

APSLEY New Horizons FIREFLY BAND



Due to COVID this was yet another challenging year. Having to follow all protocols put in place by the Peterborough Health Department meant reducing our numbers significantly. On the positive side, with everyone having to stay put we were able to continue rehearsals indoors at Wilson Park through December and then again under the Picnic Pavilion at Wilson Park in July and August when restrictions were eased allowing us to have up to 25 musicians following the masking, distancing and vaccination requirements.

Chandos Lake was well represented again this year with Del Manary (Bari Sax), Jerry Schur (Clarinet), Debra Anthony (Flute) and myself (Alto Sax/Flute). Former lakers and sometime renters Shirley (Trumpet) and Bruce (Tuba) Whitney really added dimension to our sound.

Not being able to hold our Annual Dinner/Concert again this summer, we elected to try a "Saturday in the Parking Lot" performance.

Much appreciation to Jim Elder and the NKCC staff who diligently set out chairs six ft. apart and distanced the band from the audience. Also want to thank our volunteers who recorded COVID contact details for all the participants and audience. Thanks to all (many from Chandos Lake) who came out to hear us play. We are grateful that \$250 was raised and donated to Apsley Community Care.

This excerpt from a note received from Jim Elder, Program Coordinator and Administrative Assistant Township of North Kawartha pretty much sums up summer: "I thought the band sounded great; interesting and very eclectic mix of terrific songs, everything from "Bohemian Rhapsody" to "The Days of Wine and Roses". As you said, the audience was very enthusiastic, and I think the Community as a whole was appreciative of the fact that it took place at all. In other words, it's the thought that counts. The "bottom line" is, many thanks go out to you, the band members and your volunteers for all the hard work that went into this."

