

## **Surrey Hills Society Annual General Meeting October 2012**

### **Members Standing for Appointment as Trustees**

#### **Kenneth Bare**

I joined the Surrey Hills Society in November 2008 shortly after retiring in my mid-fifties. After a few months, I offered my services as a more active member and was invited to participate in the management team – initially as an observer and then as a full member following the AGM. During my time with the Society, I have developed a presentation which I take out to external organisations to promote the Surrey Hills and the Society. I have also taken an active role in increasing the visibility of the Society through my work on the PR and Promotion Sub-Committee, including the establishment of a high quality gazebo and display which we take to numerous public events within the county.

Prior to my retirement, I had two careers with blue chip companies – firstly as a scientist and latterly as a Health, Safety & Environment adviser/manager. My leisure hours included long walks in the Surrey Hills to clear the mind and enjoy the scenery. This pastime continues with the added benefit that the photographs which I take can now find a use in Society publications, presentations and other promotional items.

#### **Paul Bettinson**

I have spent my whole career to date within the financial services industry, specialising in governance, risk management and finance. I am currently Executive Director at a Japanese investment bank based in the City.

Previous roles have included Chief Operating Officer of Equities at a Swiss investment bank, and Chief Financial Officer at a brokerage firm. I qualified as a Chartered Accountant with Price Waterhouse and am a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

I have lived within the Surrey Hills since moving to the area 18 years ago, and particularly enjoy taking in the breath-taking views whilst running on (and up!) Reigate Hill and Box Hill. My wife and I also enjoy exploring the Surrey Hills with our young daughter.

#### **Diane Cooper**

I first became involved at the Society's inaugural meeting at Denbies when many people offered support in various ways to help get the Society off the ground. I started to attend the PR Sub Committee; a role I still do and have now become Editor of the member newsletter three times a year.

My 'day job' is fairly well linked to the aims of the Society as I work for Surrey County Council's Countryside service as a PR & Promotions Officer. The Surrey Hills Partnership is part of this service.

My background before this was less connected to countryside matters but nevertheless in a PR role. I lived for many years in my younger days in the far east in Hong Kong and then Singapore and in that time worked in hotel PR. The years in between were the 'child rearing' years!

I've always had an interest in the environment and its conservation and one of my main hobbies is to get out there and enjoy our countryside and discover the delights of living in the Surrey Hills.

#### **Nigel Davenport**

I have served as a member of the Management Committee for the Surrey Hills Society since its inception. In parallel, I have held the appointment of CEO of Surrey Wildlife Trust since May 2006. I have a background of charity and NGO management in the Wildlife, Countryside and Animal Welfare sectors, backed by an experience of wide range of voluntary appointments in a variety of organisations.

Previously, I served as an Army Officer for over 20 years holding a variety of 'Operational' and MoD 'Staff' appointments in Germany, Gibraltar, Cyprus and Northern Ireland. Leaving the Army in 1993 as a Major, I was appointed as the Director of Equine Welfare at The Blue Cross Animal Welfare and Veterinary Charity.

I have a particular interest in protecting and promoting the environmental aspects of the Surrey Hills and its beauty and wildlife. I also sit as a member of the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Board.

**Terry Driscoll**

After a spell in the Army I went to agricultural college and then worked on a farm for a number of years. The sale of the farm resulted in a career change when I entered the family business, retailing. With the advent of computers, my career path was to link the use of technology to department stores including Selfridges, House of Fraser and latterly, Bentalls.

Having retired, I served as a Councillor on Effingham Parish Council for a period of ten years, during which time I was also the Treasurer and Trustee for the local playing fields charity. One day a week I work as an estate volunteer at the National Trust Polesden Lacey.

**Christine Howard**

I have been a serving Parish Councillor for Wonersh for 18 years and in that time have had the pleasure of working with the Surrey Hills Board on numerous projects. I served for 4 years as a Borough Councillor for Waverley and served on the Surrey Hills Board during Neil Maltby's time as Chairman. I am passionate about the Surrey Hills AONB and was delighted to be able to find another way to volunteer to help.

I have served as a member of the Management Committee since the inception of the Society and am now the Society's Chairman.

I am currently the Chairman of the Surrey Association of Parish and Town Councils, a Trustee for Surrey Community Action and a member of the Surrey Rural Partnership. I have a commercial background, two grown up daughters and a passion for gardening, walking and environmental issues.

**Jo Tollow**

Having obtained a Degree in Modern Languages at Bristol University, I studied Accountancy, becoming an ACA - a fully qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales in 2000. I worked with Accountancy firms in London, Paris and Guildford, becoming a Director with responsibility for a portfolio of 40 clients, including companies operating in the service sector, oil and gas exploration, motor and technology industries as well as not-for-profit entities, including independent schools.

I enjoy time with my family, including my one-year-old daughter; also skiing, swimming, European cinema, foreign travel - and cycling and walking in the Surrey Hills.

**Rob Tong**

Having graduated from the University of Exeter with a degree in Engineering I worked for 10 years for a software consultancy. I was involved in a number of projects across various domains including aviation, financial services and criminal justice. In 2008 I set up my own web and app design company, recently building an iPhone app for Go Surrey which served as a guide for the Olympic road cycling around Surrey.

I have always lived in Surrey and have explored many of the hills (and pubs) on my mountain bike. The Surrey Hills AONB is wonderful countryside so I became involved in the Society in 2011 to help people make the most of the area and protect the landscape for future generations.