

SHARP 2024 AGM:

Officer, Trustee and Committee Member Nominee Election Addresses

Name:	Nomination for:	Nominated by:
Sam Atkins	Trustee and Treasurer	Ellie Blakelock
<p>I am new to SHARP having attended as a BERT and volunteer in 2022. I offered my help to the organisation when the changes happened and it became clear new trustees would be needed. My background is in the charity sector as I set up a youth arts charity, Small World Cultural Arts Collective in 1999 to provide sustained creative activity to disadvantaged young people, and have been running it since then. I have covered pretty much every aspect of charity administration over the last 24 years including finance; policies; safeguarding; AGMs; reporting to trustees and dealing the Charities Commission and Companies House. Over this time I have brought in around £1.25million to support young people in the town I live in.</p> <p>I have served on several committees in my local area and been treasurer for three different charities in the past.</p> <p>I have had a lifelong love of archaeology and I would regard it as a privilege and an honour to be able to support SHARP in its future years and use the skills I have honed running Small World in a very different setting but an organisation with very similar aims of access to all regardless of background.</p>		

Name:	Nomination for:	Nominated by:
Terry Baxter	Trustee	Sam Atkins
<p>I have been at SHARP each year since 2001. During this time, I have filled a variety of roles including site management, fieldwalking organiser, excavation supervisor and first aider. Currently I man the information centre engaging with the public and hopefully raising funds for the project by selling anything I can. Originally part of the reformed 2008 committee, I am still a committee member and visit and act as an advisor to the Docking history group on their digging weekends.</p>		

Name:	Nomination for:	Nominated by:
Sophie Beckett	Committee Member	Gareth Davies
<p>Sophie Beckett has worked with SHARP since 2002, after attending first a BERT course and then Human Remains (HR) course. Sophie joined the SHARP team as a human remains supervisor in 2005 and has since taught on the human remains course, each year. In 2018, Sophie took on the role as co-lead of the Human Remains Team and from 2021, she has attended committee meetings with the role of HR representative. She has also delivered several National Lottery Heritage Fund grants for SHARP, as well as published several journal publications, conference presentations and posters.</p> <p>As part of the Human Remains team, Sophie is working on writing a monograph publication based on the osteological findings for individuals excavated from the Early Medieval (Anglo-Saxon) cemetery at Sedgford. Sophie has led the recording of SHARP's disarticulated human bone assemblage and following the success of a recent collaboration on aDNA research, is currently applying for funding to support further aDNA analysis. Sophie is also SHARP's Digital Trenches</p>		

Team lead and administrator of the virtual learning platform. She has developed Digital Trenches content and is working on creation of online courses, a new income generation venture for SHARP. Alongside her work with SHARP, Sophie is a part time lecturer in Forensic and Archaeological Biominerals and a freelance osteologist

Name:	Nomination for:	Nominated by:
Dr Eleanor Blakelock	Secretary & Trustee	Sam Atkins
<p>I have been with SHARP since the year 2000, taking a small break between 2002 and 2009. When I returned in 2010 I came back having done a degree in archaeological science which included 12 weeks of excavation experience in commercial archaeology (with three different units). I also returned with a MSc and PhD in archaeometallurgy, and acted as SHARPs metallurgy consultant.</p> <p>I have worked on and off at the malting site since it opened in 2013. In 2018 I was made a director of the malting trenches. In 2021 Neil asked me to take on his role of director of excavations, and I am responsible for ensuring the many sites we excavate are dug, recorded and published to the best of our ability.</p>		

Name:	Nomination for:	Nominated by:
Yvonne Bolton-Smith	Chair & Trustee	Ann Smith
<p>I first came to SHARP in 2014 when I did my BERT course and a week of excavation. I have since returned to SHARP every summer.</p> <p>I took on the post of site photographer in 2016 and have continued in this role ever since.</p> <p>I became secretary to the committee and a trustee, being voted in at the AGM in 2018. I have continued in this role but am stepping down this year to give someone else a chance at the role. I would like to remain on the committee as an ordinary member and would like to be considered for the position of trustee.</p>		

Name:	Nomination for:	Nominated by:
Daniel Cockling	Trustee	Steve Horn
<p>I first dug with SHARP in 2018 as a university student to pick up new skills alongside my studies, having previously dug at Bamburgh, and was invited back by Neil and the rest of the committee in 2019 to help supervise the excavations. (As an aside, I probably should change my photo on the website as I do look particularly young there). I had intended to return in 2020 too, but the closest to that I could get was using data from the cemetery excavations as part of my MA dissertation. I now work in commercial archaeology, excavating sites ahead of development (mostly) in the north of England, but recently became a committee member because I feel that SHARP has a lot to offer, and I have a lot to give back to SHARP for giving me the chances it has done. My work so far has led me to help set up new social media accounts to further the work we do, but a key part of my job onsite is as part of the excavation team, focusing on training both beginners how to excavate and record archaeology, as well as those wanting to go further and continue in the archaeological world. There aren't many groups like SHARP, opening up archaeology to ordinary people, and I am again standing to continue on the committee to help the project grow and continue doing what it does best.</p>		

Name:	Nomination for:	Nominated by:
Gareth Davies	Trustee	Sophie Beckett
Former Director of SHARP 1999-2007, former committee member 2000-2006. Long time friend of SHARP. Contributor to a number of SHARP publications. Recently contributed to SHARP conference and now a committee member again.		

Name:	Nomination for:	Nominated by:
Tiggy Harris	Trustee	Ellie Blakelock
<p>I have been involved with SHARP for many years although have only recently taken up a more active role with the Project. I did the BERT course back in 2015 and have done little bits of digging over the years but now prefer to help with other aspects of SHARP.</p> <p>I joined the Committee in January 2023 and took over management of the SHARP website soon after this. I keep the website up to date with information about the Project and our excavations, our courses, and other events. The website also enables people to book for the season so the payment system needs to be monitored.</p> <p>I am a part of the media team and help to run SHARP's social media accounts, promoting the Project and sharing what is going on onsite. Primarily, this is a promotional or advertising tool for SHARP to help get people interested in what we are doing and hopefully book on one of the courses or as a volunteer.</p> <p>The other thing I do for SHARP is maintain a relationship with the Campbell family, our landowners, and act as the main contact between them and the Project. This is a role I took over after the loss of my father, Neil, in 2022 as it was through his friendship with the Campbell family that SHARP first came to be back in 1996.</p>		

Name:	Nomination for:	Nominated by:
Stephen Horn	Trustee	Sam Atkins
<p>I have been involved with SHARP since 2001, having attended every excavation season since then. I have dug on Boneyard, New Trench, Roman Project, Airfield, Eaton Mill, Saggy Horse Field, and Trench 24.</p> <p>In 2021, I was invited to be a Supervisor on Trench 24, and since then I have additionally taken on the responsibilities of Site Manager and Health & Safety, and held an interim position on the committee for the last 9 months.</p> <p>I am committed to Neil's vision of democratic archaeology where opportunities are available for all, and I have a strong belief in fairness, equality and respect for others. Having recently retired I feel that I am now in a position to give back to SHARP, using my skills and knowledge. My career was with the UK Government in the maritime sector, and included internal audit, health & safety and legislation development. With these skills, my practical approach to problem solving, and my DIY abilities, I believe I have lot to offer SHARP in helping the organisation move forward, both as a committee member and trustee.</p>		

Name:	Nomination for:	Nominated by:
Bill Howard	Committee Member	Ann Smith
<p>I have been working on the SHARP project for almost 15 years now, having done my BERT course in 2009. Being retired my focus has shifted from the actual excavations to support tasks and work on the Post-Ex side. I am planning to assist the Finds team this year and support Anne in the Bulk Finds area with cleaning and recording.</p> <p>Each year, after the season ends, I also scan and file the on-site records so that documentation and research can have on-line access to these from around the country and so that SHARP is less vulnerable to data going missing or lost. The other thing that I do is to digitalise the drawings produced in season using a CAD package, note that this takes a bit of time so will not be online until the autumn.</p> <p>This year I hope to be part of the team reviewing the way we currently store our information and see if there are ways we can make it more assessable and structured so as to support our research projects in more effective ways.</p>		

Name:	Nomination for:	Nominated by:
Kali Saint	Committee Member	Lucy Koster
<p>I joined SHARP in 2017. I started off as part of the catering team and was asked to take on the role of kitchen manager in 2019. In 2019/2020 I requested to be considered to join the committee as a catering representative, which was accepted by the committee. And in 2022 I joined the welfare team.</p> <p>SHARP has become a big and valued part of my life, it provided me with a community in which I have felt accepted and supported to thrive as a person and as a chef/catering manager. When I joined the committee, it was because not only did I think the catering team needed a direct representative to communicate both the catering needs for the team and the catering facilities required to ensure SHARP continues to have a functioning kitchen that can adhere to food safety laws; but also because I wanted to do more to help SHARP in any way I could.</p> <p>I believed I could offer an outsider's perspective, can offer up questions others may not have, and at the time also give a different view due to being younger than other committee members and coming from a different path of life.</p>		

Name:	Nomination for:	Nominated by:
Owen Morgan	Trustee	Terry Baxter
<p>In 2015 I first came to SHARP to complete the BERT course, as a little experiment to see if archaeology was something I was interested in. Since 2017, I have attended every digging season and have found SHARP to be a special place, not only in the archaeology but also the community that is present. I have been a trench supervisor for a number of years, and this past year joined the SHARP Committee to help contribute more to SHARP.</p>		

Name:	Nomination for:	Nominated by:
Pete Taylor	Trustee	Gareth Davies
<p>I have been a long-time volunteer and Supervisor on the SHARP project. I first attended in 1997, and have been on site every year that it has been open. I completed the BERT course that first year</p>		

and later Geophysics courses, I also presented the Archaeology for the Visually Impaired course. I nominated the project for the British Archaeology Awards and Anj Beckhams BERT course was awarded the Pitt Rivers Award'

My background is as an engineering Draughtsman then Contract Manager, followed by 30 years in I.T. operation management. My final post has been 8 years as a Charity / Business Manager developing a Therapy and rehabilitation centre for adults with acquired brain injuries. I have grown the Second Chance Headway Centre to be a commissioned service across West Yorkshire. <https://www.secondchancewakefield.com/>

Having recently retired, I would relish the opportunity to put my energies into a project that I care deeply about. My vision for SHARP is for it to continue as a sustainable going concern, and to explore new interesting and exciting research areas for the next 25 years!

I have extensive previous experience as a Director/Trustee at NOVA (<https://www.nova-wd.org.uk/nova/our-trustees>) and the Wakefield Civic Society (<https://wakefieldcivicsociety.org.uk/our-people/>).

Name:	Nomination for:	Nominated by:
Ann Smith	Committee Member	Bill Howard
I have been with SHARP since 2000, when I completed BERT and became a regular volunteer until becoming a supervisor in 2008/2009. My roles include Finds Processor, Friends Coordinator and coordinator of school visits. I would like to remain on the committee and feel it is important to have someone local to sort out site issues out of season.		

Name:	Nomination for:	Nominated by:
Lucy Koster	Trustee	Eleanor Lees
I have been a member of SHARP since 2016 and a human remains supervisor since 2019. I have also sat on a variety of university committees including an equality, diversity and inclusion rep. I am currently completing a PhD in biomolecular archaeology, and have extensive experience in biorachaeology and archaeological science.		

Name:	Nomination for:	Nominated by:
Eleanor Lees	Trustee	Dan Cockling
I am a commercial archaeologist working in the south of England, and have been included with SHARP since 2017. For the past couple of years I have volunteered as a trench supervisor.		