Meet our Board of Trustees

**Tim Parker, Chair**

Tim Parker became Chair of the National Trust on 8 November 2014. He has enjoyed a long business career as CEO of several well-known companies, and recently as Chair of The Post Office. After a spell in the Treasury as an economist, he studied at the London Business School, and soon after was appointed as general manager of a subsidiary of Thorn EMI based in Chicago. In 1989 he led the management buy-out of Kenwood, the kitchen appliances company. Subsequently Tim has been CEO of Clarks, the shoe company, Kwik-Fit, the AA, and until recently, Samsonite, where he remains Chairman. Tim has been Chairman of Channel Nine TV in Australia and the Autobar Group, Europe’s largest vending company. He has also served as a non-executive director on the Boards of Legal & General, Alliance Boots and Compass Group. He is also a director and owner of the British Pathé film archive.

**Orna NiChionna, Deputy Chair (Council member)**

Orna was appointed to the Council in 2013 by the Soil Association and appointed to the Board of Trustees in the same year. She was appointed Deputy Chairman in 2014. Orna is also a member of the National Trust’s Audit Committee, Investment Committee and Senior Management Remuneration Committee. Orna takes whatever opportunities she can to alert people to the importance and fragility of the complex ecosystems that sustain us, and to the need to stop taking them for granted. She was Chair of the Soil Association from 2007 to 2013 and is still a member of its Council. She studied Electronic Engineering in Dublin and Cork, holds an MBA from Harvard Business School, and became the first female Partner in McKinsey’s London office in 1990. Her focus at McKinsey, where she spent a total of 18 years, was on consumers and retailers. She hopes and believes that her skills and experience in strategy, finance and governance, as well as her passion for protecting the environment, are helpful in her role on Council. She has been a member of the National Trust for many years and has been a Trustee of Sir John Soane’s Museum since 2012. She has served on various corporate boards since leaving McKinsey in 2001 and is currently sits on the Boards of Saga and of Burberry.

**Michael Day CVO**

Michael was appointed to the National Trust’s Board of Trustees in September 2016. He was Chief Executive of Historic Royal Palaces from 2003-17 and is widely credited for building one of the most successful conservation charities and visitor businesses in the UK. A curator by background, he oversaw the famous Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red poppies installation at the Tower of London. Other major projects included the re-presentations of Kew Palace and Kensington Palace (including the temporary installation Enchanted Palace) and Hampton Court’s Magic Garden. As chair of the Battersea Arts Centre and the Royal Tennis Court and a former trustee of Alnwick
Garden Trust, Michael also has trustee experience. He lectures at universities and other institutions around the world on cultural leadership and historic site interpretation.

David Fursdon

David was appointed to the National Trust's Board of Trustees in September 2016. He has a range of non-executive and consultancy interests in the environmental and heritage sectors, the common aspects of which have been the successful and sensitive commercialisation of rural and heritage assets. He has advised government on rural affairs, has been President of the Country Land & Business Association and been a Crown Estate and English Heritage Commissioner. He has also been involved in farming on his own account and now chairs Beeswax Dyson Farming Ltd. He has diversified his family estate in Devon. He is currently Lord Lieutenant of Devon.

Denise Jagger

Denise was appointed to the National Trust’s Board of Trustees in January 2021. She started her career as a corporate finance lawyer with Slaughter and May and is experienced in mergers and acquisitions. She then assumed more commercial, general management roles first on the board of Asda Stores where she was Company Secretary & General Counsel during its rapid transformation and later once part of Wal Mart. With a retailer’s focus on the customer she then applied this experience in the professional services sector, as a partner leading client development at international law firm Eversheds Sutherland. Throughout her career Denise has been responsible for a range of functions including legal, regulatory and governance; insurance and risk; public affairs; customer service; remuneration and benefits. A consistent focus wherever she has worked has been on promoting equality, diversity and inclusion for which she has received a number of awards including an honorary doctorate. Alongside her executive career she has held non-executive appointments as chair and board member in public, private and not-for-profit organisations in a variety of sectors including retail, financial services and reinsurance, housebuilding and real estate, the performing arts and heritage and higher education.

Caroline Kay (Council member)

Caroline was elected to the National Trust's Council in 2017 and has been a member of the South West Regional Advisory Board since 2013. She was appointed to the Board of Trustees in September 2018. A National Trust member since her 20s, she is currently Chief Executive of Bath Preservation Trust, an amenity charity and membership organisation promoting the conservation and sustainable development of the World Heritage City of Bath and running 4 accredited museums in the city. Before joining Bath Preservation Trust as CEO in 2007, Caroline’s career has been largely within the public or non-profit sector, with 20 years working with cultural organisations. She started her career as a Clerk in the House of Lords, was Deputy Director of Arts and Business, and spent 12 years as a senior arts consultant including as an expert advisor assessing lottery applications for the Heritage Lottery Fund. She has a 1st Class MA from Oxford University in Psychology and Physiology and an MSc from Bristol University in Organisational Psychology. Previous non-executive roles have included Chair of the Wiltshire Music Centre, Board Member of English Touring Theatre, Aldeburgh...
Productions and Winchester College, and a non-executive member of the Avon, Gloucester and Wiltshire Strategic Health Authority.

Aideen McGinley

Aideen was appointed to the National Trust’s Board of Trustees in September 2019. She is a Carnegie UK Trustee and Co-Chair of the Carnegie Roundtable on Measuring Wellbeing in Northern Ireland. A former National Trustee on the BBC Trust. She has over 30 years' local and central government experience in Northern Ireland including CEO in local government in Fermanagh and Permanent Secretary in the newly devolved central government in 1999. She established the first Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure and then moved to the Department of Employment and Learning where she was responsible for further and higher education, employment and skills. Reflecting her interest in regeneration she took up a secondment in 2009 as CEO of ILEX, the urban regeneration company for Derry-Londonderry, where she was instrumental in building the £14m symbolic Peace Bridge and successfully securing the inaugural and transformational UK City of Culture 2013 title for the city. Aideen is Chair of Galway 2020 and a member of the DCMS Advisory Committee for UK City of Culture. Facilitating in the public sector with Central and Local Government on Wellbeing, Community Planning, Co-production and Stakeholder Engagement, she is also an Associate of the Future Search Network. She holds a number of other voluntary positions in local charities in Northern Ireland including as a Trustee of the Aisling Centre and Vice Chair of the Fermanagh Trust. Aideen was awarded an OBE in the Queen’s Millennium honours list, an honorary doctorate from the University of Ulster and honorary membership of the Royal Society of Ulster Architects. Other awards include an Outstanding Recognition Award from Londonderry Chamber of Commerce in 2013 and the Heart for Habitat for Humanity Award in 2018.

Sandy Nairne CBE FSA

Sandy Nairne was appointed to the National Trust’s Board of Trustees in April 2015. Until recently Sandy was Director of the National Portrait Gallery (2002 -15) where he led the transformation of a much loved museum into an even more successful national institution. Among many other achievements as Director, Sandy enhanced the creative partnership between the National Portrait Gallery and the National Trust at Beningbrough Hall and Montacute House. He was previously Director of Programmes at the Tate and has served on various advisory groups from the Fourth Plinth Selection Committee to the Maggie's Art Group, and the Fabric Advisory Committee of St Paul’s Cathedral, which he currently chairs. Over the years Sandy has contributed to the governance of several organisations including the Royal College of Art and the British School at Rome. In 2014 he was appointed Chair of the Board of the Clore Leadership Programme, developing creative leadership in the cultural and heritage sectors across the UK. Alongside his enthusiasm and expertise in the arts, architecture and heritage Sandy has a long-standing interest in learning and education, and in diversity and issues of identity. A man of varied interests, Sandy cites racing-punting, drawing and competitive croquet as among his many pursuits.
Zarin Patel

Zarin was appointed to the National Trust’s Board of Trustees in September 2018. She was the BBC’s Chief Financial Officer and member of its Board from 2004 to 2013 during which time she helped to transform the BBC into a fully digital broadcaster. Zarin led the BBC’s TV Licensing operation responsible for engaging with 26 million UK households. She also led the Digital Switchover Help Scheme which helped older and vulnerable people to convert to digital TV. Zarin spent 16 years at KPMG working on FTSE quoted conglomerates in a variety of sectors. She is currently a non-executive at John Lewis Partnership plc and HM Treasury where she sits on their respective Audit & Risk Committees. She was previously a Governor at The University of Arts, London and chaired the Audit & Risk Committee. Having worked at the BBC, Zarin understands the unique and important role that an institution like the National Trust plays in the nation’s life. And, personally, the National Trust has played a valuable part in helping her family, as first-generation immigrants in the 1970s, to understand and appreciate our adopted home in all its physical beauty and its history.

Ade Rawcliffe

Ade was appointed to the National Trust’s Board of Trustees in September 2018. She is Head of Diversity for ITV Commissioning and is responsible for delivering ITV’s on-going commitment to reflecting the diversity of modern Britain at the heart of mainstream television. Prior to that, Ade led the Creative Diversity team at Channel 4 and spearheaded the delivery of the broadcaster’s 360Diversity Charter. She oversaw the creation of C4’s Commissioning Diversity Guidelines and developed projects through diverse funding vehicle the Alpha Fund, including the BAFTA award winning drama Run. Ade was also part of the team responsible for C4’s coverage of Rio 2016 Paralympics and London 2012 Paralympics, which broke records for employing disabled presenters and production staff. Ade also worked in the Features commissioning team and was a Television Producer at the BBC, ITV and in the independent sector. She sat on the Board of Governors for the National Film and Television School (NFTS), is a co-opted member of BAFTA’s TV Committee, on the Advisory Committee of The Edinburgh International TV Festival, and a board member of Women in Film & Television (WFTV).

Nick Stace (Council member)

Nick was appointed to the National Trust’s Board of Trustees in September 2017 and has been an elected member of the Council since 2015. He is the UK CEO of The Prince’s Trust, as well as being a Board member of the Financial Conduct Authority and Chair of Governors at the Royal Agricultural University. Nick has spent many years leading consumer membership organisations in the UK at Which?, Australia at Choice, for European consumer umbrella body BEUC, and global lobbying and campaigning organisation Consumers’ International. Nick spends as much time as possible in the great outdoors with his young family and is passionate about young people re-connecting with nature. Nick has seen the National Trust as a member, visiting Trust properties and countryside and as a partner in creating the Wild Network and the widely acclaimed film, Project Wild Thing.
Dr Tom Tew DPhil FRSA FRSB MCIEEM

Tom was appointed to the National Trust’s Board of Trustees in May 2019. He is a nature conservationist, currently Chief Executive and co-owner of two private sector companies (NatureSpace Partnership and Environment Bank) that are working with planning authorities to help deliver biodiversity net gain. After a zoology degree and a DPhil from Oxford in farmland ecology, Tom spent over 20 years in the public sector with English Nature and Natural England, leading teams and programmes at local, regional, national and international scales, and served on numerous Governmental advisory boards. He was a Regional and National Director at English Nature, with operational responsibility for SSSIs; and was Executive Director and Chief Scientist at Natural England until 2011. He has published numerous scientific papers and books. Tom has been a Trustee of the Heritage Lottery Fund since 2014. He was the non-Executive chairman of the Vincent Wildlife Trust for 15 years, has served as an independent member for his County Council and is a fellow of both the Royal Society for Arts and the Royal Society of Biology. He is a Life Member of the National Trust. He lives in rural Rutland with his wife and spaniel, and relaxes by gardening, carpentry, and looking for orchids and mammals, at home and abroad.