

TRUSTEES OF PACES SHEFFIELD 2011

Brief Biography – John Biggin (Chair of Paces Sheffield)

John is a Chartered Accountant and Financial Director to a number of small companies in Sheffield now operating on a consultancy basis

He was Financial Director of British Gypsum Industries plc – a group of approximately 40 companies operating in the UK and in Europe.

John has been the Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance in Sheffield and retired in 2008 after ten years of service. He is a member of the Council of the University of Sheffield and sits on the Finance and various committees, he is also a tax commissioner.

During his term as High Sheriff of South Yorkshire 2008/07 he was introduced to Paces and after several visits he became more involved as a Trustee offering his services in whatever capacity considered appropriate. He spent some time as the Trustee Governor for the Paces School and accepted the position as Chair of Paces Sheffield in November 2009.

Brief Biography – Rosemary Varley

Rosemary Varley is Professor of Cognitive Neuroscience in the Department of Human Communication Sciences at the University of Sheffield. She has been a Trustee of Paces Sheffield since 2008. Her professional role involves teaching undergraduate and postgraduate students, research, and clinical work at the University and in Neurology clinics at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield. Previous posts have included work in the NHS, and at the University of Hong Kong. In 2006 she was awarded an ESRC Professorial Fellowship.

Her research addresses the effects of brain injury on speech, language and related cognitive abilities. Most of her work is directed at the investigation post-stroke impairments in adults. A particular focus is the application of neuroscience to rehabilitation and the development of suitable research designs to evaluate the effects of complex interventions (such as conductive education) on cognition and behaviour. She is co-author of the software *SWORD*, a program that allows people with post-stroke speech disorder to self-administer therapy and also the book *Introduction to Language Pathology* (with David Crystal). She has published research articles in major international journals such as *Nature Reviews Neuroscience* and *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of USA*. Her research is funded by government research councils and charities.

Brief Biography: Brian Lawson

Brian Lawson has a professional background as a Social Worker with Children, Young People and Families and as a Multi-Agency Child Protection Training and Development Project Manager. Brian worked as a Commissioning Officer for Sheffield City Council and ran the Children's Fund in Sheffield from 2000-2006.

In 2006 Brian established Consilient, which seeks to help people, organisations, companies and partnerships facing risky transitions to create successful, sustainable futures. Brian joined as a Trustee in 2010 and has been involved with the development of Paces Sheffield and High Green Development Trust over a number of years.

Brief Biography: Jared O'Mara

Jared joined to the Paces board in early 2005 aged 23 after being introduced to the organisation during his candidacy in the 2004 Sheffield City Council elections. As a person with Cerebral Palsy with a life-long obsessive interest and passion for all things disability related, at the forefront of which being the relationship between disability and education, He was immediately bowled over by the drive, innovation and heart displayed throughout the school and the charity in general and knew immediately that it was something he wanted to be involved with.

Jared's career to date has taken in numerous roles of employment and voluntary work in the disability rights campaigning and disability law sectors (whilst not being legally trained he has a good working knowledge of much of the relevant disability related legislation and has performed numerous tasks of advocacy and self-advocacy) and currently co-runs two Sheffield based businesses: a recording studio and a popular city centre live music venue

Brief Biography: Ann Menzies-Blythe

Ann is the Whole life Consultant/CEO. Qualified Diamond Light Facilitator and has been a Trustee of Paces Sheffield since 2009.

After Art College, She started a career in retail as a Fashion Artist in London. However, after a while Newspapers drew her, and she joined the Times in London. She was headhunted to join The Yorkshire Post and she became Sales and Marketing Director, the first woman director and the youngest, responsible for all the commercial activities of the Newspaper Group at age 33. She was also headhunted to The Scotsman Publications, a National newspaper group in Edinburgh, and was appointed Deputy Managing Director, responsible for over £45 million activity.

Changing tack, Ann became the Chief Executive for a Charity in Yorkshire, Wildwood, expanding her knowledge of the Third Sector and Social Enterprise in the Community. Subsequently, Ann set up her own company, which specialised in Director Development, Social Enterprise and Executive Coaching. She worked with the Institute of Directors to bring Director training to the Directors and trustees of Charities and Social enterprises, a unique project that attracted Government and European funding. It was her work with charities that brought her into contact with Paces Sheffield.

Ann was trained at Ashridge College, England. INSEAD, France, IMEDE, Switzerland, and in USA with Harvard professors. She graduated through Common Purpose, both locally, and nationally, doing the top level Common Purpose course at The University of Warwick.

Brief Biography: Spencer Pitfield (Vice-Chair of Paces Sheffield)

Spencer is a professional musician and music teacher. He holds a Ph.D in British clarinet and piano music and played for many years in professional orchestras before joining the world renowned Purcell School of Music in 1997. Here he taught some of the finest young musicians from all over the world. In 2007 he moved back to Sheffield when he became Head of Instrumental Studies at Birkdale School.

Spencer has fought two parliamentary election campaigns - Sheffield Hallam (2005) and Penistone & Stocksbridge (2010). He leads policy development for his Party in the areas of Education, Higher Education and Culture. He has sat as a Magistrate since 2002.

Spencer cares passionately about working hard to make a difference for all people in his community. He believes that it is the small things that can really help peoples' lives to be more comfortable and is passionate about making a positive difference at Paces Charitable Trust and School.

Spencer became a Trustee in 2009 and Vice-Chairman of the trust in 2010. He remains singularly focused on helping Paces School to become a Free School as he is sure that only such a change can help the young people at the school achieve their fullest abilities.

Brief Biography – Martin Bown (Treasurer)

After graduating from Liverpool John Moores University in 1993, Martin qualified with the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants in 1997, and he is an Associate member of that professional body.

Having spent his career working across a broad range of industries, including both public (NHS) and private (retail, construction, manufacturing) sectors he set up his own Accountancy business at the beginning of 2009. Martin provides a proactive accountancy and business management services to a portfolio of self employed individuals and owner managed businesses.

Martin has been a Trustee of Paces Sheffield since March 2010 and Honorary Treasure since November. He has recently become the Trustee representative on the Paces School Board of Governors.

Above all, his decision to become self employed was taken due to the demands placed on his family, due to having a young daughter with cerebral palsy. Having attended Paces for two years, since she was 18 months old, he and his wife can clearly see the benefit conductive education has on their daughter.

Martin's primary goal as a Trustee, Governor and parent is to ensure his daughter's conductive education, and that of her peers is secure, and continues to benefit future generations.