



# Candidate Information for Election Annual General Meeting 2026

Trustees standing for re-election:

## **Jonny Tepp**

### **Ordinary Member standing for re-election**

Jonny was elected as a Fife Councillor representing the Tay Bridgehead Ward in 2017 and was re-elected in 2022. Jonny is currently a Fife Council Appointee to the Scottish Chamber Orchestra Board. Jonny worked for 25 years in a variety of Administrative Roles at Abertay University latterly supporting Senate and the Academic Governance function. Originally from London Essex, Jonny studied at Bangor University from 1984-1992 graduating with BA Hons in Banking & Finance and a PhD in Economics, with an interim year as General Secretary of the Students Union.

Locally Jonny is the Group Scout Leader for 34th Fife (1st Newport).

## **Drew Hemment**

### **Ordinary Member standing for re-election**

Drew is a resident of Wormit and brings previous Trustee experience of Arts organisations to FAC .

Professionally Drew is an art curator and researcher, with academic posts at University of Edinburgh and The Alan Turing Institute. At Edinburgh, Drew is Professor of Data Arts and Society at Edinburgh College of Art, Director of Festival Futures at Edinburgh Futures Institute, and Director of The New Real, an AI and Arts programme, which he leads in partnership with the Turing Institute and Edinburgh's Festivals.

In 1995, Drew founded FutureEverything, named by The Guardian one of the top ten ideas festivals in the world. He led this national portfolio organisation of Arts Council England for 25 years, and he remains a Trustee. In 2007, Drew was awarded an Honorary Mention by Prix Ars Electronica for his artwork, Loca.

Drew's interests outside his professional involvement with the Arts Sector include playing pickleball at Waterstone Crook Sports Centre, and frequent paddleboarding expeditions on the Tay.



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### **Gilbert Valentine**

#### **Ordinary Member standing for re-election**

I have family members who use Forgan Arts Centre and am keen to see the Centre and its base remain within community control. I am a chartered building engineer and bring my extensive experience (gained within the Further and Higher Education Sector as well as Local government) in buildings development, maintenance management and energy management to help FAC build understanding and contribute towards any capital works proposed.

I have a strong interest in energy and sustainability and have been active with the Environmental Association of Universities & Colleges Green Gown awards and have published articles on energy in buildings.

I have lived in Tayport/ Wormit for over 30 years, locally I am a member of Waterstone Crook Sports Hub, a coach at Wormit Primary School Football Group, a coach at Dundee University Women's Football Club and a past board member of Scottish Women's Football, and regional youth coach with SFA.

### **Trudy Cunningham**

#### **Ordinary Member standing for re-election**

I have known about FAC for many years and joined the Committee when the Centre was obtaining their current premises as part of an asset Transfer to the local community as I am also a community Councillor. I am sustainability professional with experience in many areas -carbon reduction, recycling, electric vehicles & chargers, active travel, Fairtrade, community gardening etc. I am also on the committee of several charities. I believe my knowledge of sustainable buildings and practices would be of use to FAC in allowing them to have a sustainable low carbon building and working practices.

### **Kate Smith (co-Chair)**

#### **Ordinary Member standing for re-election**

I live in Newport and when FAC plans for acquiring Leng Home were announced I wanted to get more involved and joined the committee early in 2020. After working at the University of Abertay in Dundee I have recently taken up a new post at the University of Aberdeen continuing as Head of Counselling, Wellbeing and Educational Psychology within the School of Education. My aim is to support the development of FAC activities directly related to further enhancing community health and wellbeing.



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### **Judith Winter (co-Chair)**

#### **Ordinary Member standing for re-election**

I live locally and was Head of Arts at DCA until I left a decade ago to work on freelance projects. I now am a research fellow and lecturer at Gray's School of Art, RGU.

Having worked in the arts since the 1990s first as deputy director for Cleveland Arts and then as a curator for MIMA, Middlesbrough, an arts venue that brought together fine art, drawing, craft and education, I am particularly interested in the ecology of the arts - the way creativity grows in places.

My motivation - it would just be lovely to continue to lend my support to my local arts centre and artists, makers and anyone working on schools and grassroots projects and to act as a sounding board and critical friend.

### **Ez Tabra (Treasurer)**

#### **Ordinary Member standing for election**

Ez Tabra has expertise in finance, budgeting, financial reporting, accounting and project management. As a Certified Management Accountant (CMA), Project Management Professional (PMP), and Certified Healthcare Financial Professional (CHFP) with a Master's degree in Finance, Ez brings over 30 years of diverse experience, primarily within the non-profit sector, including higher education, research and healthcare. Ez has held several leadership and senior positions, worked closely with Boards of Directors, and provided financial data to support informed decision-making. Ez is a former President of the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) Qatar Chapter and a former Global Director of the IMA Governance Committee (USA).