

# About Dave

I first became aware of brass bands aged about 3 while sitting on mum's knee in the Salvation Army meeting. I can vividly recall the sight and sound of the band; Alf on soprano, Fred on euphonium, Ken on bass trombone and George on the big drum. There and then I wanted to play all the instruments and conduct the band!

As soon as I was old enough, I joined the junior band where I first played drum, then cornet.

After my time at the SA, I joined a local 3rd section band. Work then took me to the South-East, then to the Midlands where I first joined Dunchurch in 1988 on Solo Horn, just in time for the band to win the area contest.

I then played for a couple of Championship bands, where I was lucky to be able to tick off some of my banding goals. I've managed to play all off the instruments in the brass band at some point and conducted Gretton for 4 years.

Banding highlights for me (so far) Playing under the Menin Gate with the West Midlands Fire Service Band and doing the Lord Mayor's show with the same band. Winning the Grand Shield with the William Davis band. Taking Gretton on a French weekend to Droué. Much music was played and much wine drunk.

I'd always wanted to play soprano cornet, and I'm grateful to Dunchurch for the opportunity to develop into the seat. It's the most exposed part in the band. If you get it right, it adds a shimmer to the band. If you get it wrong, everyone knows! I love that fact that we're a village band who turn out for fetes, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas, and that we're training the next generation.