Alice

Do your band members have a nick-name for you?

When did you begin to play steelpan? In high school, quite late on.

What made you decide to play steelpans?

My friend did it and the person who lead the enrichment activity (the steel band) also taught my music class to play steel pans, so I decided to join the group after my first music lesson my class had with him.

Which steelpan instrument do you play?

I have learnt to play parts on each instrument that my band had, but the main ones I played were the guitar pans and occasionally the tenor.

What do like about this instrument?

I liked the guitar pans because they weren't the main focus but they still played a part, however small, in making the piece come together and sound good. The tenor pan was good because you can do many more complicated pieces on a tenor pan- and it gives you the chance to show off!

How often and for how long do you practice?

I don't practice anymore because of a few reasons, none of which I am actually pleased about.

What style of music do you enjoy playing the most?

Any, as long as it sounds good.

How often do you perform at gigs?

As I am not part of a steel band currently, which makes me quite sad, I don't actually play at any gigs and the only "gigs" I've ever done were playing at school events.

Do you get nervous before a performance?

I have the same reaction I have every time I have to perform music to an audience, my heart beats fast and I get a bit scared but when I'm playing I don't feel half as nervous as I do before I start. I've realised that steel pans are the only instruments I can play in front of an audience without getting nervous.

Have you played at a carnival?

No.

Tell me about your favourite performance and where it was?

Probably at any practices never actually a performance. Just the run throughs, because I always used to hear everyone playing to create this beautiful piece of music. It was also just a group of friends/acquaintances so it always felt more comfortable than an actual performance.

Who is your favourite steelpan musician?

I only like and aspire to be as good as two panists, but the only one I will mention here is Keishaun Julien. He does amazing covers on YouTube and makes them look so easy.

What is the name of your favourite steelband?

I'm not really sure as I haven't heard very many.

What is your favourite steelpan tune?

'Can't Find My Brother' by Red Plastic Bag. Just because it's got a lot of interesting parts to it that make it fun to play.

Do you play any other musical instruments?

I play piano and guitar.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Read, watch TV shows and videos on YouTube and learn piano or guitar pieces- if I had a steel pan I'd learn pieces on that too!