

## Fiddle Group

The Royal High school Fiddle Group was formed by June Nelson in January 1994. June arrived at the School in November 1993, and found that there was no traditional music being played. The first meetings were during lunchtimes.

At first it was just a bit of fun, with some music at lunchtimes, but the first real success was on the Italy/Munich tour of 1994, when on the last night of the Italian leg, the group played in the Castaliogne town square, providing a ceilidh for both the RHS pupils and the locals. Over 300 people were involved in the dancing. The ceilidh was repeated on the first night welcoming party in Munich.

The group has fund-raised for charities, played at prestigious city events, including many civic events for the Lord Provost, represented the Edinburgh Council Instrumental Music Service and well as playing at many school events.

The RHS Club has also been very pleased to be associated with the group, their presence now being a fixture at the Annual Dinner.



*2008 Nov 11<sup>th</sup> – in The Town Hall of Ypres in Belgium after playing at the Menin Gate. We were invited to an official reception by the town Mayor.*



*2009 Nov 16<sup>th</sup> - At the great fireplace at Edinburgh Castle*



*Fiddle Band 2010*



*Fiddle band at RHS Club dinner 2010*



*Fiddle band at RHS Club dinner 2015*



*At City Chambers, 2018*

## The RHS Quartet

The quartet was formed in 2012, with the first meetings at lunchtimes. It was felt that there was a need for a small classical ensemble which would play at smaller events than those attended by the Fiddle Group, and could also act as an alternative.

## Timeline of Fiddle Group and Quartet performances

(Performances are by the Fiddle Group unless mentioned)

### 1994

Italy/Munich Tour

### 1995-2000

Information to be added

### 2001-2002

9<sup>th</sup> March – Heriot Watt University

Munich trip

October 9<sup>th</sup> – Secret Policeman's ball

March – Kate Wheaton's House

German/Italian, in Edinburgh

### 2002-2003

4<sup>th</sup> Dec – Amnesty Concert in School

29<sup>th</sup> May – Opening of new RHS Library

German / Italian trip in Germany

### 2003-2004

13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> October – Secret Policeman's Ball

German exchange – Edinburgh

### 2004-2005

No entry?

### 2005-2006

10<sup>th</sup> March – European Parliament in Edinburgh

German trip

### 2007-2008

The Royal High School Fiddle Group had a very successful, fun-filled trip to Poland with the Edinburgh Schools Jazz Orchestra in September

**2000-2017 at** Royal High School Club annual dinner – see photos above

### 2014

Both the RHS String Quartet and Fiddle Group have had a busy year. During the autumn term the Quartet and Fiddle Group provided music at the opening and as part of the Sunday Service for the Academic Service at St. Giles Cathedral on 27<sup>th</sup> October. In December the Quartet played at St. Mary's Cathedral and the Lord Provost's Christmas Party as well as part of the RHS Christmas concert. Providing music for the opening of Edinburgh Airport's International Lounge was undertaken by both the Quartet and Fiddle Group in January and a good day was had by all. Along with other pupils from the English department, the RHS the Fiddle Group provided a Scottish flavour at the GTCS (General Teaching Council Scotland) Burns Supper for visiting foreign teachers. March was to be the busiest

month. It opened with the Fiddle Group playing for the RHS FP Club at the Roxburgh Hotel and ended with both the Quartet and Fiddle Group playing as part of the Council Resonate Concerts and the British Airway's Ball at the Balmoral Hotel in the same week. The Quartet ends the year by playing music for the Piazzoni Art Prize at the National Art Gallery at the beginning of June and the Fiddle Group ends the year by providing music for the retirement of some of the RHS's long serving teachers.

**2015**

No entry in Annual Report

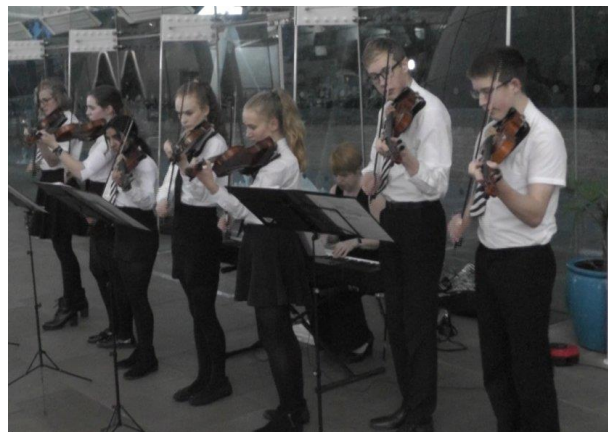
**2016**

No entry in Annual Report

**2018 Events**



*2018 RHS Club Dinner*



*2018 Barnton 50<sup>th</sup> at Dynamic Earth - Fiddle Band video clip*

**2022 Events**

June Nelson reports that the RHS Fiddle Group was asked to play at the 4th November Official Opening of Meadowbank Stadium. The stadium had been open and operational for a couple of months but due to various consequences the opening was delayed until November. The Fiddle Group played for most of the morning a variety of bright, upbeat Scottish pieces to entertain the VIP's and visitors. It was memorable and enjoyable occasion for all.



*2022 Nov 4<sup>th</sup> - the Official Opening of Meadowbank Stadium*