

Trustees Biographies

The Trustees of the League Against Cruel Sports are responsible for the governance, strategy and objectives of the charity; ensuring appropriate implementation, whilst monitoring progress and raising relevant issues.

Many of the Trustees have day jobs and give up their time for free whilst carrying out pro bono consultancy work on behalf of the League.

Your Trustees seeking re-election

John Hughes – Honorary Treasurer

I am a Chartered Accountant with wide ranging business experience in financial services and more latterly as a business consultant. I have been finance director of a number of companies and have worked in the UK, USA and Malaysia.

Having been a supporter and member of the League for many years, I was delighted to be appointed a trustee in 2018. My role is also that of Honorary Treasurer with the responsibility of ensuring the Charity's finances are well run.

It is my sincere hope I can help the League achieve its mission of protecting animals from being persecuted in the name of 'sport'. This, in my opinion, is a very worthy mission and one I am determined to play my part in to the full.

I am now semi-retired and live in Devon with my wife and collie cross dog. I enjoy walking in our beautiful countryside, music and cycling.



Astrid Clifford

I have always loved animals and cared deeply about their welfare, and I am a long-standing supporter of many national and international animal charities. I've been lucky enough to care for foxes rescued by the National Fox Welfare Society and Wildlife Aid, and I joined the League as a member in 2004, before joining the Board of Trustees in 2018.

For most of my career, I have worked as an International Manager for the HSBC Group. During this time, I lived in 10 different countries and took on a range of senior leadership roles in all areas of banking. My last role was as CEO of HSBC Armenia, where I also served as a non-executive director of HSBC Bank Georgia, NASDAQ OMX and two local charities. After 22 years I decided to return to the UK for my young children to start school. I now work freelance as a banking consultant, which gives me more time to spend with my family and on voluntary work.

I live with three dogs, one cat, two rats, two sheep, two pigs, three chickens, 20+ fish and two children in the New Forest. My rescue lurcher is a "Pets As Therapy" dog and enjoys visiting humans in hospices and schools. I hate to see any animals (or humans) suffering, especially through deliberate cruelty, and think we all benefit when we learn to treat other creatures compassionately.

Your Trustees seeking election



Michelle Berry

Growing up in the countryside, I have always admired and respected animals and nature, caring deeply for their welfare. The idea of harming animals in the name of 'sport', I find deeply disturbing.

My passion led me to study animal care in my college years and in my personal life I have housed retired police dogs and currently rehabilitate dogs who have been scarred in a former life from organised dog fighting and puppy farming.

My career experience spans across Marketing, Sales, Communications and Business Development in both the charitable and commercial sectors.

Currently a Marketing and Comms Director for Sony Music and formerly the Director of Marketing & Sales for Department Studios & Live Nation Entertainment UK, I support the League in strengthening its market position and outreach.

Dan Norris

I am a life-long animal welfare advocate and one of my proudest achievements was calling for, and voting through, the Hunting ban as an MP. I later served in government as an Environment and Rural Affairs Minister.

I'm Metro Mayor for the amazing West of England which includes the world-famous urban centres of Bristol and Bath, wonderful market towns like Keynsham and Chipping Sodbury, and some of the most beautiful landscapes in the UK. It's where I grew up and have worked all my life and I'm hugely proud to call it my home.

Before politics I trained as a child protection officer with the NSPCC and I have also run my own businesses.

I am a Bristol City supporter, enjoy photography and my favourite thing to do is go on long walks across the beautiful West of England with my cocker spaniel Angel.



Viktoria Petrova

Since early childhood growing up near the Florida Everglades I have always felt a deep connection and love for the natural world and for animals. As I learned more about humanity's impact on our planet, my life's mission became to fight to protect nature which led me to pursue environmental law as a profession.

I have admired and followed the League's work since learning about their pivotal role in passing the Hunting Act 2004. After graduating, I joined the Office for Environmental Protection as a complaints officer. Previously I worked for the European Commission's Legal Service as an environmental law trainee, and as a contracts paralegal servicing the procurement departments of several major multinational companies.

For the past ten years I have followed an ethical vegan lifestyle and enjoy being in nature, walking, running, baking vegan treats, reading fantasy novels, and playing video games in my spare time.

New Sparling House, Holloway Hill, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 1QZ
T 01483 524 250 E info@league.org.uk W league.org.uk