

Appendix 1

Existing trustees offering themselves for re-election.

Stephen Waley-Cohen (Chair)

I have walked on the Scrubs several times most weeks for the past 38 years. I enjoy the openness, the inclusive feeling of random encounters with friendly strangers, the unregulated freedom to meander and roam on this wild (for central London) ancient Common, with voluntary respect for sensitive areas.

I have been on the Friends' Committee, and now a Trustee, for 7 years, Chair for 5 years, and also represented the Friends on the Wormwood Scrubs Charitable Trust Committee for the past 5 years. It is a privilege to work, entirely voluntarily, on behalf of the Friends and for the benefit of the Scrubs. My contributions have mostly been by quiet, sometimes tedious, work in meetings which have helped keep the Scrubs as we love it, and have often prevented worse incursions by parkification, HS2, OPDC and others who don't really care about the Scrubs, while encouraging LBHF to improve the ways they meet their WSCT responsibilities, while now preparing to fight any over-development plans for Linford Christie Stadium.

My professional career was in financial journalism and publishing, and then theatre ownership and management, and in theatrical and environmental charities, including as President of the Society of London Theatre and as Chair of the drama school RADA.

Carmel McLoughlin (Secretary)

Formerly from Ireland, I settled in this part of London 34 years ago and have been a constant visitor to the Scrubs over the years, particularly appreciating the 'more wild than tamed' nature of the landscape – some parts of it remind me of Ireland! I have brought up 4 children here and inevitably they have all come to know and love Wormwood Scrubs too – participating in school sports and events on the Scrubs and in Linford Christie Stadium, and walking, running and participating in club sports. During Lockdown it has been a real saviour for our family having the Scrubs on our doorstep and it has been heartening to see so many others find solace here too over the last year.

I have been a Friend of the Scrubs for a number of years and became a Committee member in 2017. By profession I am a solicitor and worked in local government. I have been Secretary to the FoWWS in both its guises since 2018.

Smita Dave (Treasurer)

I have lived in W12, near the Scrubs, for some 30 years. I run and walk there frequently. I joined FoWWS when Groundworks came to the fore some 8 years ago, to add my voice for the protection of the Scrubs, to retain the wilderness and to ensure there was a vision for its long term future. I enjoy the openness with big skies, tall grasses in the common especially in the autumn, birdsong and different habitats as well as the excited sounds of people, young and old at various games and matches. The woods in the summer bring welcome shade. The Scrubs amazingly accommodates many different users. The pressure on it will grow with development all round and my aim, shared by many, is to keep it more wild than tamed in this dense urban environment.

I have been a committee member since 2014, and my efforts on a voluntary basis, with others, have been largely to prevent or mitigate unwelcome incursions into the Scrubs from various proposals. Have attended many workshops and meetings in connection with OPDC and LCS, as well as meetings with LBHF to lobby for a more community focused development of LCS. I'm actively involved in the FoWWS response to the recent masterplan, engaging with consultants and LBHF to ensure the Scrubs, whilst protecting bio diversity, was not carved up and we can still enjoy the openness, views and sunsets. I am currently a trustee and the treasurer of FoWWs as well as an architect and a partner at a small West London practice.

Miriam Shea

Miriam Shea has lived in West London for over 25 years. She began walking on Wormwood Scrubs in 2005 when she acquired a whippet and her dog training skills proved inadequate to the strictures of many London parks. She has always loved the Scrubs for its wildness, its juxtaposition of the natural and the urban world, its great mix of people and its anarchic unmanicured nature. She got actively involved with the Friends in 2013 when the twin spectres of the redevelopment of Old Oak Common and HS2 first reared their ugly heads. She has attended every meeting (bar one) of the Wormwood Scrubs Charitable Trust Committee since its inception as well as numerous other meetings and events including but not limited to meetings with the London Assembly, the planning inspectorate, Car Giant, the OPDC, the GLA and TFL in order to further the aims of the Friends. More than anything else she believes that the Scrubs should remain more wild and tamed and for everyone. She works in investment management.

Sarah Johnson (Website)

Sarah Johnson has lived in Shepherds Bush for 26 years with her husband Daniel, and raised her four children here. She began using Wormwood Scrubs regularly on becoming a dog owner and became involved with the Friends in 2017 on hearing of the threat from development of Linford Christie Stadium. She created and manages the website www.friendsofthescrubs.uk.

A former national newspaper journalist, children's books editor and author, she has been an antenatal teacher and doula since 2004.

Faye Thomas

I am relatively new to the scrubs, despite having lived in West London for 33 years (returning in 2019 after a 10 year sojourn to Highgate).. I have spent the past year exploring this amazing hidden gem of big sky and wildness, a daily walk which has become extra precious since lockdown began. I live with my husband Kieran and two month old baby Leo. My thoughts about the scrubs often dwell on what the world will look like for Leo as he grows up... and whilst watching the high rise buildings shooting up all around us I've become rather preoccupied with protecting sanctuaries of nature and wildlife. I got involved with the friends of wormwood scrubs after finding out about the HS2 works on the scrubs for the first time in October 2020 and was horrified that a government sponsored project could be permitted to destroy (albeit temporarily) one of the last wild open spaces in an area surrounded on all sides by motorways and urban development, especially at a time when being able to escape into nature has become so obviously vital for the mental & physical wellbeing of a city on lockdown... I spent the last few months of my pregnancy fighting HS2 rather fiercely, and the petition I began has received over 5.5k signatures. www.change.org/saveourscrubs Whilst we couldn't stop the works, hopefully it's drawn attention to just how many people care about the scrubs and the powers that be might think twice before giving consent to developers again...

When I'm not stomping around in muddy boots talking earnestly to people about lizards; I work as a freelance editorial portrait & fashion photographer.

Although not up for re-election, for the sake of completeness, here's a short introduction to the Charity's President, Stewart Dalby. Stewart sits on trustees' meetings as a non-voting member.

Stewart was born in the local area towards the end of WWII and got to know the Scrubs as a local youth. He remembers it as a wasteland. When he moved into North Ken in the 1980s with his wife Stephanie Gray and his two daughters he (and they) became reacquainted with the Scrubs, being just a short walk away. Later he moved even closer - to Wells House Road, virtually opposite the Scrubs. Stephanie (sometimes with Stewart) walked her beloved lurchers Goose and Ruby most days for the better part of 30 years and made many friends on the Scrubs through the dog walking, and his daughters would ride horses at Mary Joy's pony centre. Having been members of The FOWWs for some time, in 2010 Stephanie was asked to become Secretary and Stewart was asked to become Chair. This was a position he held for 7 years during which the Friends' fought numerous campaigns. In 2017 he happily handed the Chair to Stephen and agreed to take on the honorary role of President.

Stewart is a journalist (having worked mostly for the FT as Foreign News Editor and the paper's first and so far only full time war correspondent), novelist travel writer and internet publisher. He has also written for The Observer, The Guardian, The Economist, The Spectator, The New Statesman and The Boston Globe. As an internet publisher my current platform is called www.greenbarrel.com. This is a website that publishes articles on investment in renewable energy but also on climate change, energy pricing, nuclear etc.