

**Introduce yourself!**

I'm Michele and I play 2<sup>nd</sup> clarinet in DCB.

**How long have you been a member?**

I joined the band in August of 2007 so this year will mark my 14<sup>th</sup> year in the band..... wait, what??!

**Tell us a bit about yourself.**

I work for a financial company as Team Leader of the Trading Team. It can be a high-pressure job so it's really important for me to have something creative to help me relax and music is a big part of that something. I've played instruments since I've been in primary school – recorder, treble recorder, clarinet, then tenor saxophone. I'm lucky enough to have an identical twin sister who also is in the band (Team Flute) and growing up we were able to play together in school bands and rehearse together at home so music always has been a big part of my life.

**What other instruments do you play?**

I also play tenor saxophone.

**Is there another instrument you would like to play?**

I want to learn how to play the piano.

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

ANYONE in the band will tell you my favourite thing about DCB is Christmas music! Christmas Music Day in band is the best day of the year! However, in addition to this, there is something very special about this mega talented, diverse, friendly, welcoming, encouraging, inclusive and multi-talented group. I feel that we all bring ourselves and something unique to the group and that in turn has created what I think is an amazing band spirit that when we play together creates something special. I feel really honoured to call myself part of the DCB.



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

I'd be surprised if anyone doesn't say Kelvingrove! A really amazing venue which holds lots of special memories of Christmas (Christmas will come up a LOT in my DCB related memories!). I also really loved playing in the Stadtsaal Landeck when we were invited over to Austria to take part in the Primavera concert with the Landeck Concert Band. It was an amazing venue and a fabulous concert to be part of.

### **Favourite DCB memory?**

Far too many, however the first day I joined the band, welcomed in by Brian Lees, given a pad of music and from the first tune I ever played (which was Decorum), I immediately realised that I had become part of something very special. Also being part of the 40<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations of the DCB. It was fantastic to be part of such a milestone event – and being asked to make the cake to mark this event was amazing! Attending weddings, celebrations, band lunches, 2 foreign tours, Sound of Music tour in Salzburg, winning platinum awards at the SCBF, all with amazing band friends, are memories which will always stay with me. Lastly I have to also give a shout out to the #traumaticscales incident (Robert actually said chromatic scales - personally I don't see the difference!), which I didn't think we would ever stop laughing at!



### **Favourite piece we've played?**

I love 'Journey to the Lion's Castle' and Klezmer Classics. Also Les Misérables.

### **Any piece you'd like to play with the band in the future?**

I'd love to play some more film or musicals music.

### **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?**

As most people know I'm very crafty and like to dabble in many different crafts like sewing, baking and drawing amongst others but I was inspired by Alison in the oboe section to give cross stitch a go after seeing her beautiful creations. I have to say I'm loving it although my bank balance isn't!!



### **Looking forward to getting back to rehearsals?**

I cannot wait to be back together to rehearse as nothing beats making music together as a group. Although I have to give thanks to everyone involved in the online rehearsals, as this has kept us all connected as musicians and friends throughout lockdown and allowed us to continue making music together, albeit virtually.