

CELEBRATING

25

— YEARS OF —

David Allen

Q&A With Our People

17 Years Service



Julie Osborn
Partner



Tell me about your first day at David Allen?

I was 20 year's old and terrified as I had worked in a very small practice in Maryport, coming into an open plan office was scary!



Your biggest achievement since working for David Allen?

Becoming a Partner was always my goal from the very early days. I always joked with David Allen that one day I would have his car parking space.



Your favourite memory of working for David Allen?

Making amazing friends, some of whom have left but I am still good friends with. Working at DA is like being part of a family!



What do you think the next 25 years hold for David Allen?

I am excited to continue my role as Staff Partner, moving the business forward to bigger and better things.

15 Years Service



Julie Taylor
Practice Accountant



Tell me about your first day at David Allen?

I remember how friendly everyone was and that it was a great environment to be in. I knew from that day that this was the firm I wanted to work for and could see a future career with.



Your biggest achievement since working for David Allen?

My whole journey with #TeamDA is memorable. I love how I am always encouraged to develop and am offered endless opportunities. My biggest achievement is being able to do it all. I have enjoyed getting married and having my two boys, Luke and Zack whilst building a career for myself at DA. DA is very much part of my family, and my family are very much part of DA.



Your favourite memory of working for David Allen?

Definitely the people, they are like family.



What do you think the next 25 years hold for David Allen?

It is always an exciting time at David Allen, and I know the next 25 years will be successful and I am looking forward to being a part of that success.

19 Years Service



Julie Wray-McCann
Management Accountant



Tell me about your first day at David Allen?

I remember I didn't get given a computer, I think for maybe even a month. We did everything by hand, including our timesheets. It was a small, friendly, and young team where everyone knew everyone! We would all sit in the bait room for lunch, which is now the wellbeing room and chat. Having started in the summertime we would even sit out on the grass and sunbathe, this is now where the building extension is at Dalmar House.



Your biggest achievement since working for David Allen?

Completing my AAT, then I went on to have my two children. Also, the mortgage specialists here helped me buy my first house.



Your favourite memory of working for David Allen?

There have been a lot of people come and go along the way, many I have stayed friends with to this day. There has been plenty of nights out over the years I remember Michael Peile's 21 birthday party back in 2005, I seem to recall doing the conga with Carole! A group of us took part in 'It's a knockout' on Silloth Green, it was fantastic, an inflatable obstacle course competition!



What do you think the next 25 years hold for David Allen?

I think the company will continue to be a fantastic place to work and will continue to grow and evolve as it has done over the years. I can honestly say I can't imagine working anywhere else! In another 25 years, I will be retiring!

18 Years Service



Carole Donaldson
HR Administrator



Tell me about your first day at David Allen?

I had already met David, as he was doing my husband's accounts. I remember the people I met were very friendly and welcoming.



Your biggest achievement since working for David Allen?

With the help and encouragement from David Allen, who accompanied my husband to many a land and farm sale, Ian & I managed to buy 30 acres of farmland, at Newby West, with an agricultural building on site. We have since bought more land and added more farm buildings and now farm Limousin Cattle and Texel Cross Sheep.



Your favourite memory of working for David Allen?

I have many great memories of working at David Allen and very fond memories of the staff I have worked with. We have had some lovely times at Aspatria Rugby Club sponsorship day, which staff are invited to.

One of my standout memories is being part of the winning Ladies tug of war team for #TeamDA which took place on Carlisle United training ground in aid of 'Children in Need'.



What do you think the next 25 years hold for David Allen?

I can only see the firm continuing to grow, along with developing the offices at Dumfries, Workington and Penrith.

17 Years Service



Sarah Graves
Corporate and Audit Specialist
Charity and Trust Specialist



Tell me about your first day at David Allen?

I was so pleased to make the move to working at David Allen and was really looking forward to my first day here. I remember walking down the paved path across the grass to the front door, this was when the building was much smaller and the car park a little way from the building.



Your biggest achievement since working for David Allen?

My career ambition was to become a Chartered Accountant. I have worked alongside Alison Welton since I joined the firm and it was Alison that was instrumental in providing me with the opportunity to achieve this ambition, by gaining a Chartered Accountant training contract. Becoming a Chartered Accountant and subsequently a TEP (Trust and Estate Practitioner) while working for the firm, are my greatest achievements.

I have always known I made the right decision to pursue a job here, it is a pleasure to work with such a great team of people.



Your favourite memory of working for David Allen?

I have so many fond memories from working for David Allen, I have always known I made the right decision to pursue a job here, it is a pleasure to work with such a great team of people and enjoy coming into work.



What do you think the next 25 years hold for David Allen?

I look forward to being part of the future of David Allen and watching the firm continue to grow and succeed!