

TRUSTEE ELECTION 2024: CANDIDATES' DETAILS

An election is being held for two positions on the Board of Trustees. To ensure a broad and high level of skills and experience on the Board of Trustees, all applicants for election have been assessed by the Nominations Committee of the Trust and those whom the Committee concluded have the necessary skills and experience are now proposed for election.

The election has been split into two categories of skills and experience that are required for the Board of Trustees at this time:

- A Commitment to the Trust and our Work; and
- Historic Buildings Conservation and Contemporary Design

Candidate with experience in

A COMMITMENT TO THE TRUST AND OUR WORK



DR ROBERT HORTON

Proposer:
Sheila Thompson
Secunder:
Mary Nelson

Relevant skills and experience for the role of Trustee

I am a volunteer guide at Brodie Castle and passionate about historic buildings, art, architecture and the environment. I was a teacher and headmaster in the UK before spending 28 years overseas as a school leader in the field of international education, in a range of places including Russia, Cairo and Hong Kong. I am on the Board of Gordonstoun School, and a Trustee of the Prince Philip Gordonstoun Foundation. I am also a panel member for Children's Hearings Scotland, and the regional coordinator (Scotland) for the Cathedral Music Trust. I possess the following key skills: leadership, management, collaboration and organisation.

Contribution you wish to make to the Trust

I would work with other Trustees to maximise the potential of the Trust's estate, giving due consideration to the financial resources available to the Board. A focus on conservation, educational opportunities, human resources, fundraising, development and environmental sustainability would lie at the heart of my contribution to the Trust's work. I truly value collaboration and would enjoy working with, and learning from, other Trustees as we pursue and monitor the progress of the Trust's strategic objectives. I would also use my knowledge of organisational leadership and governance to support the work of both the Trust, and the Trustees.



GILLIAN KING

Proposer:
Anne MacKintosh
Secunder:
Mike Flemming

Relevant skills and experience for the role of Trustee

I have extensive leadership experience in the energy sector, delivering strategic growth and leading diverse teams. My commercial acumen, innovative ideas and ability to build strong relationships are transferable to the National Trust for Scotland. I have experience in Board governance of a not-for-profit organisation, supporting delivery of the energy transition (Net Zero Technology Centre) and a higher education institute (Robert Gordon University), so understand the diligence required when utilising public funding. These roles provided exposure to different sectors, cultures and teams and instilled in me a commitment to ensuring all decisions made are with the organisation's success at heart.

Contribution you wish to make to the Trust

I am passionate about leading sustainable change and believe every individual and organisation has a role to play in climate change mitigation. I hope to use this passion to help the National Trust for Scotland lead in protecting our heritage and biodiversity, and educating, inspiring and supporting the next generation of Trust members. Through my Trust membership, I enjoy exploring the many iconic historic places and natural landscapes in the north of Scotland. I'd love to put my energy for Scotland's heritage and beauty into increasing engagement with communities to raise awareness, gain essential feedback and embed myself in local fundraising.



IAN TURNBULL

Proposer:
David Anderson
Secunder:
Robin Thompson

Relevant skills and experience for the role of Trustee

I am currently a Trustee and am now seeking re-election. I have a passion for all aspects of Scotland's heritage; natural, built and cultural. I am a keen hillwalker and enjoy visiting a wide range of historic properties. I wish to see a sustainable and flourishing Trust for present and future generations of the people of Scotland. I bring strong business leadership and management experience coupled with the background of a broad legal career encompassing commercial, employment, property and dispute resolution. I have substantial experience of charity governance in Scotland from sitting on three other boards.

Contribution you wish to make to the Trust

I have learned much about the diverse conservation and environmental challenges in Scotland, both from Board membership and meeting many knowledgeable specialists in the Trust. This has reinforced my strong belief in the importance of the Trust's work and I would use the knowledge and experience gained to support the Trust through good governance and sound strategic decision making. I currently serve on the Audit and Risk Management Committee and People and Remuneration Committee and would continue to support these. To succeed, the Trust needs fully-engaged people, including enthusiastic volunteers, and to provide great member experiences.

Members are invited to vote for their preferred candidate in each category. The candidate with the most votes in each category will be elected at the AGM.

Candidates with experience in

HISTORIC BUILDINGS CONSERVATION AND CONTEMPORARY DESIGN



MICHAEL DAY

Proposer:
Ruth Gill
Secunder:
Ros Lamont

Relevant skills and experience for the role of Trustee

My life's work has been in heritage – as curator, historian, teacher, site manager, leader and Trustee of organisations large and small. As CEO of Historic Royal Palaces (2003-17), following leadership posts in Jersey and at Ironbridge, I conceived, planned and delivered many complex major historic conservation, restoration and new design projects, often during financially-testing times. As Chair of Battersea Arts Centre, I oversaw the post-2015 fire restoration. As Trustee of the National Trust (2016-22), I was closely involved in its extensive conservation and development programme. I have broad-ranging governance experience, including fundraising, so would contribute across all the Board's work.

Contribution you wish to make to the Trust

Over 50 years, I have demonstrated an enduring commitment to the conservation of our built and natural heritage, sharing its stories and creating the widest possible public access. Now living permanently in Scotland, home of our children and granddaughter, I have found a new passion – for learning the country's stories, exploring its landscape and appreciating the great value of the National Trust for Scotland. It would be a privilege to serve as a Trustee and to give all my experience, skills and knowledge to help the organisation achieve its cause and 2031 strategy for conservation, engagement and sustainability.



HARRIET DEVLIN

Proposer:
Professor Ian Baxter
Secunder:
Mark Watson

Relevant skills and experience for the role of Trustee

I have spent a lifetime's career in understanding, fundraising, and conserving the UK's built heritage. Initially qualified as a museum curator, I moved on to building conservation. In Northern Ireland, my projects to renovate and reuse vernacular buildings won Europa Nostra and ICOMOS heritage awards. In England, I devised and directed a master's degree in historic building conservation for Birmingham University, and in 2014 received an MBE for services to heritage and the historic environment. I recently moved to Scotland and want to continue my mission to save and reuse buildings, educate craftsmen and attract the public to these causes.

Contribution you wish to make to the Trust

The spectacular range of places owned by the National Trust for Scotland is challenging to look after, needing skilled staff, engaged members, eager visitors and motivated benefactors to ensure management for future sustainability and financial stability.

To achieve this, I would have four major goals:

- To encourage training in traditional building and craft skills for employees.
- To ensure continuing maintenance and conservation of the property portfolio using correct historic materials.
- To explore alternative energy sources to lessen the carbon footprint of properties and to provide resilience against climate change.
- To increase membership by encouraging volunteering in conservation challenges.



PETER DRUMMOND

Proposer:
Caroline Borwick
Secunder:
Dr Janet Brennan

Relevant skills and experience for the role of Trustee

My lifetime passion is Scotland's heritage and the work of the NTS. I am a specialist conservation architect with over 30 years' experience on our nation's most important historic sites, from Culzean Castle to Skara Brae, Burns Cottage to Lews Castle, and Canna to Callanish. My award-winning work includes Pugin's iconic Gorton Monastery. I have extensive trustee and governance experience obtained with the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland, the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland, and the Built Environment Forum for Scotland. This foundation will enable me to support strategic development and on-the-ground practical solutions for the Trust.

Contribution you wish to make to the Trust

Since joining the NTS Board in 2023, I have provided Trustee oversight on key projects including our recent acquisition of the Mackintosh at the Willow tea room and works at other major sites, as well as strategic input on issues such as fire safety and low carbon regulation. With further exciting opportunities and challenges ahead, it is essential that the NTS Board has unbiased access to these specialist skills; thus enabling it to deliver appropriate, affordable, high quality solutions that will ensure the nation's heritage can be passed on to future generations in good order. I very much want to help with this.