

RESUMES FOR BORDERS FOREST TRUST TRUSTEES

Pierre-Alban Guy

Pierre comes from France and has lived and worked in the hotel business in the UK for nine years. He owns two top quality hotels at Peebles and near Moffat. As a lover of trees and woods he is a keen supporter of BFT helping particularly with Venlaw Community Wood at Peebles. He has helped greatly with the Corehead purchase appeal by hosting events at his two hotels. As a successful entrepreneur, Pierre would bring valuable experience to BFT from the world of business and marketing. He is married with two children and lives near Walkerburn.

Philip Ashmole

Philip has lived near Peebles for 35 years, in a house now surrounded by woodlands and wetlands established by himself and his wife Myrtle. He has a degree in zoology and a doctorate in seabird ecology, and taught ornithology, ecology and evolution at Yale and Edinburgh universities before retiring (at 58) in 1992. His research has been on seabirds on tropical oceanic islands and insects and spiders of mountains, caves and lava flows. He has been involved in ecological and conservation projects on various Atlantic islands and has published two books on island natural history (jointly with Myrtle). During the last 15 years he has concentrated on native woodland restoration in Scotland, especially as volunteer Co-ordinator of the Carrifran Wildwood project and as a founding Trustee of BFT.

Michael Baker

Mike was brought up on a farm near Stow and spent 20 years working on the farm which was primarily a stock rearing unit. Mike pursued a career change and, after 2 years of training with SWT, NTS and RSPB, was employed as a Borders Regional Council Ranger Service for nearly 19 years. During that time he acquired an increasing interest in the landscape of the Borders and its associated flora and fauna and became the manager of the Southern Upland Way (within the Borders). Mike has worked with BFT in a variety of ways, both professionally and privately. This has included helping with fund raising walks, planting at Carrifran and working with schools and mowing paths in several Community Woods as a Ranger. He recently took early retirement from Scottish Borders Council Countryside Service and would like to commit more of his time to help further the aims of the Trust.

Neil Campbell

Neil qualified as a certified member of the Institute of Wood Science in 1979 and subsequently joined Scottish Woodlands Ltd in 1980 where he later became the Managing Director in 1999. Having gained experience in all aspects of forest management, including establishment, silviculture, timber harvesting and marketing, he left Scottish Woodlands in 2005 to pursue a career as an independent forestry consultant. In 2006 he joined the board of A & J Scott Ltd to assist with wood supply following the construction of a new sawmill and he also serves as a Director of Woodschool.

Rose Clarkson

Rose has worked in the environmental sector for the last twenty years, mainly with rural communities on land management practice and rural enterprise in both Africa and the UK. Her academic background is in resource management, education and art, with a BSc in Biological Sciences (Plymouth), MScs in Resource Management (Edinburgh) and Ecology (Aberdeen) and a teaching qualification. Rose currently works as an independent consultant and is presently carrying out an assessment of opportunities for reviving traditional orchards in South Lanarkshire and is delivering a contract to SNH as Manager of the Clyde Valley Woodlands.

Rosalind Grant-Robertson

Rosalind Grant-Robertson is based in Edinburgh and works mainly in the field of Language Assessment as a consultant to examination boards. She also organises conferences and presentations within her profession. She spends much of her free time on voluntary and charitable committee work. Her family background was in farming and she maintains a keen interest in country affairs, the environment and wildlife, as well as

travelling widely. She is a Life Member of BFT, the Soil Association, The Woodland Trust, the National Trust for Scotland and the Scottish Wildlife Trust.

John Hunt

John has worked in nature conservation in Scotland for over 30 years. From 1974, he was with the RSPB where he became head of their nature reserves in Scotland for an exciting period when there was a lot of land acquisition and pioneering land management at reserves such as Abernethy and Loch Gruinart in Islay. From 1995, he worked for the Millennium Forest for Scotland (MFS) and was involved with many community woodland restoration projects. In particular he had a close association with Borders Forest Trust and its various MFS projects which he had the pleasure of monitoring from their start. Until recently he was a Local Adviser for Scottish Natural Heritage with a special interest in the Borders.

Michael Ireland

Michael was born, brought up and continues to live in Peebles having spent several years away in Aberdeen completing a degree in Physical Geography and Post Grad Masters in Land Economy. Michael is a Rural Practice Chartered Surveyor with over ten years post qualification experience in the valuation, consultancy and management of a wide range of rural properties. He joined Knight Frank LLP in 2006 and is responsible for all of the firm's farm, estate and rural property valuation and consultancy work throughout Scotland, based in their Edinburgh office. Michael and his family are members of Venlaw Community Woodland in Peebles.

Daphne Jackson

Daphne has lived at Cossarhill Farm, Ettrick since 1975 and runs a successful self-catering business which was one of first in Scotland to be awarded Gold from the Green Business Scheme. A member of BFT, Visit Scotland and the Southern Upland Partnership, she has served on the Ettrick and Yarrow Community Council for many years. She works part time at Ettrick Primary School (now in partnership with BFT) and enjoys raising money for charity. Daphne is currently the chairperson of the Ettrick Marshes Steering Group.

Jim Knight

Jim is a founding trustee and a former chairman of BFT. He is the head of the landscape section at Scottish Borders Council and has 25 years of experience as a chartered landscape architect working both in local government and private practice. Jim studied Ecological Science at Edinburgh University and Landscape Design at Newcastle. After graduation he worked for Gateshead MBC and Newcastle City Council on environmental improvement projects before joining the Edinburgh based Landscape Consultants, W.J. Cairns and Partners in 1986. He moved back into local government in the Borders in 1992. He and his team are responsible for providing landscape advice for the Council's planning policy and development control functions, including tree advice and managing Tree Preservation Orders, as well as designing and implementing landscape works for a wide range of Council controlled projects, including new road works and town and village improvement schemes.

Brenda Robertson

Brenda moved to the Borders from Dundee in 1970 to teach physical education at Peebles High. After teaching in all the secondary schools in the Borders, Brenda has now retired and spends time on interests such as sports, gardening, countryside pursuits and handy crafts. Brenda is an active member of the local community at Darnick, and is one of the founding members of Darnick Community Woodland.

Reuben Singleton

On completion of an Environmental Science degree in Wales, Reuben moved to Scotland to pursue a career in the environmental sector. He came to Scotland in 1991 and worked in a variety of positions with Scottish Natural Heritage until 2005 when he moved into ecological consultancy. He current works for Jacobs in Edinburgh as their Principal Ecologist. Reuben is a "self-taught" naturalist with a good all-round knowledge of British natural history. He is a founder member of the Carrifran Wildwood, Treasurer of Jubilee Wood Community Woodland in Peebles and is the County Moth Recorder for Peeblesshire.

