

Governor Pen Portraits

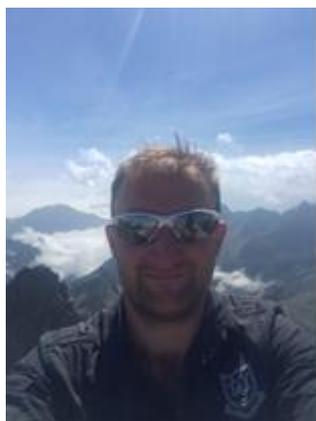


Guy Davies - Co-opted Governor (July '20)

Originally from South Wales, I have lived in Westbury for 17 years. I am married to Sarah and we have two grown-up children, both of whom attended Matravers School before going to university and then the world of work.

I have been a Governor at Matravers since January 2012 and was Chair and then Co-Chair of Governors from July 2013 until July 2019. When Chair I also served on the board of the Wiltshire Governors' Association and the Wiltshire Education Standards Board. I am also the Safeguarding Governor.

I am pastor of Providence Baptist Church, Dilton Marsh. I enjoy reading, listening to music, playing guitar, countryside walks and watching Wales play rugby.



Edward Fairnington - Staff Governor (July '20)

Born and educated in Bath prior to moving Hilperton last year, completing a Bsc (Hons) at the University of Bath in 2014. Following an excellent role model in my father, I have worked with a range of youth organisations growing up and have been fortunate to receive some recognition in that time. As a cadet I won the Mayor of Baths Young Citizen of the Year award 2007, as an adult the BANES Chairman's community award for volunteering 2010 and later the BANES Chairman's community award for leadership 2015.

I joined Matravers in Feb 2015 as Outdoor Education Leader, a role that I value and one that has grown substantially during my time with school. Founding the Combined Cadet Force that became standalone in 2017 is one of my proudest achievements, something that is reflected in our young people.

An evolving role at Matravers has seen progress from organising and leading expeditions, to inspiring a Contingent of 120 young cadets and more recently delivering qualifications in Sport and Public services to our post 16 students. Throughout all of this, my passion is to develop independent critical thinkers to become leaders in their future.

Volunteering to join the FGB following our last Ofsted inspection, I sit on the resources committee offering my perspective where I can for the benefit of the school.

A keen adventurer since I can remember, I hold the Mountain Leader award and I'm currently working toward my International Mountain leader qualification, so journeys into Europe and yonder are a must during breaks in the school year.

For sins in a previous life, I am a Newcastle United fan which reliably provides a sense of realism and disappointment regularly!



Linda Hallowell – Partnership Governor (Sept '20)

Originally from a small West Yorkshire village I moved, with my husband, to live in Westbury in 2000. Throughout my professional career I have worked with children and their families as a social worker; a challenging and rewarding role in equal measures.

Having retired in 2016 I found my new life to be fairly quiet compared to working life. I looked for a new challenge and decided to apply to become a member of the Matravers Governing Board. I have been fortunate enough to be a member since 2017 and have thoroughly enjoyed my involvement with the Board and meeting students and staff at the school. You may see me around the town involved in community projects as I am a trustee of Westbury Community Workshops, previously known as Westbury Shed. I am always happy to chat but as a governor I am unable to be involved in individual issues as these should always be raised with the school.



Paul Howard – Vice Chair of GB (July '20)

I joined Matravers as a governor in 2018 having moved to Westbury from Spain in 2016. I took very early retirement in 2002 from a senior Human Resources manager position in a national soft drink company. At that time I was also responsible for all training and development including graduate recruitment.

During that time I also served as Chairman of the Bob Hope theatre in south London when I also directed productions as well as performed. The theatre had a very active and successful youth group which has produced a number of adults now working in the arts, including film. I am extremely interested in the development of people in general but particularly young people. The vocational side of their education and development is especially important if they are to prosper in the "outside" world.

I re-started and ran Westbury youth club in 2017 and I serve as vice-chairman of Westbury Link which arranges transport for local people to attend appointments they couldn't otherwise make.



Linda Humphries – Co-opted governor (July '20)

I joined the Matravers Board of Governors as a parent governor in July 2013, moving to a co-opted role when we reconstituted in February 2014. I am currently Vice-chair of the Resources Committee, where I take an active part in the random checks carried out by governors on the school's financial procedures as well as being involved in the supplier contract tender process.

My children have both been students at Matravers, I have always enjoyed being involved in their school life, I was also Chair of the PTA at their primary school. I work locally as an office manager.



Mike Perry – Partnership governor (June '19)

I spent most of my working life in Education following a brief period in the Chemical Industry. I have taught all the sciences up to GCSE level and Chemistry up to A-level in a range of 11-18 comprehensive schools in Somerset, Northamptonshire and Wiltshire and still get excited when I visit science lessons. I became a senior leader in a secondary school on Salisbury Plain, gaining qualification of National Professional Qualification for Headship, before I became Advisor for 14-19 Education with Wiltshire Council.

Following retirement, I have stayed active in the educational world and was delighted to become a Governor at Matravers in January 2013. I chair the Outcomes Committee where we offer support and challenge to the school for its performance and progress in its subjects. I am link governor for post 16 education.

In my spare time I Morris dance with White Horse Morris, support Southampton FC (the Saints), do woodturning, chair my village's committee and make its cider and continue my studies of Italian, science and guitar.



B Ralph (Chair of GB) – Co-opted governor (July '20)

I became a Governor in October 2014 with the simple aim of giving something back to Matravers having seen both of my children flourish at the school. I am the Link Governor for the School's Combined Cadet Force and take a close interest in Outdoor Education, which is a real passion of mine. I have previously helped Matravers prepare students for the Ten Tors Challenge on Dartmoor and helped with The Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme. I am Chair of the Full Governing Board and I sit on the Outcomes Committee.

In my day job, I work as Head of Delivery for a large IT Service Provider, mainly in support of the MoD. Prior to that, I enjoyed a full and active career in the Army (joining straight from school in 1983 and leaving in 2006). This background gives me a wealth of experience to draw upon to both challenge and support the Senior Leadership Team at Matravers.

In my spare time I like to try and keep fit (I'm fighting a losing battle: age is catching up with me) by running / mountain biking and walking a very energetic spaniel. I also spend much of my spare time fretting about Leeds United football club and following them around the UK.



Martin Strand – Parent Governor (Sept '20)

My family and I have lived in Westbury since 2015. My daughter is a pupil at Matravers and we also have a younger child at Westbury Juniors.

I have previously set up and chaired a PTA (“Friends of” association) at my daughter’s primary school in London and found it a great way to bring the community together.

I left employment in 2009 to look after the family. My wife is the sole breadwinner. I had previously worked, for 20 years, as Principal Engineer, Customer and Network Planning for a large telecommunications company.

In my spare time I work on the house and garden, play guitar, and regularly train in martial arts.

I became a Governor in 2015 as a Parent Governor and am currently vice chair of the Outcomes Committee. I also regularly meet to discuss attendance issues, keep up to date with SEND provision at the school and get involved in other school and governorship activities where appropriate.