

Jan Wilson (Chair)

After leaving university I joined the County Clerk and Chief Executive's Dept at Staffs CC before changing direction for the teaching profession. On retirement a chance meeting between my husband and the Chief Officer of Chase CVS led to me being 'volunteered' as a Trustee, representative on Scio, TLI Champion, TLI Steering Group, Support Staffordshire Development Group and finally the Support Staffordshire Board. Throughout my working life I have developed research skills, administrative good practice and the ability to prioritise, whilst dealing with truculent teenagers certainly honed skills of conflict resolution!

Working with young people also raised awareness of the social, economic, health and aspirational issues which affect families and communities, bringing me into contact with numerous agencies and charities trying to address these problems. I was

particularly interested in the support available for child carers who sacrifice their childhood and often their education and future for the sake of their parents.

For me being a part of Support Staffordshire means being able to support these front line organisations in their work of facilitating better community engagement, access to services, health and well being and economic prosperity. What could be more challenging or rewarding than that?

Elaine Day

I have volunteered substantially at the University Hospital of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust (UHDB), and former Burton Hospitals Trust; pre- and post-merger, for 11 years and gained enormous insight and knowledge of the role, remaining passionate, focussed, positive and determined throughout. During this time I have been a staff (volunteer) governor and more recently the appointed VCSE Governor.

The impact of the NHS on all we do in communities can never be underestimated but we need to continually develop a more shared role across all aspects of society to sustain a partnership that is both real and sustainable.

Prior to volunteering, my 30-year career in Education, ultimately as a Headteacher of an aged 3-11 Foundation Primary School, enables me to bring a substantial skill set to the table. I communicate, read and understand vast quantities both informational and data led. I work with dedication and passion. I understand all aspects of confidentiality; a blue-sky thinker but also a collaborative worker. I know about the commitment necessary in time and energy and appreciate the need to use strategic thinking alongside a myriad of leadership skills to achieve agreed objectives and successful outcomes.

I am passionate about both the NHS and the wider interactions of people and groups in my local community and would find it an honour to continue to serve in any capacity that meets these personal goals. In Support Staffordshire I see an avenue to do just that; it will be both an honour and a continued road to lifelong learning which I endorse fully!

Emma Chester



I have lived in the Staffordshire Moorlands nearly all of my life, grew up in Waterhouses and attended school in Leek. I moved to Manchester in 2008 to study Classical Studies and Ancient Greek Literature at the University of Manchester, and graduated with both my undergraduate and postgraduate degrees there. I remained in the city to work at the Manchester Institute of Biotechnology and Chemistry Department for the University, and received the "*Making a Difference*" and "*Better World*" awards during my time there. However, longing for the countryside again, I moved back to the Staffordshire Moorlands in 2016 and settled in the beautiful village of Flash.

My husband and I founded our family run groundworks and excavation business upon moving to Flash, and I also worked at JCB Landpower until 2020, when the Covid-19 pandemic had other plans for my career. I joined the family business on a full time, self-employed basis just as our 5-year battle on the waiting list for PGD IVF treatment was finally approved. Having a child, not only during the pandemic but in general, made me aware of the support rural communities need with regards to community initiatives. I quickly volunteered as a committee member for Flash Village Hall in November 2021, and soon became both a Secretary and Trustee of this fantastic facility. In February 2023, I joined the Advisory Board for OUTSIDE Arts, which is a rural community arts programme for the Staffordshire Moorlands. In January 2025, I was elected as a councillor for Quarnford Parish Council and finally, in the same year, I was asked if I would be interested in joining the Board of Directors for Support Staffordshire, to which the answer was a resounding "yes".

It has been such a great feeling giving back to the Staffordshire Moorlands over the years, and I am thrilled to have now been given the opportunity to give back to the county of Staffordshire as well.

Ian North



Ian has extensive knowledge and experience of the private, voluntary and statutory sectors and has been the CEO of East Staffordshire Family Support Service – Harvey Girls – Dads4Dads for the last 12 years.

With a wide range of experience of strategic, operation and financial management and a clear understanding of housing and public policy issues, Ian is action and results orientated and demonstrates an ability to develop relationships, networks and systems to achieve change. He is passionate about making a difference to the lives of individuals, families and communities.

Ian also sits on the Board of a number of smaller charities and believes good governance should be at the heart of every well-run charity. He has held the Chair position at the following organisations:

West London YMCA , Homes for Northumberland; Three Valleys Housing in Derbyshire, and Trent and Dove Housing, based in Burton. Ian was elected to the National Council of YMCAs' Board of Trustees in 2016 - 2019 and in 2009 was Awarded the Housing Heroes Inspirational Board Member of the Year.

Jon Everett



A relative newcomer to the Third Sector, I served the first 18 years of my career in the military, mostly in commando and intelligence roles. After leaving in 2005, I worked with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on the EU/ASEAN Mission in Indonesia following the South-East Asian tsunami, before taking up a consultancy appointment in the United Arab Emirates. Since then, I have been fortunate to have led a Middle East consulting company, served as Managing Director for UK manufacturing companies Ultra Electronics PMES in Rugeley and the Barden Corporation in Plymouth, and held the position of President Industrial UK & Ireland for Schaeffler GmbH.

I transitioned into the charitable sector when the pandemic hit, serving with REACT Disaster Response and the Voluntary and Community Sector Emergencies Partnership, coordinating stakeholder engagement across the Midlands in particular and England in general. before taking on the role of Director Business Development and External Affairs for the UK Community Foundations. It was during this time that I became aware of the valuable work of Support Staffordshire. In my current role I am the Managing Director for LoneStar Group and serve as a mentor for SSAFA.

I was delighted to be asked to join the Board of Support Staffordshire and the opportunity to give back to the County that has become my home. I am hoping that my diverse experience in both the private and public sectors can help benefit the Board and contribute to the continued success of Support Staffordshire.

Mark Forrester

I've had a long association with the voluntary and community sector having spent 5 years working for a national youth charity, and 15 years at Voluntary Action Stoke-on-Trent (VAST) - 10 years as its Chief Executive. In 2003 I joined the statutory sector as the Staffordshire Moorlands Local Strategic Partnership Manager and subsequently Head of Communities at Staffordshire Moorlands District Council/High Peak Borough Council. I had responsibility for leading the Council's work with the voluntary sector including the management of our contracts and grants programmes, community safety, climate change, equality and diversity, and a range of community projects. I retired in August 2021.

Inevitably my work at VAST meant that I developed familiarity with the whole range of voluntary and community sector organisations: large and small, formal and informal. I served at senior board level on the many formal multiagency partnerships on economic and social regeneration, community safety, environment, health and social care. VAST developed considerably in my time as CEO, acting as the lead agency for a number of Government programmes in the City (Sure Start Blurton, Children's Fund, Neighbourhood Renewal Fund) and I initiated the development and lead the move to the Dudson Centre. My work in Staffordshire Moorlands gave me insight into the challenges faced by rural communities and an opportunity to develop relations and support the voluntary sector from the other side of the partnership.

I believe in the value of the voluntary and community sector and the critical role it plays; I have a good understanding of the challenges faced and have constantly been inspired by the commitment, innovation and energy of the groups and people I meet.

Nikki Taylor



I am delighted to be a trustee of Support Staffordshire and a board member of Healthwatch Staffordshire and hope that my experiences of working in the NHS, voluntary organisations and private sector brings benefit to Support Staffordshire as an organisation and the wider community it serves.

Addressing inequality, challenging the status quo in the systems within which we live and work and exploring the art of what is possible for the better of our community, neighbours and the people who live in them are my drives. I am proud of my strong Staffordshire roots having been born and brought up in Tamworth and although I left for a few years, I returned 'home' over 25 years ago.

I am a qualified nurse and trained counsellor. I am passionate about partnership and relationship working. Having a professional background in HIV, end of life and bereavement care I worked at St Giles Hospice for over 20 years where I had responsibility for overseeing the organisations community development, and non 'clinical' partnership agenda. This work gave me the opportunity to forge strong links with colleagues across the local and national voluntary and community sectors. I now run my own consultancy business NAC working within the voluntary and healthcare sectors supporting organisations on several issues, including supporting those affected by death, dying and bereavement. I have also transferred my knowledge and experience into the commercial sector working as a business partner in a healthcare recruitment company.

I am also currently a student at Keele University, completing my Doctorate in Health Science, researching Bereavement Help Points as a community development and volunteer facilitated model of bereavement support within hospice

Rowan Crozier



On graduating from Loughborough University in Mechanical Engineering I have spent over twenty years in the engineering and manufacturing sectors, most recently as the Chief Executive of Brandauer, one the largest precision stamping and toolmaking subcontractors in the UK, where I have had the opportunity to work with my team to deliver positive cultural change, increase revenues and deliver improvements in internal efficiencies to secure the companies long term future.

In addition, I voluntarily chair a manufacturing business network call MAN Group which exists to collaboratively share best-practice, revenue opportunities and marketing and communication overheads to drive the growth of UK manufacturing in the Midlands region.

My commitment to CSR has introduced me to the 3rd sector in terms of fund raising through challenges and special events and more recently discover the vital role volunteers play in everyday society. This coupled with a family passion for volunteering has inspired me to proactively seek a volunteering role where I might be able to do my bit and add some value.

Support Staffordshire is the 3rd sectors best kept secret, an organisation that exists to guide, steer, advise and support the county's charitable organisations.....you might say a charity that helps many 100s of charities! What a fantastic story to tell. I hope, by applying some of my more transferrable skills, I can help to spread the word on the organisation and its offerings to the benefit of Support Staffordshire, its members, volunteers and staff.

Thomas Guilbert-Newell



Tom is a young adult currently working in sustainability in local government in Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough. He has a passion for a more sustainable and equitable solution for all through environmental, social and economic action.

Tom was previously a trustee and officer of Keele University Student's Union, where he also gained a degree from Keele University in The Environment and Sustainability.

Tom has joined Support Staffordshire as a Trustee of the Board to further collaborative work in creating a more sustainable environment for all Staffordshire residents and for a healthy and safe county.