

Your skills, abilities, knowledge and experience

My first term of 3 years as a Conservator is near completion. There is much still to do as the Conservancy updates its competence in both finance and operations. I joined with concerns about the quality of the long term plan and soon focused upon finance as the area of immediate concern. Management accounting was nonexistent and financial accounting based upon idiosyncratic bookkeeping. Nevertheless there had been a fully functioning Board and an abundance of experience hovering around the activities discharged by the Conservancy. The opportunity to recruit and appoint a new General Manager together with the appointment of a new Chairman has enable progress to be speedy and changes effective.

My ongoing assessment and concerns are summarized at

I do not miss meetings; critical in terms of the Finance Sub Committee in particular.

The next stage is to meld the activities of the City Council as a major riparian landlord, with those of the Conservancy. Priorities are clear and my expectations high. – Moorings and punt operations are the immediate priority.

I will continue to be the conscience of the upper river in terms of its condition and unique contribution to the City as something exceptional in terms of the quality of life for residents and visitors. That means regular trips by canoe to remove litter and check upon navigation issues and invasive water plant species. I row every week on the lower river and actively contribute to the River Users Group as a swimmer, rower, river side resident and canoeist.

I continue to be fit and healthy and cycle over 60 miles each week. The river represents just one aspect in monitoring Cambridge growth and sustainable development. The challenge of improving the city centre is a parallel present priority.

My wife Pam and I have recently joined the UK Labour Party, in part to support policies that will benefit Cambridge and its quality of life.

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Relevant Experience

Rowing

King's College Boat Club
1st VIII 1988-1990,
Boat Club President 1990
Coach 1990-2000
Boat Club Steering Committee 2000-2005
KCBC Safety Adviser 2004-2009

1996-1997 Set up business to build new rowing VIII's, ultimately unsuccessful but the result was significant experience in composite boat construction, involving mould making, epoxy resins, carbon fibre and vacuum bagging techniques. These results were transferred to Scudamore's resulting in new, extremely strong, composite ferry punts.

Fitzwilliam College Boatman 1997-1999

My experience with rowing has given me a detailed knowledge of the river between Jesus Lock and Botisham.

Powered Craft

I had the steel Riverboat Georgina built to order and operated her for 3 years before selling the business. I had my master's ticket and was a regular skipper of the craft on her trips. Being involved with the contract for and the build of Georgina, I have experience that could be valuable to the Conservator's in terms of ordering new rivercraft. I also have additional experience related to ordering steel pontoons and other floating structures from my experience with Scudamore's that might also be relevant.

I also have my RYA powerboat level 2 licence.

My experience with Georgina has given me a detailed knowledge of the river between Jesus Lock and Bottisham and reasonable knowledge out to Ely and even King's Lynn.

Sailing

I am a keen sailor and have a strong interest in high speed sailing. I once spent 4 months living onboard a series of small yachts, so I have experience that would be relevant to live aboard craft. I am an RYA qualified 'Yachtmaster Offshore'.

I have been involved in a number of sailing projects including the design and testing of a new type of yacht keel. Again this gives me experience in boat design and build.

Punts

I am the majority shareholder and non-executive Chairman of Scudamore's Punting Company. I have been involved in all aspects of the business from boat building to boat hire. This company has a number of sites on the river and is the largest operator of craft on the Backs.

This role has given me the opportunity to pick up experience of a wide range of business issues that may have value to the Cam Conservators, such as Health and Safety, Personnel and Financial Management as well as some related legal experience.

My experience with this business has also given me a detailed knowledge of the river between Byron's Pool and Jesus Lock.

Isentropic

I am the CEO of a technology company called Isentropic that is developing large scale 'batteries' for the storage of electricity. These batteries are large, in the region of 500 to 5000 tons, and involved mechanical and civil engineering. The company currently has 30 employees and, as part of the development process, the company has a very strong focus on Health and Safety and Risk Management. We use heavy machinery, work at heights, work with electricity, and work with both cryogenic and hot materials and large steel pressure vessels.

This gives me experience that could be useful to the Conservators in both managing risks and Health and Safety.

Cam Conservator (2013-2015)

I have now been a Cam Conservator for 3 years and, as well as attending the main quarterly meetings, I take part in both the Finance sub-committee meetings and the Health and Safety sub-committee meetings. I am currently chairman of the H&S sub-committee. The remit of these committees is to reduce the workload of the main board and to carry out minor decision making in a more efficient manner.

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I have lived in Cambridge since 2004, and in 2008 I moved onto my boat, moored initially at Bottisham Lock, and since 2010 on the City Council moorings in Cambridge. I also row for Chesterton Rowing Club, so I have a very strong connection to the river Cam.

I have held the position of City Council-appointed Conservator of the River Cam for coming up to three years, and have thoroughly enjoyed contributing to the life of the river, using my connections to the residential boating and rowing communities to inform discussions both in Quarterly Conservancy meetings and in my position on the Licensing Sub-Committee.

I am secretary of the Camboaters residential boaters group, and as such I attend meetings with the City Council and the Conservancy about boating issues. I work hard to disseminate information and engage with the boating community through social media and newsletters, and then feed their concerns back to the City Council and the Cam Conservancy where necessary.

In 2012 I set up and chair the Cambridge River Users Group, to try and bring together representatives from all river user groups: rowers (both town and university), boaters, canoeists, wildlife activists, fishermen, riparian owners, and the Conservancy. This group has been a very useful forum for the discussion of issues in a neutral setting. Some of the outputs of the group have been the drawing up a set of guidelines for river users to protect wildlife, the setting up of an email address to report wildlife incidents, and the delivery of a talk to novice coxes at the beginning of the academic year. River events are another area where we have tried to promote better communications between event organisers and other river users. Recently we have discussed the new Cam Conservancy event policy. The overall aim is to improve relationships between the different river user groups, and whilst the sheer number of people using and enjoying the Cam means that some tensions do still occur, I feel that there is a general sense of improved understanding on the river.

Outside of the river Cam itself I am also involved with the Historic Narrow Boat Club, which is an active pressure group for the waterways, and has a strong working relationship with the Canal and River Trust. This means I have a good understanding of wider waterways issues which may impact upon the Cam, and connections nationally to help promote a better understanding of the complex licensing structure on the river Cam.

Additionally I have experience working for both the Ouse Washes Landscape Partnership and the Breaking New Ground Landscape Partnership (working in the Brecks). These are large Heritage Lottery funded schemes to promote the unique landscape character of an area through a number of heritage and conservation projects. As there is a bid in process to secure HLF funding for a similar project in the Cam catchment area, I feel that I could contribute my knowledge of two successful landscape partnerships to the development of a partnership for the River Cam.

In short I am passionate about the Cam and hopeful for the future of the river.

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I am the director of Riverboat Georgina Cambridge Ltd.
A large passenger vessel (capacity max 110) which
provides both public cruises and private charter
along the river Cam.

I became director in October 2013 and before
this had worked on the river for 3 years.

I have a commitment to the smooth running
of the river for businesses, the university,
boat clubs, residents and all people of the city.



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Education:

Hampton Grammar School, Cambridge University (B.A. Engineering, 1977)

Work:

Have worked in Cambridge as a Software Engineer since 1981 for a range of high-technology companies and institutes. Prior to that worked for GEC as a mechanical engineer. Have been working within the University for the last 12 years at the Institute of Astronomy on Madingley Road.

Rowing:

Rowed for Hampton Grammar School (1st VIII), Cambridge University (Goldie 1975 and Lightweight VIII in 1976 and 1977).

Was a member of City of Cambridge Rowing Club in the 1980s and early 1990s. For the last 20 years have switched to traditional, fixed-seat rowing in skiffs.

Was instrumental in founding the Granta Skiff Club here in Cambridge and have been Captain of the Club and delegate representative to the Cambridgeshire Rowing Association since the Club was founded in 1994.

Organized regatta racing and several Bumping Races for skiffs on the Cam.

Have regularly coached rowing crews on the Cam for the best part of 40 years.

Residence:

Grew up in Sunbury-on-Thames close by the River Thames. Studied in Cambridge. Have lived in Fen Ditton since 1982.

Interest and knowledge of the River:

Living in Fen Ditton and cycling to work I have observed, almost on a daily basis, the River in all its moods and seasons; the walks, the wildlife. As a resident of Fen Ditton I really appreciate and value the open green spaces that the River affords.

And "mucking about in boats" has been a passion since growing up by the River Thames and taking up rowing at school. Through rowing and coaching over many years I have witnessed first-hand the many competing demands for its amenities (mooring, punting, fishing, rowing, etc).

The Cam Conservators are faced with a difficult task in meeting river users' expectations or concerns. However there have been occasions when they have been a bit aloof or slow to act on those concerns. I would like to see more engagement with the river community. This is something that I feel I could contribute towards and is what motivates me to apply for an appointment to the Cam Conservators.

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I would like to apply for this opportunity to serve as a Conservator, offering myself as someone with a perspective gained through personal experience of different aspects of the environment of the River Cam and its usage, by a variety of stakeholders.

As a resident of Waterbeach, working in central Cambridge and commuting daily by bike, I have had a significant opportunity both to observe and benefit from the changes to the river/towpath environment for which the Conservators are, in part, responsible. I would be delighted to have a role in helping to maintain and improve on progress already made.

I am a Biology teacher with a degree in Botany so I have a real interest in (and some knowledge of) the ecology of the river. I consider conservation and maintenance of biodiversity as being an essential aspect of sustaining its environmental quality. Consequently, actions by the Conservators' work force like repair of the river banking going hand-in-hand with preservation of the bank flora, aeration of water at risk of eutrophication, etc., are things which I am always happy to see and would want to support, if I were to be involved.

The river is an important recreational environment. I am a member of the X-Press Boat Club and served for a limited time as a committee member. Though I am not currently rowing myself, I continue to assist with events such as the Town Bumps and CRA Winter League head Races – mainly by marshalling. Rowing myself and assisting with rowing events has given me an insight not only into the benefits to a significant number of local residents who row, but also (less happily) on the potential for conflict with other stakeholders such as anglers, river boat residents and commercial users. If appointed as a Conservator, I would hope to offer a balanced view on these matters.

I work with young people and part of my role involves the provision of opportunities for sport and outdoor education for them. Thus, opportunities provided on the river for activities like rowing and canoeing, whether through the junior sections of local clubs, or by schools, is something I see as particularly important

As a senior teacher and member of the management team at The Leys School, I am accustomed to working with colleagues in committee – and understand the importance of preparing appropriately for meetings, operating in a collegial manner within them and applying the appropriate professional standards to any matter associated with them. I would expect to apply the same principles to a role as a Conservator, were I to be involved.

I believe I have the time to devote to this role and the ability to make an effective contribution, if appointed; it would be both a privilege and a pleasure to be involved. I look forward to hearing the outcome of the appointment process, in due course.

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I am a recently retired civil engineer, having worked on roads, bridges and pipelines.

I am a riparian owner.

I canoe the Cam regularly, swim in it less regularly and have rowed.

I am in daily contact with a wide range of river and Footpath users.

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1. I am a former Director level civil servant, with an unusually wide range of experience, much of it relevant to the work of the Conservators, with a particular focus on strategy-building and communications. I have played corporate and non-executive roles in the public, private and voluntary sectors, often in conditions of change and stress, and with big resource and people management responsibilities. Recent assignments have relied on advocacy and personal authority, not seniority or management leverage. Since ceasing full-time work in 2011, I have succeeded with a new role in the space research field, and have also undertaken change-focused consultancy work and widened my voluntary portfolio. For more detail see paragraph 5 below.

2. My current employment is part-time, so I will have no difficulty in finding time to contribute to the work of the conservators.

3. I am in no doubt about the importance of the river in the life of the City and more widely. The Conservators will need to work in partnership with other bodies to ensure that it is managed to reconcile the needs of its users and the wider community, and respond to wider environmental pressures. This is not about maintaining the status quo, but rather about developing an agile leadership role for the Conservators in rapidly-changing circumstances.

4. If appointed, I will offer

- a wide knowledge of and interest in, a range of aspects of river use;
 - I am familiar with the whole length of the river through frequent walking and cycling (several times each week) on its towpaths and nearby land;
 - I have long experience as an oarsman and rowing coach;
 - my professional background in Government gives me a deep understanding of the relevant national and EU regulatory framework;

- involvement with community groups has sensitised me to the varying pressures on the City which will impact on the management of the Cam (Development, tourism...);
- engagement in the broad Cambridge community, for example as founder secretary of the residents association on the Accordia estate, as a member of a Cambridge Education Trust, and having done consultancy work for Cambridge University;
- specific experience which will enable me to contribute to meeting the challenges facing the Conservators, detailed for example in the 2013-18 Business Plan. I would expect to make a contribution on such priority areas as;
 - financial management and reserve policy, building on my experience in managing very large budgets in Defra, or as a corporate board member of a University, a European NGO, and a subsidiary of a major PLC;
 - cost-effective service delivery and effective organisational structures, which was central for example to my management of arms-length bodies like the Environment Agency, and to my direct responsibility for a large and diverse Directorate in Defra;
 - regulation, having been responsible for the topic at senior level in Government, and having implemented Regulatory change in many areas;
 - governance issues, which were vital for example in working with the range of organisations in the environmental field. More recently, I have been asked to lead on examining the governance of the Education Trust of which I am a member.
- long experience as an effective committee operator (particularly important when the Conservators bring together representatives of a disparate groups affected by their decisions). It seems to me to be particularly important for a City Council nominee to play an effective independent role, and also to be able to help a committee to work in a purposeful way.

5. My career record is as follows;

May 2011 – present; Beta Technology Ltd. Created a new role advising the UK space sector on EU-funded research, 2011 - 14. Currently working on new business development for Beta.

Consultancy projects for **Cambridge University** (on transforming its relations with the EU), for **Telespazio SpA** on how to improve its under-performing UK subsidiary, **EUMETNET**, the **European Environment Agency (EEA)**, and the **Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra – my old Department)**

May 2007 - April 2011; Senior Advisor to the **EEA and the European Commission**, on their joint engagement with Earth Observation (Brussels - based, seconded from the UK Government), and providing the EEA's link with the UK Government.

November 2006 – May 2007; **Director of Regulation, Department for Environment Food and Rural affairs (Defra).**

October 2001 – November 2006; **Environment Strategy Director, Defra.**

A very large Director job - up to 180 staff, £300m budget, and with wide and varied strategic responsibilities. These included supervision of the Government's relationship with the Environment Agency (EA)) and British Waterways, EU and international negotiation, and better regulation.

At the corporate level, I chaired Defra's IT governance forum. I was senior user in the £500m outsource of Defra's IT provision to IBM.

June 1999 – October 2001; **Director of Communications, Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food (MAFF), and then Defra** – this gave me a deep understanding of tactical and strategic communications and stakeholder relationship management. I was a member of the Department's Management Board, sharing corporate responsibility for the creation of a new Government Department as well as twice restructuring my own Directorate.

January 1995 – June 1999; **Minister, UK Permanent Representation to the EU, Brussels.**

Promoting the UK's position in the EU, advising Whitehall on EU negotiating approaches, and promoting an understanding of the EU to a wider UK community of interests.

Previously

In MAFF ; Under-Secretary, Agricultural Resources, 1994-5, Head of Division posts, 1984-94, Principal Private Secretary to the Minister 1982-4, Training and middle management posts, 1970-82

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- Trustee of the **City of Cambridge Education Foundation**. I am currently tasked with leading the development of the Charity's future role.
- founding secretary of the **residents association** on a large new (+/- 1000 people) Cambridge development. Successfully negotiated with the local authorities, and led a number of community initiatives.
- **Governor, Kingston University**, 2003-2006;
- **Mentoring** disabled civil servants on a Cabinet Office development scheme;
- **School governor**, Kingston, 1990's;
- **Non-executive director**, Manor Bakeries, 1990's, mostly facing continuing takeover pressures.
- Non-executive Council Member **EURISY** (European body promoting satellite use)

EDUCATION

- Gravesend Grammar School 1960 – 67;
- Brasenose College Oxford, 1967 – 70 (BA History 1970)
- Numerous courses and seminars, including Top Management Programme, US Visitors Programme, BT Vital Vision

Your skills, abilities, knowledge and experience

I have been employed on the river for the last 5 years in full time employment at Clare College, Cambridge as the Boathouse Manager, however I have been using the river recreationally for the last 15 years. In my role as Head coach for Clare College boathouse I understand the needs of the rowing community and also the issues that arise because of their use of the river.

I am also a live aboard house boater of 4 years based on midsummer common and therefore have the unique insight to the issues of both the live aboard community and the rowing community.

I also have experience in other areas of river use, these include professional qualifications in kayaking, canoeing, rowing as well as aquatic first aid, I have a wide range of experience in river use and have also been involved in conservation programs on other rivers focusing on environmental issues due to impact by humans and riverbank development.

I am not a Councillor or officer of Cambridge City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, other District or Parish Councils in Cambridgeshire. Nor am I a relative or close friend of any current elected member or officer of the Council.

I have lived and worked in the City of Cambridge for the past 18 years originally arriving in the city as the General Manager of several hospitality units in and around the city before becoming a Lecturer at Cambridge Regional Collage and eventually joining Clare College.

I am already involved in a number of community projects that are aimed at motivating and inspiring Underprivileged children from local Cambridge schools by teaching them valuable life skills in conjunction with other groups in Cambridge including colleges, both Universities and several groups that use the river, one example can be seen at www.ThameRow.com

I fully commit to a three-year term of office and I am willing to attend all meeting that are required as well as undertake any training necessary

I am willing to sign a Code of Conduct applicable to members of the public made Council appointees.

I am not a member of any political party

I have not been declared bankrupt.

I know of no reason or information that needs to be disclosed to the Council during the application process.

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I have lived in Cambridge and surrounding villages for the past twenty nine years.

For all of this time I have been an active member of Cambridge Canoe Club, having served in numerous committee posts, including two years as Chairman, and for the past two years as Treasurer.

I have an active interest in the river, particularly in the 'upper' stretch above Bishops Mill sluice where the Club is situated, but also of the 'middle' river through the city, and the 'lower' river down to Bates Bite Lock where we regularly paddle.

I have taken an active interest in the affairs of the Conservators, by reading the minutes and obtaining information from their website.

We ensure that any of our events which impact the middle or lower river users are put onto the events calendar I good time so as to ensure the maximum period of prior warning.

As ever the affairs of the Conservators are a very delicate balancing act between many varied and often conflicting interested parties of river users.

I would be keen to serve as a Council appointed Conservator particularly representing and championing the numerous minority groups with an interest in the river, but of also having a balanced overview of the management of the whole of the stretch of river managed by the Conservators.

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I have lived in Cambridge for around 20 years 11 of them on a Narrow Boat and the last 4 on a wide beam boat my home mooring is browns Field Fen Ditten for most of that time.

Before that I was in Huntingdon so always been in this area.

As well as living on the river Cam I was a member of a town rowing club for many years and have won my blades.

I have been on the board of the Cam boaters for many years and take active role in the River users group.

I sit on this group as a river user and chairman of Animal Rights Cambridge with my main aim of improving the welfare of the wildlife on the river.

I did write the wildlife and rowing guidelines and actively worked with the River users group to have them passed and put into place.

I still work with Jed and rowing clubs on improving the understanding and protection of wildlife on the river Cam from other river users.

I am not a Councillor or officer of Cambridge City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, other District or Parish Councils in Cambridgeshire, Or a relative or close friend of any current elected member or officer of the Council.

I am a floating support worker that works within homelessness in Cambridge I work with entrenched rough sleepers, family and single people.

My main role is to work with clients when they have tenancies but I also play a role in finding suitable accommodation. I have been working in this field for 18 years and also worked with boat owners with sorting out housing benefits and mooring fees to stop them becoming homeless.

I am committed to serve the community and wildlife attend meetings, I am always open to new training, I work flexi time so can accommodate time for my duties and I am committed to a three year term.

I have no problem with signing the code of conduct.

I am a union rep at work and a member of the green party.

I have never been declared bankrupt.

My background is of a very active peace activist (union, animal, earth anti-fascist that has crossed paths with the police and courts but have never been convicted of crime

of violence and I work with very vulnerable adults I been police checked for my work every 3 years. They will not be any problem is my back ground that would warrant the council to reconsider my appointment.

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I studied history at Pembroke college from 1961-64, graduating in the latter year. From 1964 to 2006 I worked in industry and as a lecturer in a Business School and during this time I completed a part-time Ph.D. on the engineer Sir Joseph Bazalgette (1819-91) who designed sewerage systems to protect rivers, notably the Thames and the Cam, from pollution. This became a book, "The Great Stink", which led to others books (17 to date).

In 2006 my wife Jane and I moved to Cambridge where Jane works as a midwife at the Rosie and I write books, care for my grandsons, sing in the Addenbrookes choir and work as a Cambridge City guide. Until 2013 I also served as a Cambridge magistrate.

As an undergraduate I rowed, coxed or coached throughout my 3 years and after returning to Cambridge in 2006 I resumed my association with the Pembroke College Boat Club as a coach, also coaching the Addenbrookes crew occasionally. As a citizen, a guide and a magistrate I have often been troubled by punting and tour touts in the city centre.