

My Story.

Name: Helen Ekin

Group: Senior (Lance Corporal)

Section: Leading Bell Lyre

Hello my name is Helen Ekin and I've been playing in the band for 10 years now since the age of 5 and I play the Bells. I played a Tenor Drum and various other instruments for four years, then I decided that the Bells were best for me.

I was 5 years of age when I started the band and it is like one big happy family to me and keeps me very happy.

I didn't think I was going to like it at first, but then a couple of months into band I started to like it more and more. When I got older I got better at playing the instruments, which I thought I was going to be rubbish at, but I got my confidence up and became good at what I wanted to do. Whilst being in the band at such a young age I started to play in Carnival Parades and I thought that I would be too shy and wouldn't want to play in front of big crowds again and I thought that they were just going to say to me that the band is rubbish and why are you playing anyway because they are not very good. But I got my confidence up and played and would play until the very end. When I got older I started to like band more than I did when I started. I've got better within the Brigade and I've loved every minute of it. We are currently doing a film which is called Earl Shilton Film, and I am enjoying it, I am getting involved with it every week and I just can't wait to see it all finished. Ever since I have been in the band I always thought that after a couple of years I would have quit by now but after this long (10 Years) I thought that there is no point in quitting because I'm good at what I do. Now I have been promoted to Leading Bell Lyre player and made up to Lance Corporal and now I have to think about helping others to build their confidence to play in the band and enjoy it. Ever since I have been in band I have made loads of friends and they are all like one big happy family to me. When I was little I always thought of playing an instrument but now I have had the chance to play in a band and it is a big part of my life.. Also if I didn't join band I don't know what I would be doing now, every one says why are you in a band and my answer is to that is that I enjoy it and it's what I want to do in life but if I'm just going to hang around out on the streets I'm just going to get into trouble. I have made the right choice for myself to be in the band. Like I have said before we are currently doing a film which is getting everyone involved and making everyone happy and having no fall outs. I think if we get the opportunity to make another film I would like to do it again. I hope you have enjoyed reading my story and I hope this will get more people interested in joining the band because it's fun and gets you off the streets. Many thanks for reading this story.

Helen Ekin.