

Statement for The Sussex Archaeological Society

Annual General Meeting – 23rd October 2021

Clotilde Lemarié

I joined Council as a co-opted Trustee in September 2020, and over the course of the challenging past year it has been a privilege to work with a group of very dedicated trustees, alongside a wonderful executive team. I am proud that the Society has emerged stronger after a prolonged period of lockdown, and that it is now led by a very experienced and forward-thinking new CEO. I would be immensely happy to continue to contribute to the work of Council and to help the Society grow, and flourish, in the next few years.

My contribution to the work of Council would focus on issues of governance, risk and strategy in particular. I have had a career as a lawyer specialised in international arbitration, as a partner and consultant in international law firms. I also have 17 years of experience as a non-executive company director in international commercial businesses. In this past year, I contributed to the work of the Society's Governance, Audit and Risk Committee, as it has considered and proposed new articles of association for the Society in line with the Charity Commission's standards: I am keen to continue to support the Society as it continues to build a strong governance framework. I would also like to support the Society as it embeds Risk in its culture, in a way that will allow the mapping, assessment and mitigation of risk to become a tool for better management. During my term I also supported the Society in the recruitment of our new Chief Executive, and I would be delighted to continue to support the Society as it maps out and implements a refreshed strategic plan, bringing my practical experience of organisational change, strategy definition and implementation.

I studied law in England and France (King's College London and Université Panthéon-Sorbonne), and also completed a degree in Chinese.

I should also say I am passionate about history and the transmission of knowledge: I completed an MA in Medieval Studies at UCL, and am now pursuing further doctoral research in history at the University of Cambridge, looking at the transmission of antique and medieval knowledge in the Medieval Latin West.

On a more personal note, I tremendously enjoy bringing my young family to historic places for fun and learning experiences. I strongly believe the Society has an important role to play as custodian of historic sites and collections in Sussex, for present audiences as well as future generations.