

SINCE OPENING ITS LIBRARY IN 1825, the Lit & Phil has welcomed thousands of people, witnessed 'world firsts' in innovation and accumulated a unique collection of books. As much more than just the largest independent library outside London, our Society cares for a Grade II\* listed historic building which fulfils multiple functions, both as a meeting place for all those in our region who care about the life of the mind and also as a popular and busy venue for a wide range of cultural and educational activities, including lectures, concerts, recitals, poetry readings, book launches and dramatic performances.

Currently with just under 1700 members, a collection of over 170,000 volumes, an outstanding music library and an events programme which we wish to reinvigorate post Covid-19, the Society wants to reach out to wider audiences, particularly those no longer served so well by public provision.

Not being subject to control by agencies of either National or Local government, our independent status means that although we receive no regular external funding, we remain free to make our own decisions. In doing this, members of the Board fulfil a decisive role.



### **Who sits on the Board; and how many places are available?**

There are twelve Trustees, elected by the Society's Ordinary and Family Members; and four vacancies have to be filled at the next AGM, on **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2021**.

### **What kind of people are we looking for?**

Recent experience in education, research, music, financial management, company or charity law, marketing, fund-raising, event-planning and project-management is especially welcome, and we are particularly keen to recruit people who are still actively engaged in these fields. We're looking for people who can bring enthusiasm and understanding in any of these areas and a willingness to become practically involved in supporting the work of the Society.

### **What would be the time commitment?**

You would be expected to attend the monthly Board meetings which take place at 5.30pm on the third Tuesday of every month except August. There are various committees, including the Management Committee, which usually meets monthly at 1.00pm on the Monday eight days before the next Board meeting, and the Education, Marketing, Music, Health & Safety and Buildings & Maintenance Committees, which meet less frequently: you can involve yourself in any or all of these.

### **How do I find out more?**

Ask to be sent an information leaflet. Or talk to any of the current or past Board members. Their names and photographs are in the red file by the Visitors' Book, which also contains minutes of past meetings. Ask at the desk, and the staff will put you in touch with someone with whom you can chat in confidence.

### **If I decide to stand, how should I offer my services?**

You must be an Ordinary or named Family member in order to stand. You don't need to be nominated by anybody else, but can simply put yourself forward by writing a statement, in no more than 150 words, outlining the skills, knowledge and experience you would bring to the Board. That statement will be circulated to all Ordinary and Family members of the Society, to inform their choice when voting. You also need to declare that you are not disqualified from acting as a charitable trustee.

**Applications should be sent by e-mail to the Librarian [keasson@litandphil.org.uk](mailto:keasson@litandphil.org.uk), or delivered by hand or by post to the Society's library. It is the responsibility of nominees to ensure that their applications are received by the Society by the deadline of Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2021.**