

Biographical Information for candidates standing for election at AGM 2020

Sarah Harding – standing for election as Treasurer

I qualified as a chartered accountant in the 1990s, after returning penniless from a year's backpacking in Africa, and realising that I needed a proper job. I ended up auditing mainly charitable and agricultural clients, which was where my interests were. Since then I have also worked for the Charity Commission, and am currently Finance Officer at All Aboard, a small watersports charity in Bristol harbour.

I have been Treasurer of CVLSC before and also for our local Pre-school, and Scout group.

I've been a member at Chew for many years, since learning to sail in my late 20s. I'm still hoping to move up the Laser fleet results, but should really just accept that age is no longer on my side!

Andrew Jones – standing for election as Vice-Commodore

Born in Chatham my early sailing took place on the River Medway, crewing my father in his GP14 before progressing to be a Cadet class crew and then migrating to helm, crewed by my brother Steve. With a move to Wiltshire at age 11, we first joined Chew Valley in 1975, migrating from the Cadet to a Solo and then Laser, before university drew me to London where I team raced very leaky fireflies for Imperial College and London. Post university my then girlfriend, now wife, Kate and I were enthusiastic competitors on the Lark Class circuit, before a move to Jersey introduced us to Hobie cat sailing off the beach! Returning to Chew in 1999. Kate and I campaigned a RS400 before children intervened and we became nomadic travelling parents as we trailed a collection of toppers and lasers to various squad events around the country for our children, Ed and Olivia.

More recently, with children now grown up and (almost) off the books, I gave up my laser and flirted briefly with a RS700 (too old, slow, unfit) before seeing sense and getting myself a RS100, which I race most Sunday's against a growing fleet of other 100's including my brother. Kate also continues to sail when she can, and is a keen lake and cake member. Although almost all my sailing is focused on the competitive side of racing, I am a sailing enthusiast and can happily watch any sailing, whether it's Olympic level racing, training, or simply cruising. To this point, I have been delighted to help out recently as part of the Chew Covid sub group, helping to get club sailing and racing underway again, and hope to be able to help Chew navigate this ongoing challenge and ultimately flourish across all areas of sailing activity in the future.

Chris Sunderland - standing for election as non-executive Director

I have sailed a laser at Chew for more than twenty years. I love the competition but getting to the front remains elusive! I have recently retired from professional life and am looking to play a more active part in supporting the club. I became Club Secretary last year but recognise that my skills and experience may also be useful to the board of directors. My experience of governance is drawn from playing a founding role in four local enterprises with different legal structures. Each of these initiatives was acutely dependent on volunteers. I have been asked by the General Committee to help Chew develop an environmental impact strategy. This topic has been a concern of mine for some time and has informed all my previous enterprises. If elected, I will continue to serve as Club Secretary in which capacity I would, on any account, attend meetings of the Board of Directors.