

# Little Hearts Matter - Trustee Profiles

The AGM is where members elect Trustees onto the Board to manage the charity on their behalf. Our Trustees are elected for a three year term, and this year we have three Trustees who have come to the end of their term but who equally wish to stand for re-election - Isabel Baumber and Julie McManus and Peter Groves . David Baumber would like to be elected as Chair of the Board and Peter Groves as the Treasurer. There are also four new Trustees who would like to join the Board and who need to be formally elected to the Board – Hannah Palmer, Alex Pearce, Laura Griffin and Khizer Rehman. Below is a short profile on each.



## Isabel Baumber, Re-election as Trustee

Isabel (who is married to David, the Treasurer) has a son, Matthew (born June 2002) who has Tricuspid Atresia (a right-sided single ventricle condition), a daughter Rachel, who has a healthy heart, but who has a genetic condition called achondroplasia (a form of dwarfism), and another son, Thomas.

Matthew has had all three stages of surgery. He was very ill as a baby, with breathing difficulties caused by a paralysed diaphragm which needed additional surgery, together with feeding problems meaning that he was tube-fed until he was nine months old. He also had a difficult time in hospital for his Fontan but he is now learning to cope with his condition combined with the rigours of growing up.

Isabel was an Export Marketing Research Adviser for the British Chambers of Commerce, having previously managed Rover Group's marketing in Latin America, then elements of Rover's global communication strategy. As a result, Isabel can provide skills in marketing and communications, market research and support for small businesses. She currently does small amounts of freelance marketing, research and teaching work.

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## Julie McManus, Re-election as Trustee

Julie lives in South West London with her husband, Ian and her children, Fintan and Imogen. Fintan was diagnosed with Pulmonary Atresia with Intact Ventricular Septum (PAIVS) in utero at his 20 week scan. He has had a series of surgeries resulting in the final Fontan procedure in 2014.

Julie has practiced as a solicitor since 2004, both in private practice and in house. She currently works as In House Solicitor and Company Secretary at Motability Operations Limited, where she has worked for over 11 years.

Julie enjoys spending time with her family with favourite pastimes being walks and cycling together and attempting to surf in both Cornwall and Ireland

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## Peter Groves, Re-election as Trustee and election as Treasurer

Peter lives in Staffordshire with his wife Judith and has three daughters. His first daughter Stephanie was born with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome in March 1994, and due to the condition not being detected until after she was born, together with further complications of the heart, Stephanie only lived for three days. Peter and his wife have been involved with LHM ever since.

In July 2005 Peter set up his own accountancy and business advisory practice after working for 22 years within the accountancy profession.

Outside of family and business commitments Peter's time is taken up with playing the cornet in a brass band and following the fortunes of his beloved football team Wolverhampton Wanderers.



## David Baumber, Election as Chair

David (who is married to Isabel, another Trustee) has a son, Matthew who has Tricuspid Atresia (a right-sided single ventricle condition), a daughter Rachel who has a healthy heart but has a genetic condition called achondroplasia (a form of dwarfism) and another son Thomas.

Matthew, now 18 years old, has had all three stages of surgery. He was very ill as a baby, with breathing difficulties caused by a paralysed diaphragm which needed additional surgery, together with feeding problems meaning that he was tube-fed until he was nine months old. He also had a difficult in hospital for his Fontan but he is now coping with his condition as he transitions to adult care.

David is a Chartered Accountant and Senior Finance Manager with E.ON having previously worked at PricewaterhouseCoopers. He brings financial skills to the charity in terms of accounting, budgeting, forecasting and cost management.

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## Alex Pearce, Election as Trustee

Alex lives in Cambridgeshire, with his wife Kate and two sons. He is a cardiac physiologist specialising in Echo.

Alex has worked in the NHS for more than 15 years, and currently manages a cardiac diagnostic department in Suffolk. Additionally, he is the Trust Lead Healthcare Scientist and Regional Representative for the British Society of Echocardiography for the East of England.

Their youngest son, Jacob, was diagnosed with congenital heart disease during his 20-week scan. This of course, posed additional personal trauma for Alex, given his profession. Jacob was born in 2018 and was transferred to Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital for his BT-Shunt and then his Glenn, later that year. Jacob is currently awaiting his Fontan, planned for 2021.

Alex is determined to use his professional knowledge and connections to further benefit Jacob's life and that of the LHM community.

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## Hannah Palmer, Election as Trustee

I am 26 years old and currently work for Admiral Insurance as a Total Loss Claims Handler. I was born with half a heart in 1994 and have been a member of Little Hearts Matter, along with my family for nearly 18 years. I can honestly say that I would not be the person I am today without the charity. Having been a Trustee from 2014 to 2020, I can honestly say, learning more about how the Board cares for all our members has been a wonderful experience. My previous experience as a Youth Councillor with LHM also helped me to learn more about what our younger members want from the Charity.

However, throughout the lockdown period I have been working with Suzie and Lexie to help develop the services for adults with a single ventricle heart condition, and this is work I hope to expand on if I am elected to the Board. I hope to be able to work with the other Trustees to expand this service and to help develop other services that have become important to our members.

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## Laura Griffin, Election as Trustee

Laura is a professional fundraising consultant with over 20 years' experience in the corporate and non-profit sectors, having started her career in publishing at BBC Studios and then the Hachette Livre group. She has previously held senior roles at Save the Children, Camfed and the Natural History Museum, and over the past four years' consulting has delivered strategic projects and services for clients including UNICEF and the RSPB, acting in leadership roles in-house, brokering significant new partnerships and writing strategy. She brings her skills to the LHM family with a view to helping support fundraising efforts to grow services.

Laura enjoys living in a rural village with her husband, Simon, spending time with her stepdaughter Cerys, who has HLHS, and being human mum to cockapoo, Lottie. They all love to travel and get out and about in nature.