

THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY BIRMINGHAM & WEST MIDLANDS

Members of the Birmingham & West Midlands group who have offered themselves for election to the Regional Executive Committee:



Stephen Hartland

Stephen joined the Society when he was 20 and became active in the work of the Birmingham Group in 2002, following a successful campaign led by him against the widening of the Hagley Road in Edgbaston. He was elected a Vice Chairman of the Group in 2008 and its Chairman in 2009.

Stephen's area of speciality is in Public Art and he is considered an expert in Birmingham's Victorian monumental sculpture. He is also a member of the Public Statues & Sculpture Association ([PSSA](#)).

Stephen is offering himself for re-election to the committee and to the position as Chairman.



Joe Holyoak RIBA

Joe is an architect and urban designer and has his own practice. He promotes the importance of good design in everything he does, and regards the intelligent conservation and reuse of old buildings as a necessary part of the definition of good design, and also of the wider agenda of sustainability.

Joe has been an active member of the Victorian Society since the 1970s, with his first big campaign against the demolition of Birmingham's Central Library in 1973; we lost that, but it was a turning point. Victorian architecture became more respectable, and we became more successful.

Joe also chairs the Birmingham & West Midlands Group Casework Sub-Committee.

Joe is offering himself for re-election to the committee and to the position as Vice Chairman.

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Barbara Shackley

Barbara has always had a passionate interest in buildings and first took a GCSE in architectural history whilst at school.

Barbara first heard of the Victorian Society in 1977 when someone suggested she join to find out more about her then dilapidated Arts & Crafts house. She began to sit on the Conservation Area Advisory Committee in Solihull and reported to the main Birmingham Committee and attended Vic Soc lectures and visits.

In 1988 Barbara retired from teaching and became Caseworker. She was subsequently elected Chairman in 2001 and held that position until she stood down in 2009.

Barbara is offering herself for re-election to the committee and to the position as Vice Chairman.



Gill Sockett

Gill spent all of her working life in Birmingham. Before taking early retirement she was Head of Technology at a City comprehensive school.

She joined The Victorian Society in 1994 and has been a member of the Executive Committee of the Birmingham & West Midlands Group since 2006.

Gill also sits on the Programme Committee.

Gill is offering herself for re-election to the committee.

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Helene Pursey

Helene joined the Victorian Society in the 1990's and was soon involved in helping to plan our events programme. An early member of the programme committee she has been responsible for updating members, by email, of local events. Helene has is responsible for the sales of our book - **Birmingham's Victorian and Edwardian architects** for the Mary Heath Trust,

Although a Londoner, Helene has lived and worked in Birmingham for over 40 years, spending the last 20 years of her working life as Librarian and Tutor at Fircroft College.

Helene is offering herself for election to the committee.