

The Civil Liberties Trust

Trustees

Christina Blacklaws – Chair



Christina studied Jurisprudence at Oxford and was recently elected as an Honorary Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford University. She is a qualified solicitor, advocate and mediator.

She is a former President of the Law Society of England and Wales, the representative body of over 200,000 solicitors.

She is an innovator in the legal field, having developed and managed one of the first 'virtual' law firms and set up the UK's very first Alternative Business Structure with the Cooperative Group. She was also one of the first Directors of Innovation at a top UK firm.

She now runs her own consultancy business providing strategic advice particularly in the areas of transformational change, technological developments and diversity and inclusion.

Christina is a non-executive director for 3 large law firms and a tech start up.

She holds a range of public appointments including chairing a UK Government body: LawTech UK Panel, chairing the Judicial Pensions Board and being a member of the Kings Counsel Selection Panel.

Christina is the Head of Faculty of the Legal Technology and Innovation Institute and the UK representative on the International Bar Association.

She is committed to supporting human rights and chairs the UK human rights charity and is a Council member of the IBA's Human Right's Institute.

Passionate about diversity and inclusion, Christina is the former representative for the Women Lawyers Division on the Law Society of England and Wales Council. As president, she spearheaded the largest ever global research on women in law involving thousands of lawyers over 20 countries and resulting in three reports and a UK Government backed Pledge.

Christina speaks internationally on a wide range of business, legal and ethical topics and is a multi-award winning (for innovation and diversity and inclusion) published author, lecturer and frequent media commentator.

Alastair Livesey – Vice Chair



Alastair is a senior lawyer at Shearman & Sterling, where he acts as counsel in a range of high-value international arbitrations, litigations and white collar/regulatory matters. Al also regularly advises on public international law and business and human rights issues and has assisted clients to develop and benchmark their ethics and compliance programmes. Al previously worked at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and for several law reform and human rights organisations, including a secondment to the litigation team at Liberty. Al has previously served on the Board of Bail for Immigration Detainees and currently sits on the Board of JUSTICE.

Tish Andrewartha – Treasurer

Tish has been a trustee of The Civil Liberties Trust (CLT) for nearly twenty years. She is currently the CLT treasurer. She formally served on the Liberty Executive Committee between 2004 and 2014, including a period as the Liberty Treasurer.

Judit Seymour – Judit joins the CLT board in her capacity as the Liberty Executive Committee Chair



Judit has more than 30 years of finance and legal career experience as a senior risk leader and qualified barrister, alongside a significant Non-Executive Director portfolio. She brings strong, demonstrable experience and focus across governance and risk management, transformational change and people and EDI strategy, seeing strong risk management culture as crucial in enabling organisations to focus on opportunities and deliver strategic objectives.

Judit provides deep organisational leadership experience framed by an understanding of the value of being a critical friend to the executive through active support and mentoring, respectful challenge and the clear need for the non-executive to avoid becoming involved in operational issues.

Judit brings lived experience of marginalisation across a number of intersecting areas and reflected that “the chance to serve as Liberty Chair brings a unique opportunity to be involved with an organisation that resonates strongly with my own values and drive to speak truth to power, instigate positive, lasting change, and protect and strengthen everyone’s rights and freedoms.

Baroness Campbell of Surbiton/Jane Campbell DBE



Jane has a long history of campaigning for the Rights of Disabled People and parliamentary engagement in Equality and Human Rights. She is known for leading campaigns for disability anti-discrimination legislation and Independent Living.

Parliamentary activity

Since joining the House of Lords in 2007 as an Independent Crossbencher, Jane has played key roles on Select Committees, such as the Joint Committee on Human Rights (2010-2012) and the Equality Act 2010 review (2015-2016). She was a Member of the House of Lords Appointments Commission (2008-2013) and Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Disability Group (2010 – 2013). She currently sits on the Public Services Select Committee.

Outside Parliament

Jane was CEO of the National Centre for Independent Living (1996-2001); a Commissioner at the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) (2006-2009) and Executive Chair of the Social Care Institute for Excellence (2001-2004).

She is currently a patron of several charities dedicated to advancing the rights and inclusion of disabled people and other protected groups.

Her publications include *Disability Politics* (1996) and *Disabled People and the Right to Life* (2008). Jane has appeared regularly on TV and radio programmes and was a castaway on *Desert Island Discs*. She has guest edited the BBC Radio 4 Today programme and contributed to other disability related documentaries and features.

She received the Liberty Human Rights Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2013 and the Bevan Lifetime Achievement Award (Health & Wellbeing) in 2015. She has been recognised for her work twice in the Queen's Birthday honours (an MBE in 2000 and DBE in 2006). She was awarded an Honorary Fellowship, University College London in 2018, and is the recipient of 5 honorary doctoral degrees.

Hannah Cox



Hannah has experience in strategy, project management and organisational improvement through both her previous role as a strategy consultant within PwC, and in-house at a bank where she sits within the central strategy team and works on initiatives with the various businesses. Hannah also has experience in education, fundraising and outreach having worked as a teacher through Teach First and within Trinity College's alumni and development office. Originally from Greater Manchester, Hannah enjoys watching football, trying her hand at sport and reading a variety of books.

Nazmin Choudhury



Nazmin Choudhury born in London but of Bangladeshi heritage is one of the first females to qualify as a solicitor from that heritage. After working at renowned firms, she set up her practice NC Law in 2010. It is a few doors away from her father's restaurant, called Nazmin's named after her and clients often ask her if she knows there is a restaurant three doors away with the same name!

The practice deals with conveyancing, commercial and residential, all aspects of civil litigation and wills and probate. The firm also does some pro-bono work.

Nazmin is married with three children and is passionate about travel, women's rights and her heritage in Bangladesh. She travels to Bangladesh regularly where she tries to carry on the prolific charity work by her late father. The work includes empowering young girls to attain their goals, clean water, education, housing and she collects clothes from friends and family and distributes to less unfortunate in the villages and maternity hospitals.

Nazmin has recently been appointed on the Law Society's Small Firms Network and is excited to be part of the Civil Liberties trust.

Aidan Geary – EC Member & Liberty Treasurer



In April 2023 Aidan was co-opted onto Liberty's Executive Committee to take on the role of Treasurer. Since then, he has been working closely with the EC, Finance Sub Committee, and the leadership team to ensure that there are clear and effective policies in place to manage Liberty's budgets and spending

Aidan works as an independent consultant, and is on the board of Dumbworld Ltd, an artist-led, creative production company based in Belfast, which creates work that is to be found at the intersection of music, image and words.

Aidan has spent his career working in the media, including at The Guardian and Condé Nast, where he spent many years running major projects, developing strategy, and in senior leadership roles. He is acutely conscious that even established rights cannot be taken for granted and is absolutely committed to Liberty's mission to ensure that rights are protected and enhanced.

Emma Higham



Emma is passionate about social impact and adept at motivating large teams to deliver meaningful change.

A Product Management Leader with more than 15 years experience in tech, she is currently spearheading Google Search's Information Quality and Safety portfolio. In her current role, she has been responsible for major shifts in Google's approach to child safety for Search: from launching the first new setting for SafeSearch in over a decade, to launching the NGO Approved Reporter program to address illegal and harmful online content.

Her academic training is in Politics, Philosophy and Economics and before moving to Product Management, she worked in Public Policy and Government Affairs for Google leading campaigns on Algorithmic Transparency and AI Fairness. Her perspective on the intersection of tech, policy and society is informed by having lived and worked in a wide range of countries including Germany, the USA, Hong Kong and Hungary. She now lives in East London with her partner Charmaine.

Emma has supported Civil Liberties Trust and Liberty since she was 15 years old, and was thrilled to join the CLT board in 2023. She looks forward to supporting the important work Liberty has been doing for nearly a century to protect civil liberties and human rights in the UK.

Thomas Holland

Thomas has 15 years' experience working as a fundraiser in the field of human rights. He has worked at Amnesty International UK, Amnesty International Portugal and Amnesty International Thailand, growing their membership and managing their investment portfolios. He currently works at Family for Every Child as the Head of Individual Giving. He has experience in data analytics, digital, telemarketing, face-to-face, major donors and legacy-giving. He lives in London and in his spare time enjoys cycling, reading, jazz and collecting first editions.

Ian McDougall



Ian McDougall is the Executive Vice President and General Counsel for the LexisNexis, Legal & Professional division of RELX Group PLC and President of the LexisNexis Rule of Law Foundation.

Ian joined LexisNexis in 2004 as Vice President and Legal Director for LexisNexis International (LNI), where he oversaw the legal function for the group, including Regulatory Compliance, Commercial Agreements, IT, Intellectual Property and Litigation. Ian was also involved in business strategy, acquisitions and general business planning. At LexisNexis, Ian has stepped into varying roles, including Interim CEO of Asia Pacific. In addition, he led the LexisNexis implementation of the U.K. Bribery Act compliance and created the organization's first broad regulatory compliance review program.

Before joining LexisNexis, he led Legal, HR and Facilities departments at Telco Global Ltd., previously one of the largest U.K. independent telecom providers.

Ian sits on the United Nations Rule of Law Steering Committee and is a member of the UN General Counsel Advisory Board. Until Ian's move to New York, he was a Board Director and Trustee for U.K. charity Peaceful Place, which is dedicated to providing support to sufferers of early-onset dementia. He was also appointed as judge in the Barrister's Disciplinary Tribunal and is a broadcast cricket commentator in association with the Royal National Institute for the Blind. In 2023 Ian was appointed as a Trustee to the National Council for Civil Liberties. Ian is based in London.

Nick Turner



Nick was admitted as a Solicitor in 1988 and has worked at Shelter since 2010. He has previously worked in both private practice and Law Centres for over 20 years. He specialises in housing law.

Nick has dealt with a wide variety of housing advice and casework including homelessness matters, defective conditions cases, possession and eviction matters.

He has a particular interest in using equalities law to promote and protect housing rights of the most vulnerable and marginalized in society.