



John Begg

John joined Scotwest in February 2017 and joined the board as a co-opted Board Member in October 2018. After being co-opted once again in February 2019, he is now standing for election.

John worked for Scotwest Credit Union as a temporary Financial Manager from August 2016 to February 2017. He continues to work in financial management on a freelance basis.

Why did you want to serve as a Director?

"I wanted to be a director specifically to support the financial aspects of the business and, more generally, to support the other directors in pursuit of the valuable service Scotwest Credit Union provides its members."

What have you gained from taking up this position?

"An understanding of the benefits of the work Scotwest does in encouraging savings and offering necessary financial support."

In 10 words or fewer, why would you recommend joining Scotwest's Board?

"To help in delivering important support and services."



Cathy Jamieson

Cathy joined Scotwest in 1991 and was elected to the Board in February 2017.

Cathy is a graduate of Glasgow School of Art and also has Postgraduate Qualifications in Art Therapy, Social Work and Management. Prior to her career in politics she worked as a social worker, setting up and managing an alternative to care service and working as Principal Officer of Who Cares? Scotland, the advocacy organisation for children in care.

She spent 12 years as Labour & Co-operative MSP for Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley, serving as Cabinet Minister for Education & Young People from 2001-2003 and Cabinet Minister for Justice from 2003-2007. As the Labour & Co-operative MP for Kilmarnock and Loudon from 2010-2015 she served as shadow Financial Secretary to the Treasury, with portfolio responsibility for Banking and the City, financial services and financial inclusion with a lead opposition role in Financial Services Acts and Finance Bill Committees.

Cathy served on the Inquiry into Abuse in Residential Care in Edinburgh as well as the Advisory Group for the Independent Review of Hate Crime, chaired by Lord Bracadale.

She joined Children's Services, Car Visions Scotland as the Chief Executive Officer in August 2015, with responsibility for Care Visions Residential Services (30 small children's homes), a not for profit Fostering Agency and a pro bono initiative for care leavers.

In June 2018, Cathy was appointed as a Director of Kilmarnock Football Club, as the nominee chosen by the Killie Trust, continuing as a Board member of the Trust.

Why did you want to serve as a Director?

"I've been involved in the Co-operative movement over many years, and am a passionate believer in the mutual approach to banking and financial services. As a longstanding member of the Credit Union, I wanted to give something back to Scotwest, and ensure that it continued to grow in years to come. I've used the services of Scotwest as a saver and borrower over the years, and want to see new services and products developed which will benefit members."

What have you gained from taking up this position?

"While having a lot of responsibility as a director, working with the team on the Board and committed staff has been enjoyable. Training has been useful and has helped me keep up to date with developments in the wider Credit Union Sector."

In 10 words or fewer, why would you recommend joining Scotwest's Board?

"Scotwest members need a voice to help shape the future "



Caroline McMichael

Caroline joined Scotwest in July 2003 and was elected to the board in February 2017.

Caroline is currently a Part Qualified Accountant within the property management sector. She has recently obtained a Bachelor of Accounting with distinction and is working towards professional Accountancy qualifications.

Why did you want to serve as a Director?

"I support the economic empowerment agenda adopted by credit unions, allowing ease of access for saving and borrowing. I wanted to be involved in the development of products and strategies to further enhance the economic empowerment of Scotwest Members."

What have you gained from taking up this position?

"I have gained a new perspective on personal finance and how it affects everyone, as well as business finance. Being a Director has given me more confidence and allowed me to develop new skills and insight."

In 10 words or fewer, why would you recommend joining Scotwest's Board?

"To be part of something meaningful and give back to the community."



Ian Turner

Ian joined Scotwest in 1991 and was elected to the Board in February 2017.

Having been a Social Worker since 1981 working across Scotland, Ian has extensive experience in both local authority and the voluntary sector, both at front line and management levels.

Why did you want to serve as a Director?

"I am firmly committed to the principle of mutual benefit organisations and wished to play a small part in ensuring that Scotwest continues to develop and flourish.

I have worked in the public and voluntary sectors in Scotland for nearly forty years' and I believed that the experience and skills I have gained could be used to benefit Scotwest."

What have you gained from taking up this position?

"Being part of a team of Directors and senior staff striving to keep Scotwest working for its members and moving forward in a difficult financial climate, has given me a greater understanding of the financial services sector in general and the workings of the credit union sector in particular."

In 10 words or fewer, why would you recommend joining Scotwest's Board?

"Opportunity to assist the continuing development of Scotwest and self."