



ST MARGARET'S PREP  
CALNE

**AN INTRODUCTION TO GOVERNORS**

**Mr S Adde BSc (Chair of Governors)**

Mr Svante Adde is a former parent at St Mary's Calne with a daughter studying here until 2011. Born and educated in Sweden, Mr Adde's degree was earned at the Stockholm School of Economics. He is currently Senior Advisor of Lincoln International based in London. Following his education he joined Citibank (Stockholm) in 1979 as an Accounts Officer. He moved to London in 1983 joining Citicorp working in mergers, acquisitions and corporate finance. He joined Lazard Brothers in 1989 becoming Managing Director from 2000 until 2003. He joined the Ahlstrom Corporation (Helsinki) as the Chief Financial Officer in 2003 before taking the position of Managing Director at Compass Advisors Ltd (London) from 2005 to 2007. Mr Adde moved to Pöyry Capital (London) as Managing Director from 2007 to 2013 before taking up his current post at Lincoln International. In addition to his main occupation, Mr Adde has held various Board positions for Nordic and European organisations since 2004. They include: Goodwille Ltd (UK); Konecranes Abp (Helsinki); Scandbio AB (Sweden); Rorvik Timber AB (Sweden); Cambium Global Forest Fund (UK); Sonoco-Alcore (Luxemburg); Metso Corp (Helsinki); Brammer Plc (UK) and MeToo AB (Stockholm).

Mr Adde is a Knight 1st Class of the Finnish White Rose Order.

**Mrs V Wilson (Deputy Chair of Governors)**

Mrs Wilson was educated at St Mary's Calne (one of three generations) and the University of Paris, the Sorbonne. In 1969 she acquired the Young England Kindergarten in Pimlico, which she ran as Principal for 20 years, after which she opened a children's shop, Young England. Mrs Wilson has served as a Governor of a primary school in Fulham and sat on a number of committees for the NSPCC and Great Ormond Street Hospital. More recently, she was Trustee and Chairman of *For Dementia*, a charity supporting Admiral Nurses. Mrs Wilson has been a Governor of St Mary's since 2007, and is also a Trustee of the Calne Foundation Trust.

**Dr S Turton**

Dr Simon Turton graduated as a pharmacist and has a PhD from the University of London and an MBA from INSEAD, Fontainebleau. Following a career in the pharmaceutical industry working and living in France and Japan, he spent over ten years in venture capital (Index Ventures, Geneva) and private equity (Warburg Pincus) investing in biotech, pharmaceutical and medical device businesses. He has been a non-executive board director for a range of companies, including firms listed publicly on the London and NASDAQ exchanges. He is currently Chairman of three private companies and a trustee of The Haemochromatosis Society. In 2012, he represented Great Britain for his age group in sprint triathlon.

### **Dr L Ashton**

Dr Ashton's interest in the nuclear industry was ignited by a school debate on the benefits of nuclear power, following the 1986 Chernobyl accident. Initially an opponent of the technology, she realised her opinions were based on media sensationalism rather than scientific fact. Linda went on to take a Chemistry degree and an industry sponsored PhD in nuclear waste management. With nearly 17 years of practical experience in the provision of nuclear and environmental management consultancy to the UK Government and private companies, Dr Ashton has held positions with the regulator and nuclear site operators, as well as Atkins, one of the world's leading design, engineering and project management consultancies. Key areas of expertise include radioactive waste management, radiochemistry, plant decommissioning and environmental project management and training. During a 15-month secondment to British Nuclear Fuels, Dr Ashton provided strategic and political support to the Chairman on an international basis and was a nuclear industry spokesperson at the House of Lords Young Fabian Society debate. This period also saw the establishment of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, which has had significant impact on the way in which the industry is managed and operated. Dr Ashton takes an active role in educational activities and, although an advocate of the nuclear industry, her ultimate interest is in disseminating the advantages of Science and Technology and identifying the enormous social and personal benefits a career in Science can bring. Although fundamentally technical, many scientific careers also touch upon social, political and moral aspects; it is this interdependency that ensures a career in Science remains stimulating and thought-provoking. Dr Ashton has been a Governor of St Mary's Calne since September 2016.

### **Mr M Harris**

Mr Harris grew up in Hong Kong and Kent and studied at Loughborough University and London University. His teaching career began at Sevenoaks, he then moved to Ashdown House in Sussex, where he eventually became Deputy Head. Mr Harris was the Headmaster of Sandroyd School in Wiltshire for 13 years prior to moving to take over as Headmaster at Cheam School in September 2016. During his time at Sandroyd, Mr Harris oversaw a number of important changes. He introduced co-education and opened a Pre-Prep Department, as well as enhancing the academic reputation of the school by combining traditional and modern methods of teaching, and new methods of approaching teaching. He is Chairman of the Oxford Group (an influential body of 30 of the country's leading boarding preparatory schools). Mr Harris is married to Catherine who plays a full time role in life at Cheam and they have two sons (Charlie who is at Eton and Edward who goes to Cheam). Mr Harris is also a keen sportsman; he has been a successful sports coach at all his schools and played football to a high level. He now enjoys sailing, playing golf, cricket and Real Tennis.

### **Mrs C Bell**

Mrs Bell was educated at St Mary's Calne and Cambridge University. She worked in Public Relations in Hong Kong, New York and London before re-training as a secondary school teacher. Mrs Bell is a Trustee of the AD Charitable Trust and Chairman of the Parish Council in her village. She is currently working on a community broadband project in the Test Valley, with Virgin Media, to bring superfast broadband to 4,000 rural homes. She is Chairman of the Calne Girls Association (CGA) and a Trustee of the Calne Foundation Trust. Mrs Bell is a mother of three and enjoys riding, sailing and managing her small flock of sheep.

**Mrs P Morris Sykes**

Starting her professional training with Deloitte & Touche, where she qualified as a Chartered Accountant, Mrs Morris Sykes went on to become a member of the Chartered Institute of Tax with Ernst & Young. Pamela Morris-Sykes has worked for over 30 years in the finance sector, specialising in international Corporate and Oil tax planning, and funding. She was responsible for the legal and financial aspects of the foundation of a new oil company and obtained experience in smaller organisations until her retirement in 2016. Pamela's volunteer roles began as the Director and Trustee of the Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts, a post she held for over 10 years, stepping down in 2013. Her interest in theatre and the arts remains a passion. She is currently the Chair of Trustees for the Chelsea Centre (Theatre), a major Community Centre on the World's End Council Estate at the end of the King's Road, London, an area subject to serious social problems. The Centre is currently having a major £2 million refurbishment, which includes a full review of systems, staff and funding. Other volunteer roles include a current Trusteeship (since 2011) of the Chalker Foundation for Africa, a small foundation, primarily aimed at children and mothers, encouraging health and medical education in sub-Saharan Africa, and of course, she has now undertaken a significant finance role here.

**Mrs P Pearce**

Mrs Pearce was educated in St Albans and gained her degree in French at the University of Sussex. She began her career in the mid-70s, teaching French at a girls' senior school in Reading. After a break of five years bringing up her two young children, she taught French in two comprehensive schools in Oxfordshire and studied for a Masters Degree in Linguistics at the University of Oxford. In 2003, she was appointed Head of Upper School of Downe House. Upon relocating to London in 2007, Mrs Pearce was appointed Head of Upper School of Thomas's Battersea where she brought a wealth of senior school knowledge to the London Day preparatory scene. Mrs Pearce retired from Thomas's in 2017 and now lives in Shropshire where she is a member of the Local Governing Body of Morville C of E Primary School. In her spare time, she enjoys sailing in the Greek Islands, feasting in France, gardening in Shropshire, choral singing, Pilates and spending time with the grandchildren.

**Mr R Cutler**

Mr Cutler has a degree in Economics and Law from Cambridge University and a PhD in Transport Economics from the University of Papua New Guinea. He joined the Swire Group in Hong Kong in 1975 and spent the subsequent 35 years in a variety of increasingly demanding commercial roles in shipping and aviation in locations as varied as China, Germany, USA and Papua New Guinea. He then joined the London Head office of the Swire Group as global head of HR, from which role he retired earlier this year. He has retained a keen interest in education throughout his career as a Trustee of a variety of educational bodies responsible for selecting overseas Scholarship students to attend universities across the United Kingdom, as well as previously being a Governor of Robert Black College at the University of Hong Kong. Mr Cutler is a keen sportsman and enjoys golf and tennis.

## **Mrs D Harris**

Mrs Harris has over 30 years' experience in teaching in UK Boarding schools and has been a Deputy Head at two leading schools for 12 years. In September 2020, she became the founding Principal of Chengdu Westminster Senior School in China. Mrs Harris is a mathematician by training and has taught Mathematics to pupils aged 11 to 18 years, with an emphasis on A Level Mathematics, Further Mathematics and Oxford and Cambridge entrance. She is passionate about pupils developing a life-long love of learning while attaining at their highest academic level. Mrs Harris studied Mathematics at St Hilda's College, Oxford where she also obtained a Post Graduate Certificate in Education.

Outside of work, Mrs Harris is an avid reader and enjoys the theatre, cinema and classical music. She has a husband who is working in China and two adult sons; she shall be dividing her time between Wiltshire and Chengdu in her new role.

## **EMERITUS GOVERNORS**

### **Professor J Buckingham, Emeritus Governor**

Professor Buckingham is an Old Girl of St Mary's Calne. She is a scientist by training and has many years' experience of undergraduate and postgraduate medical and science education and of biomedical research in the university sector, principally at Imperial College London. She holds a BSc Zoology (Sheffield), PhD Pharmacology (London), and DSc Pharmacology (London) and is a Trustee of the Royal Institution and Society of Biology. Professor Buckingham is currently Vice Chancellor of Brunel University and brings to the Governing Body particular expertise in university admissions and in education practice and policy in general. Professor Buckingham has been a Governor of St Mary's Calne since 2004 and in September 2016 she became an Emeritus Governor.

### **Mrs A Ferguson OBE, Emeritus Governor**

Educated at St Mary's Calne and Bristol University, Anne graduated in 1963 with an Honours degree in Geography and was one of the first women graduates to join ICI in marketing in the then world-leading chemical company. On marrying her husband, Victor, they moved to Nigeria where they lived for five years, Anne teaching 11 year olds at St Saviour's C of E junior school in Lagos, preparing them for Common Entrance. On their return to the UK, Anne re-joined ICI, becoming Head of Marketing for

Dulux paints. She then moved to Group Headquarters to take responsibility for marketing the leading multinational as one of the Chairman's team. This involved extensive travel, creating a global strategy and tailoring it to the needs of the company in each of its major markets around the world. Following the decision to demerge their pharmaceuticals business, Anne took on the role of lead marketing member of the team that established the new company, called Zeneca, now AstraZeneca. At this time, she also held three Non-Executive FTSE Company Directorships, as well as chairing the Advisory Committee on Advertising to HM Government, and sitting on the government committee for the advancement of women in business. She received an OBE in the 1992 New Year's Honours. Anne was 'headhunted' by Spencer Stuart, the leading international Headhunter where she embarked on her third career, specializing in recruiting Executive and NonExecutive Board members for companies worldwide. She was responsible for creating and leading a major programme for the education of new Company Directors, working with London Business School, McKinsey and KPMG as well as leading bankers and other professional bodies. She also introduced and developed Company Board Evaluations for Spencer Stuart. Anne became a Governor of St Mary's Calne in 1994. She is now enjoying having the time to indulge interests which have included travelling widely with her husband to see emperor penguins in Antarctica, polar bears in the Arctic and most recently, visited Angkor Wat in Cambodia. Anne enjoys opera and music and spending time with friends playing golf, tennis and learning Bridge.

**Mr M Pipes MBE, Emeritus Governor**

Mr Pipes is an Oxford physicist and former fellow of Keble College. He taught at Oakham and Oundle, before being appointed as Headmaster of the City of Portsmouth Boys' School and then Warminster School. He is a former President of the National Association of Head Teachers and finished his career as a Reporting Inspector. He has an MBA and has written books on education management. Mr Pipes has been a Governor of St Mary's Calne since 2002, also sitting on the Finance and General Purposes Committee and the Academic Committee, and became an Emeritus Governor in September 2017. In the New Year's Honours List 2018, Michael received a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for services to Education.