

Introduce yourself!

I'm Alison and I play oboe in the band.

How long have you been a member?

I've been a member since November 2001 when I moved home to Glasgow having lived & worked in York for a year. So that's 19 and a bit years now I've been with DCB.

**Tell us a bit about yourself.**

I work as a Nurse Practitioner at NHS24, which involves clinical supervision for our call handlers, making assessments and decisions directly affecting patients who call the service. I work a mixture of dayshift, backshift and nightshifts. We were obviously very busy this last year! Outside of work, other than playing in the band, I am Tawny Owl for my Brownie unit which has also been run exclusively online through Facebook live and Zoom recently.

What other instruments do you play?

None really. I used to play piano and would really like to own one again one day.

Is there any other instrument you'd like to play?

Apart from piano, I'd quite like to try something completely different like the cello but also fancy a shot on the bassoon one day! I'd like to be able to sing too.

**What do you enjoy most about DCB?**

Um... being part of it and the music making. I miss the camaraderie and the banter!

Favourite concert venue – past, present..... or future?

Kelvingrove!

Favourite DCB memory?

All the lovely Christmas concerts at Kelvingrove that we were so lucky to perform. The memories pop up on Facebook each year and it's always such happy festive memories.



Favourite piece we've played?

Ooft! Where to start? Recently, I loved Lake of the Moon and Cantelina. I also like the lighter repertoire and fun, crowd-pleasers such as Mamma Mia and Brave or Frozen. But we've played so much it's almost impossible to select any highlights.

Any (family friendly!) DCB related story you'd like to share?

Don't think I have any specific stories but lots of random snippets of things...

Like for my first few years in the band, playing Caravan at the end of every concert.

Recording our first CD in that boiling hot theatre in Gozo in the middle of July.

A weekend of sectional rehearsals at St Andrews.

The first trip to Austria and the hotel owner – I can still remember her name because she wasn't very nice to me!!

I enjoy the Concert Band Festivals.

Really enjoying seeing people enjoying the band is always a lovely feeling.

Have you done anything exciting during lockdowns (other than lots of music practice – obviously!!) – learned a new skill or decided to get back into an old hobby for example?

I've always enjoyed doing cross-stitch so have enjoyed having more time to do that through lockdown. I'm shortly going to attempt to make a quilt having been encouraged by Michele and Louise.



Looking forward to getting back to rehearsals?

Can. Not. Wait. I've missed it so much.