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**Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust**

**Trustee Biographies 2018/19**

**Bob Williams (Chair)**

Bob spent 42 years in the Information Technology industry working for a number of large companies in a variety of technical and pre-sales roles servicing public and private sector customers. After taking early retirement in 2008 he joined MWT as Volunteer Co-ordinator and was elected to Trustee Council in 2010. He was elected Chair of MWT in January 2013 and in this role represents the Trust at various meetings at an All Wales (Wildlife Trust Wales Council) and UK level. Bob is also a member of the Dyfi Wildlife Centre steering group.

**Ann Bitcon (Treasurer)**

Ann is a chartered accountant (ACA, DChA) with her own accountancy practice.  With previous wide-ranging Third Sector experience she has been an MWT Trustee since 2012.  As Treasurer she aims to support MWT’s CEO and Resources Manager with regards to financial matters, keep fellow Trustees up to date as to the financial position of the Trust, arranges the preparation of accounts and Chairs the Finance Committee.  Having assisted with the Cors Dyfi 360 project, she is looking forward to supporting the development of the Dyfi Wildlife Centre and is Chair of the Dyfi Wildlife Centre steering group.

**Mike Green**

Mike has spent 32 years working in nature conservation and countryside access, 25 of these in mid Wales.  He is currently employed by Natural Resources Wales to oversee the management of 30+ SSSIs and other sites in Montgomeryshire, which include woodlands, flower-rich grasslands, wetlands, uplands and Lesser Horseshoe Bat roosts. Some of these sites are MWT reserves, and on some others MWT has undertaken habitat management for NRW.  As a result, he works closely with MWT staff and volunteers on the ground.  Previous employment has been with local authorities and wildlife charities in Northamptonshire, Shropshire and Powys, including starting his career with the Northamptonshire Wildlife Trust.  Mike will be stepping down at the 2019 AGM.

**Chris Hurrell (Vice Chair)**

Chris worked in education for 25 years, teaching primary education and working in an LEA based Education Advisory Service. He spent 10 years as a lecturer in Education in the University sector. Chris joined as a volunteer for MWT with a particular interest in the Dyfi Osprey Project. He was appointed a Trustee in 2014 and appointed Vice-chair in 2015. He volunteers at Cors Dyfi throughout the year and delivers illustrated talks on the Dyfi Osprey Project around the county. Chris is also a member of the Dyfi Wildlife Centre steering group.

**Simon Boyes**

Simon has been a member of MWT since the early years of the Trust and lives near Welshpool. Now approaching retirement, he has spent most of his working life leading wildlife holidays abroad, both by land and as ship's ornithologist. When in this country, he regularly joins the MWT volunteer work parties with Rob. Simon has been a trustee since 2013, and will be stepping down at the 2019 AGM. He writes an environmental blog at [www.simonboyes.co.uk](http://www.simonboyes.co.uk)

**Jane Lloyd Francis**

Jane is a dedicated environmentalist, she has farmed organically for the last 28 years implementing many projects for the protection of wildlife at her 100-acre farm near Abercegir. She has attended several Rewilding workshops and events during the last year and maintains a passionate interest in the Pumlumon project. Working occasionally as a community artist inspired by environmental issues enables Jane opportunities to raise public awareness regarding the special nature of Montgomeryshire.

**Tim McVey**

Tim retired from General Practice after 30 years in Newtown in 2015. He has been a member of MWT since the mid-1980s and joined the Trustee board in 2017. He has a general interest in Montgomeryshire, wildlife and the environment and now has more time to learn about it and explore Montgomeryshire and the wider world. He is enjoying volunteering for the work parties and getting to know other volunteers.

**Peter Powell**

Peter grew up on a dairy farm on the outskirts of Welshpool on the banks of the River Severn and is during these formative years that his passion for Wildlife was established. Peter went on to read Ecology at Cardiff University before doing a Masters Degree in Advanced Wildlife Conservation at The University of the West of England.  Peter lives in Welshpool and works as a full time conservation biologist for the Welsh Dee Rivers Trust based in Llangollen.

**Jill Robinson**

Jill first volunteered for MWT in 2014 at Cors Dyfi, helping with the construction of the 360 observatory and then undertaking People Engagement during the Osprey season, something she has done every year since. Jill also continues to attend work parties at the reserve during the winter. In 2014 Jill also joined the volunteer group at Severn Farm Pond and is currently a member of The Friends Of Severn Farm Pond. In addition, Jill is volunteer Warden of Pwll Penarth in her home town of Newtown. Jill is a keen wildlife photographer and enjoys walking along the River Severn capturing images of the flora and fauna.

**Clare Boyes**

Clare worked for the NHS for forty years, and has significant experience in risk and governance. She has a life-long interest in natural history and has been a member of the Trust for 25 years. Clare retired to spend more time enjoying nature and has a particular interest in solitary bees and wasps. She volunteers for the Trust, helping with wildlife surveys and recording species throughout Montgomeryshire. Clare is currently studying for a master’s degree in Biological Recording and Ecological Monitoring.