

# I'M ON BOARD!

MANY VOICES. WORKING TOGETHER WITH PURPOSE.



Trustees Week, 6-10th November, is the annual celebration of the over one million trustees across the UK, thanking them for their time, commitment and effort in supporting our organisations to thrive.

Across West Dunbartonshire over 3000 local residents volunteer as committee members and trustees, each year. Many are driven to get involved because they have a particular personal interest in the work of the group. While others get involved to share a particular skill or experience they feel they organisation needs such as charity management, financial or legal experience. Every contribution matters and organisations across the area need your support this Trustee's Week.

We are pleased to have the support of local elected members in our Trustees' Week 'I'm on Board' campaign, each trustees themselves. You can read more about their involvements and others below.



“Being a young trustee is a great opportunity to develop your skills, grow your network and allows you to get a real insight into what's involved in the management of charities which can be helpful in your future career.

The biggest factor is that you get to do all of this whilst making a real difference to the local community.”

Councillor Sophie Traynor – Clydebank Central

“I’ve been on the board of Renton Community Development Trust for 17 years; it’s been very rewarding but also hard work. As a trustee you’re working in your own community and trying to develop it in the broader sense, and that’s why we need new trustees to come forward, particularly young people and women to take the trust forward into the next 10-20 years.”

Councillor Jim Bollan - Leven





I'm Clare Steel, a full-time carer and I'm Chair of the board of trustees for Carers of West Dunbartonshire Carers Centre.

I got involved when I became a carer for my disabled daughter and have continued my involvement for nearly 16 years now.

I took on the role of being a trustee because I wanted to be more involved, I wanted to help the organisation grow and make a difference especially to push the agenda and for carers to have a voice at the table.

To make the services and the organisations we work with as carers to have a better understanding of what carers lives are like, and the best way to do that was to have a carer that can not only walk the walk but talk the talk.

Councillor Clare Steel

I'm Douglas McAllister, Provost of West Dunbartonshire Council and over the years it's been my great privilege to be involved in various local charitable trusts and organisations right across West Dunbartonshire, from Duntocher Village Hall to Holm Park Community Stadium Trust and I'm currently very involved with a local charity in Faifley, Flourishing Faifley.

I would encourage everyone to consider volunteering in a local trust, giving up a bit of your time. It doesn't matter what experience you bring. You can have professional qualifications or your own life experience to contribute. The more diverse a board of trustees is, the more successful that organisation can be.

I've found my time on a board of trustees to be very fulfilling and rewarding and would encourage anyone to volunteer and join a local organisation as a trustee.

Provost Douglas McAllister







I'm delighted to support the WDCVS Trustees' Week campaign in West Dunbartonshire. Being a board member for a couple of charities, I understand how much effort and commitment and time people do give to local causes and I would like to thank everybody for doing so.

I can honestly say I probably get as much out of my volunteering as I actually give.

Councillor David McBride

I'm Maureen Cummings, the chairperson and founder of Old Kilpatrick food parcels which is a registered charity and a director of OKFP Hub, a community interest company.

Originally, I was just an individual doing good in the community, then became a volunteer. We then had to try and make our project larger, so I made the choice of becoming a trustee which was daunting to begin with. I had worries that I would lose my house and everything because you would be responsible for a whole load of financial things, before realising that it was just your time commitment you were giving and that nothing terrible can happen to you.

If you feel passionate enough about a project or organisation, do it, take the leap and believe what you are invested in as a trustee.



Being board members gives us the opportunity to make a direct difference to our community and wider causes. We're able to multi-task and learn new skills as the organisation grows and it's great being part of a great team.

Jain McIntyre – New social enterprise Made Guid CIC

I'm Maurice Donohue, one of the trustees on the board of Sporting Memories Foundation Scotland. The Charity works with volunteers who are out in the communities supporting older individuals that may be living with dementia, loneliness and possibly feeling a bit isolated. We use the power of sport to connect people and relive some of their memories of days gone by in a positive way that reignites an interest to connect and make new friends.



Being a trustee on the board gives a voice and allows you to offer assistance and guidance to the management team. The board of Trustees all have various skill sets from management to group members that are living with Dementia offering input, there are also people on board to represent the volunteers. It's not about individuals, it's about coming together as a team and collectively steer the charity in the right direction going forward.

If you have a passion for a charity or organisation and it means something to you, there is an opportunity to make a difference, and even a small difference goes a long way. For those that are involved in the charity at all levels, they have a passion to make a difference. I know people have busy lives, but sometimes taking that we step back to consider what you can contribute to the bigger picture, giving a little bit of time allows you to make the difference.

Maurice Donohue – Sporting Memories Foundation Scotland.

Being a trustee has been fantastic, it has allowed me to help people, work with a fantastic board and help the organisation move forward, and it's just a great feeling.

Jackie Maceira – Clyde Shopmobility



If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a trustee or are an organisation looking for trustees, get in touch by emailing us on [info@wdcvs.com](mailto:info@wdcvs.com) or calling 0141 941 0886



#TrusteesWeek

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**wdcvs**  
With communities, for communities!



Councillor Martin Rooney



Councillor Lawrence O'Neill



Depute Provost John Millar &  
Councillor Hazel Sorrell



Councillors Jonathan McColl, Lauren  
Oxley & Gordon Scanlan

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Photography by WDCVS Staff member - Daren Borzynski

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