



OutdoorLads Trustee Nominations 2020

The following have nominated themselves to stand as a trustee at the Annual General Meeting on 21st September 2020. There are sufficient vacancies on the board for all of the above to be elected, and so these elections are not competitive.

For each of the below, you may vote for, against, or abstain from voting. Please vote at the AGM if you are attending (online) – only complete a proxy voting form if you are NOT attending the AGM.

Steven Allan

Proposed by: Stephen Bush

Seconded by: Mike Neal

As a founder member of OutdoorLads, I have been involved in the growth of the organisation from a small group of friends, to the professionally run/managed Charity we have today. I'm currently the longest standing trustee and given another term I will continue to help guide the charity using both my experience gained over the last 12+ years and my business experience.

In my current role on the board I sit as part of the Exec and Big Events teams and I will be looking continue those roles. A wider focus for me is helping to make sure the charity is always commercially aware and is always making the most of growth and other commercial opportunities.

Simon Hawthorn

Proposed by: David Banks

Seconded by: Wilco Stekkinger

I was originally co-opted to the board in January to take over as website development lead from Jonathan Moore. Since then I have been involved in a number of governance reviews, have continued to support the South-East as coordinator and have worked with members to introduce a number of new social media channels through Telegram and Twitter to help develop improved communications and build an online community for OutdoorLads. I wish to stand for the board to continue in this role and further build on the relationship I have established with both our website developers and across the board and wider membership. As a principal project sponsor in my day job, working on multi-billion pound projects, I believe I have the skills to continue managing the development of our website and the relationship with our providers. I previously helped update our Articles – passed last year at AGM – and want to work with the board and member groups to continue updating our governance, member representation and build on the #OutdoorLads Magic to ensure everyone has the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors, with our great, supportive and fun

organisation. OutdoorLads is a big part of my life and it would be a privilege to continue as a board member.

Gavin Bridge

Proposed by: Andrew Shearwood

Seconded by: Danny Ballantyne

The first gay man on the moon. Here's how we make it happen:

- Locate a member who's day job's a rocket scientist
- Find a willing astronaut
- Cadge lots of steel plating from various scrapyards
- Persuade Richard Branson to sponsor us

Simple. It could really happen given enough time, effort and resources. The biggest hurdle might be seeing the bigger picture and really believing it can happen. But NASA made it happen back in the 60's so what's stopping us?

Achieving the impossible dream at the moment could feel like aiming to not merely survive, but actually thrive in a world where the very things OutdoorLads was founded on are under threat.

We need to adapt and think of new ways to stay strong as a community. We're pretty good at weathering storms after all. Popular zoom quizzes and virtual events popped up the moment lockdown started, a great way to stay connected and proof that we can find adaptive ways to maintain support for each other. I believe we can build on this strong community to further grow an organisation we are deeply proud of; that each member is keen to help promote within the wider LGBT world.

Whilst OutdoorLads didn't quite get me to the moon, it has enabled me to relocate across the country all the way from East Anglia to the North West. Through over 3 years of hostels, camping, walks and climbing, I made some amazing friends all over the country, changing a giant leap into the unknown into one small step to a better life and a ready-made social circle.

Some areas I feel as an organisation we have opportunities to grow:

- Actively listen to what our members want and include them in decisions about the direction the organisation takes, ensuring it stays current and relevant
- Promote diversity both cultural heritage and gender identity
- Establish clear key organisational values we can use to identify and unite our organisational culture
- Promote leadership opportunities to facilitate more events
- Incentives to encourage members to promote and grow the organisation
- Be creative in how we increase funds whilst maintaining good value for money. Eg sponsorships, fundraising activities.
- Networking more with similar organisations
- Creative new ways to get together to support each other and enjoy life.

We can achieve all this and more by seeking out the opportunities, pioneering ideas and building on the amazing community that has grown and grown for 15 years and counting.