

Short biography of the candidate standing for election at the 2024 AGM

Cathy Stables FSSI (standing for the position of Chair)

I have always loved letters and trained as a graphic designer specialising in Lettering and Typography at Exeter College of Art. Calligraphy was taught by David Harris and it quickly became my favourite part of the course. I got to know a retired calligraphy teacher from the college, Ruth Mary Wood, who was one of Edward Johnston's students, a fact lost on me at the time. She gave me some back copies of the Scribe which was my first encounter with the SSI.

Over the last twenty years I have been able to build on my knowledge of calligraphy as a member of both the SSI and CLAS. Part of that was three years on the Advanced Training scheme, starting in 2003 and ten years later I was elected to Fellowship of the SSI. I am also a fellow of CLAS. I've been teaching calligraphy since 1999 and am chair of Sussex Scribes.

I enjoy using traditional skills and a lot of both my commissioned and personal work involves gilding. I believe strongly that it is imperative that Arts and Crafts are valued, that skills are passed on and that they develop and thrive.

I have been a member of the Executive committee since 2020 and taken on the role of Acting Chair since April 2023. I would like the SSI to be accessible to all, striving for excellence, to see it continue to grow and flourish.