



Nominations for the Board with their personal statements

The following seven members of the Co-operative have been nominated to be members of the Board of Clevedon Community Bookshop Co-operative and thus to be Directors of the Co-operative. All nominations have been proposed and seconded by members of the Co-operative, and those nominated have agreed to their names being put forward.

Nominations

1. Lyn Bibbing
2. Ali Cunningham
3. Lesley Dinsdale
4. Michael Harriott
5. Sue Marshall
6. Rupert Scott
7. Gaynor Targett

Personal Statements

Lyn Bibbing

I have now completed my first full year as Treasurer and am happy to stay on as I feel it is important for the bookshop to have continuity. I find that the years I worked in a bank and my current book keeping work dovetails perfectly with the treasurer role.

I enjoy helping at the Unit as no two sessions are the same and there is always something to do. As a board member I have realised that running the bookshop is not a simple task and we need all the help we can get. I look forward to helping with the 5 year plan.

Ali Cunningham

I was fortunate to be elected to the Board of the Bookshop Co-operative at the AGM last year and have found it an interesting and challenging role. I hope to be re-elected.

I have lived in Clevedon for over twenty years. If elected, I would like to continue to contribute to the Board of the Bookshop Co-operative in ways that draw on my experience as: a member for five years of the editorial board of a national journal *Housing*; a book reviewer of children's books for a teaching journal; a storyteller in the Bookshop and in the Library; and a volunteer library assistant. I am interested in developing pop-up bookstalls for the Bookshop at, for example, art exhibitions. I would like to continue developing ideas for outreach work and helping to enhance the practice of co-operative working.

I am very appreciative of the efforts of members who are involved in any way with making the Bookshop so successful.

Lesley Dinsdale

After retiring from a long career working as an administrator and senior manager in higher education, including Bristol University for fifteen years, I have been volunteering both as a bookseller in the shop and as one of the internet sales team at Unit 15 for about two and a half years. I have also been a CCBC Board member for the last two years and in August 2017 I took over co-ordinating the Internet Sales Team from Mel McEvoy. I am so far enjoying the challenge of endeavouring to provide a prompt and efficient service to customers ordering from all over the world, and am supported by a great team of volunteer sellers.

Aside from a love of books and reading, I have a particular interest in data analysis and the processes and systems that support the Bookshop and the Unit. I continue to try to use information about our sales, particularly this year on the Internet, to try to inform our developing strategies for increasing our sales and improving our service. I do sometimes leave my spreadsheets at home, however, and have very much enjoyed contributing to a number of events, including two very successful book sales at Clevedon School and the Bookshop summer party.

I would like to continue to serve on the Board in 2017-18 and hope that I can use my skills and experience to help to develop the Bookshop's plan for the next five years.

Michael Harriott

I am seeking your support to be elected to the Board of the Bookshop Co-operative. I have been a member for nearly three years and I am impressed by the energy and professionalism that members contribute to the Co-op daily. I was unable to attend last year's AGM and consequently did not stand for election, to the Board. Subsequently the Board co-opted me and I currently chair the society.

My motivation for wanting to be elected to the Board of Clevedon Community Bookshop is twofold. One is that I believe passionately in the Co-operative business model. The idea that ordinary people can come together to build something greater than the sum of the part, is fantastic.

Secondly, it is important for Co-operatives to become sustainable businesses. In the past, many good social enterprises have failed because their Boards believed that making profits was wrong. I believe that profits are good if they are used to invest in the business, invest in the members and invest in the wider society in which we live. I have previously been a Director of the Co-op Group, the Co-op that runs the Food and Funeral business. I believe I can use my experiences in business to ensure that our co-operative prospers into the future.

Sue Marshall

I started volunteering for the Bookshop almost 3 years ago enjoying several sessions in the shop before looking around Unit 15 and deciding that that was the place for me. I became Unit 15 Coordinator about 2 years ago being responsible for general storage, book sorting and allocation, and communication between the Unit 15 Team members; and also liaising with the shop, BookBarn International and other outside organisations. I have been involved in planning a new Sorting Office at Unit 15, organising out-of-shop book sales and introducing an ongoing stock-checking and culling system. I hope I bring a sense of order and co-operation to the Unit and a willingness to 'get stuck in'. I have served on the Committee for the past year as Minutes Secretary.

Unit 15 and the Internet Shop is a very important part of our Cooperative and I intend to continue to support the Sales Team, Bookshop, Cataloguers/Scanners and other volunteers and members to the best of my ability.

I have lived in Clevedon since 1988 with my husband Chris who was born here. Our eldest daughter also lives in Clevedon and has 2 children. Our youngest daughter is 23 and currently works for Gromit Unleashed! at The Mall.

Before retiring I worked in early years education as Deputy Manager at a pre-school in Portishead and before that with Springboard Opportunity Group in Clevedon.

I now spend my free time with our grandchildren, our friends and several good books!

Rupert Scott

I joined the co-operative two years ago, and have been a regular bookseller since early 2016. Shortly after last year's AGM I was co-opted onto the Board, and having enjoyed the additional responsibility I would like to continue in that role for another year.

Before my recent retirement I had many years of managerial experience, both in the corporate world and latterly in my own business, and I find it particularly rewarding to be able to combine that experience with my love of books and with the reading and writing that occupies much of my time.

I have worked closely with the Bookseller Co-ordinator to share some of his very demanding workload. In particular, working to improve the flow of donations through the shop - maintaining an easily accessible and good quality supply of reserve stock from which to keep the shelves refreshed, giving prominence to higher value items as well as to the bargain ones, and assisting new volunteers.

My close involvement with the day to day activity in the shop, coupled with an appreciation of the essential financial and regulatory implications for the co-operative, has given me a both detailed and objective view of the whole enterprise. I believe that will be useful in helping to develop the business plan for our second five-year period in a way that improves our ability to meet the stated objectives.

Gaynor Targett

I've been involved with the bookshop since the first 'interested person's meeting'.

Since then I've painted shelves in a dark and freezing shop, sorted boxes of books in a dark and freezing Seeley's-as-was, taken over the role of Membership Secretary (which led to being on the Board for the first time) and spent most Monday afternoons during the last five years dealing with the previous week's bookshop takings.

The concept of a co-operative bookshop, the shop itself and the surprise and pleasure of the people who use it are a great source of pleasure to me and I feel that it's important that the bookshop should not just continue but should thrive.

I was co-opted onto the Board last year and am happy to put myself forward this year as a 'voted on' member.