

## Gig Buddies Big Chat 2024 - Full Responses

### **In 2023 I loved:**

- TRNSMT.
- Kiltwalk.
- Music Festivals.
- Free Fringe day.
- Big joint events (festivals, kiltwalk, etc.).
- Meeting new people.
- Going to see Muse.

### **I like Gig Buddies because:**

- I get to see things from outside my local area like going across to Glasgow.
- I get to see things outside of my usual interests.
- It's good not having to organise things myself.
- They sort out disabled access to events.
- We did something organic for my birthday.
- They can sort out queue skips and access provisions.

### **Things people don't like or need help with:**

- Sometimes it's hard to book accessible tickets on my own.
- I feel that the general public don't know about accessibility and people's barriers.
- People aren't patient and they're rude.
- I'm not always sure how I can find out about disabled access.
- We need more volunteers in Gig Buddies.

### **What's your best gig and why**

#### Sarah – Black Blues Brothers

- Good seats.
- They got the audience up.
- We got to meet them and shake their hands.
- Excellent tricks.

### Kevin MacGuire

- Good music.
- Got to meet him.
- People were friendly.

### Robert - Doune the Rabbit Hole

- Accessible platform.
- Friendly security staff.
- Discovering different music I hadn't heard before.

### Michelle – Dolly Parton Story

- Learning more about Dolly Parton.
- Audience participation.
- Good venue.

### Leanne – Zoom Karaoke

- Getting to sing and be involved.

### Jurassic Park with Live Orchestra

- Hearing the music live alongside the film.

### Kirsty – Ed Sheeran at the Hydro

- Because I love Ed Sheeran!

### Kirsty's Favourite Venue

- SEC Complex
- Near where I live

### Don – Erasure

- Got it through Gig Buddies
- One of my favourite bands

### Dons Favourite Venue

- Gilmerton Miners Club.
- Knows lots of people who go regularly.
- Good music.
- Gets a good seat.
- Gets free drinks.

### Kevin – The Beat

- My buddy, Don, wanted to go and it's normally something I would have seen.

### Don and Kevin

- Regularly playing pool together.
- Don loves winning.

### Fiona – TRNSMT 2023

- Having access to the accessible zone.
- Being with the group.

### Liam – RSNO Star Wars/SCO at Royal Concert hall/city halls

- Accessible, chairs and toilets.
- Friendly staff.
- Orchestra performance is different to normal concerts I'm used to.

### Robert – Yoko Pwno at Room 2

- Enjoyed the music in general.
- It was a new sound.
- It was in Glasgow and I live in Edinburgh. Good to see new places.

### Marsaili – Scottish Fiddle Orchestra

- I like usher hall.
- I like being out in general.

### Neil – Katet VS John Williams

- Late night gig at the jazz bar.
- Not physically accessible but very chilled.
- Neil also liked the Scottish fiddle orchestra, it was a celebration together at a quiet time of year.

### Olek – Hidden Orchestra at Summerhall

- Gig Buddies social!
- Perfect Setting.
- Not too busy.
- Great view.

### Joseph – Niall Horan @ TRNSMT

- Favourite singer.
- Great opportunity that I wouldn't otherwise have had.

### Euan – Muse and Green Day at Bellahouston Park

- My favourite bands.
- Great location and felt looked after.

### Euan – The Black Blues Brothers

- Different type of event than usual.
- With a group of people.
- Front row, accessible seats.

### Other comments:

- 'Gigs are better through Gig Buddies because they are accessible in all aspects.' – Kevin, Parent.
- Affordability helps make events better.

### **What stops you getting out more:**

- Finance.
- Over-crowded venues.
- Not aware of what is on.

- Transport can be challenging at times.
- Not always somebody to go with.
- I wouldn't go along as I don't feel safe.
- The time of events.
- Some socials aren't suitable timewise.
- Maybe more weekend monthly socials.
- Timings with support workers. Events until 10pm, support might finish at 5:30pm.
- My learning difficulties make organising events difficult.
- Long term memory difficulties.
- Costs.
- More tickets from Gig Buddies please!
- Socials, some venues aren't as accessible as others.
- Short notice sometimes to some gig buddies events and due to this the buddy/member is not available to go.
- Transport.
- Lack of volunteers through gig buddies.
- Getting accessible tickets.
- Ticket master needs proof of disability.
- Some venues are better than others.
- Theatres in Glasgow, hard to get an accessible + essential companion. Could Gig buddies have an 'arrangement' with venues to make this easier?
- Vision problems. Getting in and out of venue.
- Accessible toilets in venues.
- Anxiety.
- Support issues.
- Transport times.
- Getting tired.
- Discrimination towards disabilities.
- Poor location information, lack of directions.
- Lack of understanding at venues, not enough support.
- Help to look after pets.
- Medication restrictions.
- Money.
- Support not available.
- Times are often too late.
- Friends might be busy.
- Public transport not running late enough, not enough buses.

- Venue/building accessibility – Are there stairs, not knowing the building/surroundings.
- Anxious about new places.
- Cant afford the tickets, particularly music concerts.
- Not having someone to go with.
- Not feeling confident to go.
- Not knowing what times things finish.
- How do I find out about what's going on.
- Not having equipment for camping at festivals.

### **How can Gig Buddies/Venues help:**

- Easy access tickets.
- Pre access to seats.
- Comfortable seating.
- Chill space when places get busy.
- Early access to avoid queuing.
- Meeting point for anyone to meet others to go as a group, for everyone, not just Gig Buddies.
- Social media announcements.
- Sharing peoples plans.
- Access to paper brochures.
- More events more often.
- Print out of Gig Buddies events.
- More reminders, texts.
- Less grumpy security.
- Temperatures inside venues.
- Music makes a better atmosphere.
- More welcoming staff, properly trained, awareness of mental health, autism and learning disabilities.
- Accessible toilets.
- Good venue information.
- Accepting cash.
- More accessible buildings.
- Friendly and welcoming staff.
- Showing you to your seats, getting into seats early.
- Queue skipping.
- Nice/reasonably priced drinks/food/programmes.
- Giving information about transport/the venue.

- Easy read format info.
- Clear signage e.g. Accessible toilets.
- Free event tickets.
- Helping us know what's on and where (included in newsletter).
- Giving us someone to go with.
- Could gig buddies provide transport?
- More patience .
- Easier to book access tickets (lots of hoops to jump through).
- More stress free environments.
- Ways for venues to know if someone with access needs is attending.
- Relaxed gigs.
- Accessible seating.
- Staff awareness of disabilities.
- More volunteers!
- Advanced notice of shows.
- Could Gig Buddies help fund care staff if volunteers aren't available.
- Lanyard/ID cards for volunteers. 'Thought it would given them more confidence in a venue and at gig buddies socials. Useful for members to know who volunteers are.'