

Statements by nominees for SHAA Committee 2020

Stephen Cushnir Plot 62A

When we moved to our house on Wood Vale nearly 5 years ago, my wife put us on the list to get an allotment, and this came to fruition when we were offered plot 62A in February. Having an allotment has allowed me the room to not only grow food but grow it in quantities enough to truly enjoy the results of my endeavors with my friends and family. It also has given me the opportunity to show my children that food does not just materialize in the shops. With them helping me plant seeds, and watering and seeing the vegetables and fruit grow, I also hope to pass the gardening bug on to them.

I have a passion for gardening, and by joining the committee, I hope to give back to the local “allotment” community. I am a highly organized person (I am the Chief Operating Officer for a large department at a US Investment Bank) and can turn my hand to most organization tasks required. I am adept in financial matters and am also able manage processes and systems. I work with people from different backgrounds and cultures, and in the charity work I perform through the bank, from many different financial situations. I am a good communicator and can talk freely and easily with most people.

I strongly believe that I possess the personal attributes and coupled with my professional skills I believe that I would be a successful committee member.

Gary Doyland Plot 102A

I have been a plot holder at Shepherds Hill for approximately 20 years, I don't actually remember when I started.

Through that time, I have been the recipient of help from my fellow plot holders on a number of occasions. I have also enjoyed the social events, autumn shows, and of course the Trading post which has been an enormous support.

Now that I have finally retired from teaching, I have been able to devote more time to my plot and its surroundings. Part of that surroundings includes helping

other neighbouring plot holders on minor jobs. Last year I began to get more involved with the committee to work on the security, and this year spent about a week in total working on the new building and working collaboratively with lots of people.

That has made me consider applying and getting some of my fellow plot holders to support an application to join the committee.

I have the time and maybe even the energy to help with continuing the good work on developing the site, making it secure and innovating new ideas to benefit everyone.

I love the allotment space, it is such a haven from the pressures of living in a city and something I would enjoy making more accessible to all its members in a secure manner.

Amy Gardiner-Gibson Plot 69A

I have been involved in Shepherd's Hill allotments since I was a child, helping out at the plant sales, barn dances, and learning with my mum. The first time I came, for one of Gary's barbecues I think, I was convinced I had walked onto a different planet. I have focused on growing/land justice work over the past 2 years, resulting in an RHS level 2 in practical horticulture, and varied activist work.

I am interested in joining the committee partly because I want to learn the ins and outs of how the site works, but more so because I am invested in the future of the allotments and hope that it could be a space where more people could learn and thrive.

I am also a qualified bike mechanic and live on a boat. I think these leave you with a lot of transferable skills and I am always keen to learn more.

Annie Griffiths Plot 53A

I've enjoyed working on my allotment for at least 30 years. I've also enjoyed helping the Site in a variety of ways: volunteering in the Trading Shed and now managing it, running Plant Sales and more recently Winter Warmers, providing

refreshments at Potato Day and for the Barn builders. I'm now helping with the development of the Plot 15 communal garden area.

Juliet Mann Plot 85B

I have had an allotment on the SH site for 22 years and been on the site committee for the last 3 years.

When we were linked to Ally Pally allotments under the umbrella of CHADAHS (Central Hornsey & District Allotments and Horticultural Society) I did a 5 year stint as co secretary running the annual produce show.

My strength is in organisation and having spent 3 years learning to apply this within the committee I would like to continue.

Ian Potts Plot 118A

I am good at building big sheds.

Jill Russell Plot 47B

I have been a plot holder since 2012 and a committee member for the last couple of years. I volunteer in the trading shed, and my role on the committee includes helping to manage the tenants' database, sending out regular site newsletters and communications, as well as contributing to general decision-making and management responsibilities of the committee. I feel very fortunate to be part of the SHA community, and enjoy playing my part in allotment life. I would welcome another term as a committee member.

Trevor Wyatt Plot 92A/B

To forget how to dig the soil and tend to the soil is to forget ourselves." Mahatma Gandhi

I have been a keen gardener for more than 40 years I have enthusiastically & conscientiously maintained my plot at Shepherd's Hill for 24 years (and 10 years previously in another region) During this time I have established good relations with all my neighbours on adjacent plots and have complied with all the relevant regulations I love Shepherds Hill Allotments I am re-applying for Allotment Committee Member status so that I can continue to contribute to and encourage

the democratic working of the Committee, as well as helping to foster beneficial relations with all tenants.

Julie Yogasundram Plot 46b

I have been a member of the SHAA committee for three years. I have been an allotment holder since 2014 so in the grand scale of things I am still fairly new. I am happy to contribute my administrative and organizational skills and feel very happy about the things that the committee have enabled over the last few years. I am keen to promote fairness and openness in all we do and to develop opportunities for as many allotment holders as possible to engage in the allotment community.