

Petroc GOVERNORS – 2011-2012

Jeff Andrew

Jeff is a retired educational publisher with 40 years' experience and knowledge of UK and international education. He was formerly Managing Director of Longman Education, a leading publisher for schools and further education in the UK, and for many years served as Chair of the UK Educational Publishers Council. During his career he also managed publishing companies in Spain, Italy and France. Advisory and consultancy roles have included the British Council, the International Baccalaureate Organisation, the Publishers Association, the Royal Society of Chemistry and the Council of Biologists. Jeff is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. His commitment to the further education sector is demonstrated by his 6 years of service as a Governor of Harlow College, Essex.

Jeff lives in Morebath, a village north of Tiverton on the fringes of Exmoor. He is married with two grown up children. His interests include golf, walking, gardening and photography. He is also currently a Governor of Uffculme Primary School.

Martin Chance

Martin is a Chartered Accountant and partner in the local firm of Glover Stanbury & Co.

After graduating from University College of North Wales Bangor with a degree in Accountancy and Financial Management, Martin trained and qualified with an international firm of Chartered Accountants in the Midlands.

After marriage to Linda in 1984 he moved to North Devon, joining the Bideford office of Ernst & Whinney. Following the change to Ernst & Young, a management buyout of the North Devon offices and merger, the firm metamorphosed into Glover Stanbury & Co. where he is a Partner. Based in Bideford, Martin's non-client responsibilities include training and Health and Safety.

The firm uses the College for staff training and Martin has previously lectured at the College and the College's Business Development Centre. His own two children attend a secondary school near Bideford and he is also a Governor of St. George's Infant School in Northam.

Andrew Chapple (Vice-Chair of Governors)

Andrew is a former student of the College, having studied A-Levels in the Maths and Science department. After leaving the College Andrew went on to obtain a BSc (Hons) degree in mathematics at Southampton University. Following graduation Andrew took up employment with KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock and qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1991. A period of time was spent working in accountancy practice before he joined Mole Valley Farmers Ltd in September 1994. This group is a large farmers' co-operative based in South Molton, employing over 1200 staff and with a turnover in excess of £175 million. Andrew currently is Company Secretary and Head of Finance.

Andrew lives in Braunton. He is an active member of his local church and has in the past served on the North Devon committee of the Prince's Trust. Other hobbies include gardening, playing the organ and motorsport.

Phoebe Craine

The Student Governor representative for Tiverton Campus, Phoebe is studying 'A' levels in Law, Sociology and Psychology. As well as being a Student Governor, Phoebe is also Mature Student Officer with the Tiverton Branch of the Petroc Student Union.

Ro Day

A native of Middlesex, Ro came to Devon in 1964. She is married to a local farmer and they have three adult sons, one of whom attended the College's Food and Fashion Department. Ro was elected as a Parish and District Councillor in 1976, serving 15 years on the North Devon District Council and 27 years on the Fremington Parish Council.

Ro became a member of the Devon Area Health Authority in 1977 and Chairman of the North Devon Health Authority when it was formed in 1982. On the merger of Health Authorities in 1993 and 1996 she became Chairman of the combined Health Authority for North and East Devon, retiring in March 2000. More latterly, Ro was Chairman of the Northern Devon Healthcare Trust, retiring in 2006, From May 2000 to its abolition on 31st March 2002, she chaired the Medical Practices Committee, a London based Executive Non-Departmental Public Body that had responsibility for ensuring that there was an equitable distribution of General Medical Practitioners throughout England and Wales.

Ro's other interests include charring Community Projects North Devon, Church activities (she is currently churchwarden of St. Mary's Bideford), equine sports and choral singing.

David Dodd

David became Principal of the College on 1 January 2005, having previously been Deputy at St Helens College, Merseyside. He has brought with him a wealth of experience in education and management, commencing as an Instructor Officer in the Royal Navy in 1981 and following this with posts of increasing responsibility in the further education sector.

David is a Chartered Engineer, a member of the Institute of Electrical Engineers and of the British Computer Society and has an honours degree in Physics, an MSc in Information Engineering and a Post Graduate Certificate of Education.

David is passionate about meeting the learning and skill needs of the people and businesses of North Devon in a financially efficient manner, and in cutting through bureaucracy in order to provide staff with time to "think and do".

David is married with three children (one who is at University College London, having completed A Levels at Petroc; and twins studying A levels at the College). His interests include running, walking and English History.

Laura Elliott

Laura has worked at Petroc since 1997, originally as a Learning Support Assistant, and for the past 10 years as the Manager for the LSA team. The team works across all campuses, with all levels of learners aged 14 to 70. They support students to overcome barriers to learning which can include learning difficulties, physical and sensory impairments, mental health issues, ADHD and specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia and dyspraxia,.

Laura moved to North Devon from Wimbleton in 1982, after studying at art college, and worked for 5 years in the Copy Shop in Barnstaple before having 2 children. When her children were young she worked part-time with adults with physical impairments and became involved with the local playgroup, school and Surf Lifesaving Club. Her children successfully studied 'A' levels at Petroc and whilst working here Laura has gained various qualifications including a Certificate in Education and a Diploma in Management and she has also nearly completed a Foundation Degree in Business and Management.

She lives in Georgeham with her husband Peter, who works for the ambulance service in Ilfracombe and her children, when they are not at university or travelling. Her interests include painting, walking and being part of the local pub quiz team.

Ashley Fulford

Ashley is a former student of the College, having studied for a national certificate and higher national certificate in mechanical engineering. After leaving the College Ashley went on to obtain a BA degree in Technology and Management from the Open University. Additionally he holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Management.

Born and brought up in North Devon, he is a long term employee of Tyco Electronics who are a global company manufacturing electrical interconnection devices and systems. Currently he is the European Operations Director for one of the major business units with responsibility for 4500 people in facilities across eight different countries.

Ashley's main outside interest is the Army Cadet Force where he holds the post of Deputy County Commandant with specific responsibility for non-military training activities and adult leader development.

He lives in Torrington, is married to Alison and they have two daughters.

David Gibson CBE

David, a native of Northumberland, has recently moved to Devon following a professional life in Further Education.

David was Principal of a large Further Education College in Manchester before becoming Chief Executive of the Association of Colleges (AoC) in London. AoC represented over 95% of all Further and Sixth Form Colleges in England and is

responsible for promoting the work of Colleges with all political parties and funding bodies. Since retiring from AoC, David has run his own successful consultancy firm specialising in providing interim management of colleges who, following Ofsted inspection, need to improve.

David has spent 5 years as Chair of the Governing Body of the Co-operative College in Manchester.

David dreams of travelling the world and becoming a good golfer!

Ralph Hodgson

Ralph has been a lecturer at the College since 1989, after gaining an honours degree in Political Science and a Post Graduate Certificate of Education. Prior to this he spent five years in the Air Force and fifteen years in the mechanical engineering industry, where he gained a wealth of experience in industrial relations. Having also taught in prison education, Ralph currently teaches across the spectrum, from GCSE through to the Foundation Degree programme.

Apart from bringing a rich experience of teaching to the Governing Body, Ralph has had a long term commitment to the College community. As a branch committee member for the University and College Union (UCU) he has taken a keen interest in the welfare of staff at the College. For over twelve years or more Ralph has been a proactive member of the College's health and safety committee and recently he was privileged to be elected as the chair of his union at the College. He takes a keen interest in all creative arts, enjoys walking and playing the saxophone....but not at the same time.

Steven Holden

Steven went to school in Braunton and joined Petroc in 2010 to study A level History, English Literature and Law. Steven's hobbies include reading, cycling and playing on his Xbox and he also enjoys sport, particularly football, badminton and rounders.

Steven was born in Barnstaple and has lived, and very recently worked, locally all his life which he says has given him a real interest in the natural environment. Steven considers himself especially lucky to have Braunton Burrows on his door-step.

Steven believes he has many qualities to bring to the role of Student Governor and has had previous experience as both a School Councillor and heading up his House Council. Steven is pleased that he can represent the views of his fellow students and reports regularly to the Governing Body on student life at the College.

Peter Kingdon

Peter is a member of the Chartered Institute of Building. He was born and brought up in South Molton and was educated at Blundells School, Tiverton, before commencing studies in construction at Exeter College and Taunton College of Art and Technology. Peter has been involved in the construction industry for the whole of his career, with the family building and builders merchants businesses based in South Molton, and more recently as Chairman of the Considerate Constructors Scheme, a national body

established to improve social and environmental awareness on construction sites. Peter has served on the Construction Advisory Committee at the College for a number of years. Both his son and daughter studied for their A-Levels at the College prior to gaining places at university.

Andrew Lovett

Andrew is Head of Tiverton High School, the 1300+ 11-16 comprehensive that shares its site with Petroc (Tiverton). He joined the school in 2004, after a period as a Devon CC secondary adviser and OfSTED inspector, deciding he preferred teenagers to government paperwork. Prior to that he worked in Leicestershire, Cumbria, Grimsby and Portsmouth in a variety of teaching and school leadership roles and as an advisory teacher and inspector.

Since 2004 he has steered THS towards greater academic success and popularity in the community whilst retaining and enhancing its reputation for including all the young people of the town and area.

Away from work, Andrew's normally keen sense of balance, fairness and tolerance are in sharp contrast to his rabid, one-eyed devotion to his hometown rugby club; Leicester Tigers.

Priscilla Parkinson

Priscilla is Human Resources Director at Actavis UK, based in Barnstaple. She joined Actavis in April 2000, prior to which she held senior positions across the food and pharmaceutical industries. She has over 18 years experience in Human Resources and is a Chartered Member of the Institute of Personnel and Development.

Paul Petrides

Paul is a Chartered Accountant and a Partner in the practice of Thomas Westcott.

He graduated from Exeter University in 1973, with a degree in Economics and Geography, before training with a major accountancy practice in London.

In 1982 Paul moved to North Devon and married Helena, who was then a partner in a family-run hotel in Croyde. They still live in the village and are both keen gardeners. They started opening their garden in aid of the National Gardens Scheme in 2008.

Paul has been active in a wide range of community organisations, and has served as President of Barnstaple Chamber of Commerce (1994/5) and Barnstaple Rotary Club (2005/6).

He has three children, all of whom were educated at Georgeham and Braunton schools and the College before going on to University.

Andrew Pierce (Chair of Governors)

Originally from Manchester, Andrew moved to Barnstaple as a child, attending local schools and in due course the College, as did his wife Hilary. This link to the College was reinforced when both their sons attended in the 1990s.

Andrew was first employed locally as an Accountant's Clerk for a couple of years before joining the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary in 1972. His service was principally in Devon including Plymouth, Tiverton, Exeter and Barnstaple but for 4 years he was based in Bodmin, Cornwall. The majority of his service was in various roles as a detective with his final appointment being as a Detective Superintendent, deputy to the Head of the Force's Criminal Investigation Department, based at Force HQ. In this role he held the lead for child protection, the management of dangerous offenders and other sensitive aspects of law enforcement, involving him in the development of national policy.

Following retirement from the Police in 2004 he returned to North Devon and worked as a self-employed consultant on matters related to his previous role, particularly in relation to Safeguarding.

Andrew also chairs the governors at Sticklepath Community School (which he and Hilary also both attended as children). In addition he is the independent chairman of the Safeguarding Commission for Buckfast Abbey and sits on the board of a local charity, the Bethany Project. He and Hilary live in Bickington and attend Grosvenor Church, Barnstaple.

Paula Stein

Paula moved to Barnstaple from London to take a position as a Manager in a local Bank. She is married and lives locally. Paula has had an interest, as a Governor, in Adult Education for many years while in London and is pleased to continue this at the College. She and her husband are members of a local church. In her few recreational moments she likes to read historical novels, walk, garden and complete needlework projects.

Adam Symons

Adam is a freelance environmental scientist, who represents Hartland & Bradworthy ward on Torridge District Council.

Born and brought up in North Devon, he went to school in Bideford and Barnstaple. A farmer's son, he studied Human Sciences and Environmental Sciences at university, and has had a varied career in industry, consultancy and local government. He has worked overseas on waste and recycling projects. He has also been a youth mentor and run Young Enterprise projects.

He sits on the affordable housing working group at Torridge District Council, and is vice-chair of the Local Development Framework.

Adam is a keen walker and, true to his own upbringing, grows most of his food.

Eirene Williams

Eirene was born and brought up in North Devon and attended the College briefly in her teens. She has a MA in Natural Sciences from Cambridge University, a PGCE in Physics Teaching from London University and a PhD in Ecological Genetics from Exeter University. She started her career as a VSO volunteer at the Tea Research Foundation in Malawi, continuing to the University of Malawi as a lecturer in Laboratory Technology for several years. She returned to buy a farm in South Devon in the 1970s, and to take up various teaching and research posts in and around Exeter. In the 1980s she obtained a permanent lecturing post at Seale-Hayne College which combined her academic and practical interests in agriculture and the environment very happily for 20 years until the College was closed. She moved back to her original home in North Devon in 2006 with her daughter who then attended the College for A levels.

Eirene teaches on FD modules at Duchy College, and, until 2009, took on the chairmanship of Devon FWAG, and the Vice-Presidency of the Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management and consequent place on the Board of the Society for the Environment. This is in addition to the management of a large inherited shrub collection, and some heifers and bees. There is still some energy for tennis, surfing and singing. As a Governor of Petroc, now entering her fifth year, she looks forward to helping with the sizeable changes in store and in maintaining excellent standards of FE and HE provision in North Devon.

Susan Lewry (Clerk to the Corporation)

Originally from Chelsea in London, Susan has lived in North Devon since 2009 when she joined the College as Clerk to the Corporation. Susan has spent most of her career in the public sector, working in both Local Government and the University sector in the South East.

Away from work, Susan's main interests are sport (mainly football) and walking her dog on the beach.