Ramsey St Mary's WI proved to be in fine voice - singing heartily for the audience carols, and we were blown away by the (mulled-wine driven?) enthusiasm and energy everyone put into not just the vocals but the actions for the Twelve Days of Christmas - a bar has been set!

Perhaps the group's proudest moment was performing a PFC first: flute ensemble with narrator in the form of The Night Before Christmas featuring Gemma as narrator, and a menagerie of percussion.





It's been a wonderful year for gigs - just take a look at our stats below. The Sparkling Afternoon Tea at Parson Drove on Saturday 30th November was one of our new bookings.

We decided to take the title very seriously - as you can see Imogen and Charlie don't need much excuse to break out the sequins!

Being 30th November, we eased into the festive numbers, starting with some favourites from the year such as Down by the Salley Gardens.

The diners were good sports and allowed us to interrupt their munching for some audience participation, stomping and clapping to Pat-a-pan



Festive flutes at hospital

PFC has had the pleasure of performing at two local hospitals this December. On 6th December, we were invited to perform at Peterborough Hospital's Cancer Wellbeing Centre, which offers support to anyone affected by cancer.

Then on 20th December, we provided the music for two mini carol services: one at the reception to Stamford Hospital and another in John Van Geest ward, at the end of which we added a few festive favourites.



Serenading Serpentine Shoppers

On Sunday 22 December, eight of the ensemble played for two hours in aid of the local charity for the homeless: Light Project Peterborough. Considering the Sue Ryder charity were also collecting there that day, we're pleased to say we raised £122.72 which will go towards teas and coffees at the Garden House project.

Thanks to Brian and 'Mrs Brian' for supporting us with the collection.



PFC live on PCR FM

If gigs got prizes, then I think the one for most unusual event this year will go to our slot performing on Peterborough's Most Wanted programme hosted by PCR FM.

If you didn't catch it when it was first broadcast on Monday 28th October, you can replay it from their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/peterboroughsmostwanted>

Nervous to begin with, David and all the crew soon put us at ease and a cake brought by Charlie meant we could keep our energies high.



Stocking stats!

- 17 gigs (of which...
- 9 were new bookings)
- 86 hours of ensemble practice
- 83 pieces performed
- 3 festive toilet rolls

To read more about this and many of the other gigs this year, head to www.peterboroughflutechoir.co.uk/pastperformances



PFC is getting quite good at dressing up - here we're in our glad rags for Oundle's Vintage Fest



All work and no play... No, wait - All work and play and no eating makes flute players very sad, so we had a summer barbecue!

We like to mix things up where we can - Gemma has enabled us to expand our repertoire offerings with her singing, narration and percussion prowess!

A selection of 2024 in pictures



We had a great time performing and attempting the Thorney WI's summer quiz, Dingbats and guess the stately home



Post-performance grins as they've remembered that the gig is named "Bacon Buttie Fest"

PFC is so lucky to have multi-talented instrumentalists - Sue on piano for our October Odyssey for Wisbech St Mary's church



PFC's annual private soirée gives members a chance to perform solo or duets to each other

