

ELECTION of Committee and Presidential Honorary Roles

The attached committee list is from the Spring 2026 issue of the Journal and shows the Committee as elected last year, with the role changes of Sarah Waltz taking over the editorship of the Journal, and Tony Symes reverting to his previous role as Journal Production Manager. However, last year we also co-opted Geraint Day on to the Committee, and now is the time to formalise his membership. Here is his CV Summary:

Geraint Day is a graduate in astronomy (University College London, University of London) and has done research in meteoritics. He has been a member of the Herschel Society for some years and enjoys attending its meetings. A Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, his interests also include the music of William Herschel's era. Geraint is also a member of the Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institution. Originally from South Wales, he now lives in Swindon, Wiltshire, where he is involved in the local philosophical society and is a volunteer for the Science Museum National Collections Centre in Wroughton.

Geraint is a long-standing, knowledgeable, and enthusiastic member of the Society and will bring useful skills and capacity to help us manage our affairs. (VOTE)

We currently have two Vice Presidents - Jocelyn Bell-Burnell and Mike Edmunds our Vice-Presidents. But our Constitution allows for three, and in the light of his enormous contributions to bringing out John Herschel's story, not least at our 2024 Conference, we propose to elect Professor Steve Case as our third Vice-President. Hi summary CV is here:

STEPHEN CASE is a professor in the Department of Chemistry and the Geosciences at Olivet Nazarene University. He is the author of Making Stars Physical: The Astronomy of Sir John Herschel (2018) and of Creatures of Reason: John Herschel and the Invention of Science (2024).

(VOTE)

Finally, we of course now need to elect a new President. Mike Edmunds has been a very active and supportive Vice President for 10 years, and of course has had a distinguished career including Professor of Astronomy at Cardiff University, and more recently the Presidency of the RAS. He is the obvious choice for our new President, and is willing to serve for a few years, but warns that the years are catching up with him. (VOTE)

We will of course now need to resume the search for a new Vice President.

CD

The Herschel Society Committee

<https://www.herschelsociety.org.uk>

Correspondence Address c/o

The Herschel Museum of Astronomy,
19 New King Street, Bath. BA1 2BL, UK

President

Dr Allan Chapman MA DPhil DSc DUniv FRAS*

* Until 21/01/26; see tribute to Allan Chapman, this issue

Vice-Presidents

Prof. Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell DBE FRS FRAS

Prof. Michael Edmunds MA PhD FRAS FInstP

Committee

Mr Charles Draper FRAS (Chairman, and Membership)

Dr Matthew Spring BA DPhil ARCM (Music)

Mr Anthony Symes CEng MBCS (Lecture Convenor, and Treasurer)

Dr Robert Fosbury BSc DPhil FRAS Hon Prof (UCL)

Mr Jonathan Hall (Communications)

Dr Wolfgang Steinicke PhD FRAS

Prof. Sarah Waltz PhD (music history)

In Attendance

Mrs Patrizia Ribul, Director of Museums, BPT, (Herschel Museum of
Astronomy)

Mr Simon Holbeche (Bath Astronomers)

Professor Woodruff Sullivan (University of Washington, Seattle)

Mr William Herschel-Shorland

In Correspondence

Dr Sadaharu Uehara (Japan)

The Journal of the Herschel Society

Editor: Dr Sarah Waltz, <mailto:editor@herschelsociety.org.uk>

Production: Mr Anthony Symes CEng MBCS, <mailto:journalproduction@herschelsociety.org.uk>

Membership

<https://www.herschelsociety.org.uk/membership/>