

Newbattle Abbey College Board

Meet the Members

Gary Husband (Board Member since 2019 and Chair of the Board from March 2024)



Gary is an Associate Professor of Further, Adult and Vocational Education. Over the last 20 years Gary has held both teaching and leadership roles within industry, further education and higher education. Gary is an active researcher in the field of further, adult and community education and is educational research lead in the Faculty of Education and Society at the University of Sunderland. Gary lives in the Scottish Borders and has active interests in archaeology, music and woodcraft.

Roddy Henry (Principal and Board Member since November 2021)



Roddy started his career in education as a lecturer at Glasgow College of Nautical Studies (GCNS) in 1998, following a first career in the shipping industry. He went on to senior roles at GCNS, before holding national positions as Head of Centre for Learning Effectiveness at the Scottish Further Education Unit, Associate Director at Scotland's Colleges and as one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education. Prior to his appointment as Principal at Newbattle, Roddy was Depute Principal at Inverness College, part of the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI), a post he had held for the previous eight years.

Stuart Moir (Board Member since 2021 and Chair of the Learning and Teaching Committee)



Stuart is a lecturer at the University of Edinburgh's School of Education. Stuart has been a member of the Learning and Teaching Committee since 2017 and is currently its Chair.

However, Stuart's involvement with Newbattle goes back much further, having been a student there in 1988/89. Stuart left school at 16 with few qualifications and started his working life as an apprentice mechanic and then a bus driver. A successful year at Newbattle enabled Stuart to go on to Edinburgh University where he gained both under-graduate and post-graduate qualifications. Stuart then went on to develop a successful career as a community educator working in various school and community settings. Stuart returned to Edinburgh University as an academic in 2012 with an interest in citizenship and adult education. He gained a doctorate in 2021.

Newbattle transforms people's lives and Stuart knows this, not just from his academic knowledge and expertise, but directly through his own lived experience. Stuart is committed to contributing this knowledge, expertise and experience to his work as a Board member to help Newbattle and its students flourish.

Andy McGoff (Board Member since 2020, Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee and Vice Chair from June 2024)



Andy is a commercially focused Finance Director with extensive experience of working internationally with entrepreneurial and VC backed organisations as well as large corporates.

Andy graduated from the University of Edinburgh with an MA in Economics, before training to become a Chartered Accountant with Ernst & Young.

Having been with the Miller Group, the UK's largest privately owned house building, property development and construction business, for almost 11 years, Andy then worked across a portfolio of clients. This was either as a consultant or as director accountable for broad commercial business operations as well as functional responsibility for leading, managing and motivating the Finance and HR teams.

Prior to joining Edinburgh Napier University, in his current role as Finance and Operations Director in October 2016, he was a Board Member with Bloxx Limited, where he had a lead role in the successful sale of the company to Akamai Technologies Inc a NASDAQ listed entity. Andy chairs the Audit and Risk Committee.

Colin Pritchard (Board Member since March 2023)



Colin is a Building Surveyor with 20 years' experience in the public sector, previously working with Edinburgh City Council and currently with University of Edinburgh. Within his current role, Colin heads the delivery team for hard services across the University at their five campus locations. Colin is responsible for around 130 staff and £15m of revenue and capital budget. Colin hopes to use his experience in senior operational management to support the College over the next four year term.

Colin is from Lanark originally, and now lives in Doune near Stirling with his wife and twin boys. Outside of work, Colin's main passion is golf and 5-a-side football, and he loves to travel with his family at every opportunity.

David Hamer (Board Member since 2021)

Since 2012 David has tutored adults in literacies, particularly numeracy, through local authority adult education services. Education has the power to change lives at every stage and David knows the work of the College to be a valuable contribution to improving the lives of its students and the wider community.

David grew up in the West Highlands and in Edinburgh where in time he studied engineering science and business administration at university. His education enabled me to qualify as a chartered engineer (a childhood ambition) and work as an engineer and project manager; education has changed David's life and makes him want to see it change the lives of others.

After a career working in, and leading, projects building hydro-electric power stations (another childhood ambition), a concert hall & a warship, David moved into local government where he works on projects to benefit people's lives.

Dorothy Welch (Board Member since November 2016 and Chair of the Finance and Resources Committee)

Dorothy is Chair of the Planning and Resources Committee. Dorothy was the first member of her family to go to University and has championed access to education ever since. She is fortunate to have studied Chemistry at Edinburgh and to go on to achieve a PhD from Cambridge. She has spent most of her working life at the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow while also spending five years with the Scottish Wider Access Programme in the 1990s. Recently retired, in addition to her work at Newbattle, she spends a lot of her time with her family including six grandchildren and as much time as possible travelling.

Margaret McLean (Board Member since March 2023 and Senior Independent Member from June 2024)



Margaret is a real estate lawyer and a partner in an Edinburgh law firm. Margaret's specialism is the student housing sector. In her spare time Margaret enjoys playing the Scottish fiddle and exploring the Islands around Scotland and Scandinavia.

Simon Hault (Board Member since June 2023)



Simon is the co-Head of Division of Psychology, Sociology and Education at Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh. Simon has been an educator for 30 years, and through this and his related research, he has a strong interest in intercultural learning that recognises inequality from local to global scales. He is a firm believer in the transformative effects of education and was drawn to Queen Margaret University due to its drive for social justice and the opportunity to lead the implementation of a completely new suite of education programmes there. Simon's professional career started as a secondary school teacher of geography before he worked in university-based teacher education in England for nearly twenty years. He developed strong links with academic institutions in South India and completed his PhD in learning from intercultural engagements and has published in educational areas such as study abroad, international education, postcolonialism and anti-racism. He lives with his family, dogs and cats in Northumberland and alongside family time, enjoys travel, gardening and DIY.

Jane Grant (Board Member since March 2024)

Alyson Tobin (Board Member since March 2024)

Aislinn Wood (Board Member since March 2024)

Denise McNulty (Teaching Staff Board Member since September 2023)



Denise left school in the late 1980s at the age of 15 with little in the way of formal qualifications, returning to education as a mature learner to study HND Fashion Styling at the London College of Fashion, graduating, 1994. She set up a freelance business in 2000 and in 2007 – while still self-employed - moved into Further Education (FE) as a Lecturer, initially within hair and beauty, before moving into the creative industries. Whilst working full time as a Lecturer, she completed a degree in Tertiary Education with the University of Dundee.

Stepping back from FE in 2016 through voluntary redundancy, Denise took a short career sabbatical gaining experience as a volunteer in environmental sustainability. This was the driving force behind further study, becoming a student at Newbattle Abbey College (NAC), achieving the Forest and Outdoor Learning Award in Leadership - which led to her employment at NAC as Forest College Tutor in 2022 and to her current position as Lecturer in Adult Learning.

She also established a social enterprise in 2016 - providing her with some insight into governance and leadership - and worked within the Criminal Justice System (supporting children and young people affected by the imprisonment of a family member) between 2019 – 2022.

Denise understands only too well the social barriers faced by some. She believes education is key to equality of opportunity.

She is from Edinburgh, but now lives in East Lothian.

Support Staff Board Member (Vacant)

Student Board Member (Vacant)

Student Board Member (Vacant)