

Hornsey Town Hall Creative Trust  
Biographies of trustees

### **Sue Davidson**

Sue Davidson has spent her working life in education, most recently as Senior Deputy Head at Kidbrooke School. A Crouch End resident, she was Chair of the London-based Applied Arts Organisation, funded by Arts Council England, which was responsible for devising Arts Projects with practitioners such as architects, theatre designers, teachers and artists.

Sue is also Governor of a local secondary school and Treasurer of Crouch End Open Studios.

### **Celia Greenwood**

Celia Greenwood has worked in arts education for thirty five years, first teaching the arts in school and then developing arts and media programmes for young people. Co-founder and former CEO of the charity Wac Arts, based at the former Hampstead Town Hall, she oversaw the transition of a neglected Grade 2 listed building into a vibrant and sustainable community arts centre. She manages projects for 1200 young people per year, ranging from fun activities for children and parents through to a Level 6 Professional Diploma in Performing Arts.

She was on the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, Policy Action Team for Sports and Arts and has spoken extensively at national and international conferences as an advocate for youth arts and the arts as an entitlement for every young person. She is trained as an arts mentor and arts assessor and has developed and delivered a range of training programmes in workshop leadership skills and youth arts delivery.

### **Graeme Jennings**

Graeme, who lives in Muswell Hill, was first interviewed to join the HTH Community Partnership Board, the predecessor to the HTHCT, in 2005. Graeme is a founding director of Business of Culture Ltd and leads on the company's project development, feasibility study, business and financial planning and management work. He has been consulting and giving advice on development to cultural and creative organisations in the UK and internationally for more than 15 years.

He studied architecture and then later interdisciplinary studies in project management & business planning at Cambridge University. He has specialist knowledge of both large scale and small scale cultural development and strategy and advises public and private clients on cultural and heritage development and business case preparation. Before forming BoC, Graeme was a Director of design, planning and project development companies in London and Milan and was a business case and project consultant to the British Council on their cultural developments throughout the world. He was one of the first application assessors appointed to the HLF and ACE in 1995 and remains registered on a number of consultancy

panels. He has lectured widely on the cultural and creative industries including the European Business School in London and until its recent merger with the Design Council, was a specialist cultural development enabler at CABE.

Graeme has led teams on complex research, review and reporting projects, most recently for South Downs National Park, transformation of Hampshire & Solent Councils into the Hampshire Cultural Trust and for the Africa Centre in Covent Garden where he was also development director overseeing all operations.

He is author of published reports 'Capitalising on Culture', a research report on cultural investment in the North West region for the Cultural Consortium and the review 'The Young Ones' for the Local Government Arts Forum on young people and the arts. Recent co-reports include those on 'Illuminate' the 5 Yorkshire cities UCP festival and the longitudinal study 'Vital Communities' in Cambridgeshire which can be found on the Arts Research Digest website.

### **Sheila Kavanagh**

Sheila first moved to Hornsey in 1984 and raised two children here. She is a solicitor specialising in child protection work. She spent ten years as a school governor in Haringey schools, primary and second, in the East and the West of the Borough. Sheila was a founder member of the community group "Crouch End for People" which first agitated over the future of the Town Hall. She has been involved in the Town Hall project ever since, now as a Trustee of HTHCT.

### **Benjamin Lesser**

Benjy has been a local Crouch End resident since 2001 and began his involvement with the community by setting up a communal garden space, Priory Gardens on behalf of local residents in his four neighbouring streets.

He is a qualified Architect. After graduating from Edinburgh University, he started his career in architecture at Sheppard Robson, Camden in 1996. Having delivered a number of commercial office buildings in the City he embarked on an MBA in construction and real estate at the College of Estate Management to broaden his understanding of the property world and enable a move into development. This began with six years at Stanhope as a Development Manager delivering flagship projects such as Chiswick Park amongst other large-scale schemes in London.

In 2010, Benjy joined Derwent London Plc, one of London's most innovative office regenerators, well known for its established design-led philosophy and creative management approach to development. As Development Manager, he is responsible for delivering a number of the major office schemes in Derwent's active development pipeline, including the forward-thinking White Collar Factory scheme at Old Street roundabout.

In 2011, Benjy was elected to the British Council for Offices Board of Management.

## **Kevin Pinnock**

Kevin Pinnock lived in Crouch End for many years; his sons grew up and were educated in Hornsey. Kevin has been involved in many community projects over the years, most notably the Hornsey Ridge After-School Club, Paws in the Park, Car Free Day, Wood Green; he also managed and hosted some of the concerts outside the Town Hall in 2006 and 2007 and, with his son, the Green Fair Stage in Turnpike Lane in 2010.

He was a founding member of the Hornsey Town Hall project in 1995 and has always believed that Hornsey Town Hall should be at the heart of the community and have a positive impact on the whole borough and beyond.

## **Liz Sich**

Liz Sich and her family have lived in Crouch End for 33 years. An MA student at Birkbeck College, she is the former MD of arts PR agency, Four Colman Getty. Liz has been Chair of Trustees, General Manger and the PR & Marketing lead for Crouch End Festival Chorus ([cefc.org.uk](http://cefc.org.uk)) with whom she has sung for over 25 years; she is also a trustee of Streetwise Opera ([streetwiseopera.org](http://streetwiseopera.org)), The Orwell Foundation ([theorwellprizeprize.co.uk](http://theorwellprizeprize.co.uk)) and the Chipping Norton Literary Festival ([chiplitfest.com](http://chiplitfest.com)).

Liz has been involved in the Town Hall project for over ten years – first as a member of the Advisory Panel, then as a member of the Community Partnership Board and now as a trustee (currently Chair).

## **James Souter**

James is a Partner at Charles Russell Speechlys LLP, specialising in commercial and residential property litigation. His practice focusses on development related disputes and advisory work and he is recognised as an expert on rights to light. He regularly lectures and writes for the property press on rights to light and other development related issues. He has been involved in projects involving OJEU procurement procedures and has experience of working with Local Authorities in their capacity as land owners. His clients include developers, charities and trusts and he has recently worked with a preservation trust whose aim is to secure the future of an historically significant building.

James, who went to Fortismere School and graduated from City University in Business Law, has lived in Crouch End and the surrounding area since 1988.

## **Lucy White**

Lucy is an arts marketing professional with 15 years' experience of working theatrical venues. She is currently Marketing Manager (Touring) at Sadler's Wells, where she has worked since 2006, and is responsible for both the marketing of the theatre's in-house productions and its national and international tours. Lucy has also worked on successful public sector funding applications and leads the campaigns on Sadler's Wells' learning and engagement productions.

Lucy lives in Stroud Green and is also an active member of the Muswell Hill Photographic Society.

For biographies of **Clrs Natan Doron** and **Sarah Elliott**, please visit:

<http://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/>

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