

Peter Chivers: Personal Statement

Having lived in Lewes for 30 years, I have developed a deep affinity with the Society's work and buildings. Over the years, I have taken my four children to explore the rich history preserved by The Sussex Archaeological Society at its historic sites, and I am passionate about contributing to the continued success of the organisation.

With extensive expertise in music and creative education, including a focus on creative skills development, I have been deeply committed to fostering inclusion and ensuring access to cultural opportunities for all. My current role as Director has enabled me to drive forward key initiatives that unite arts, education, and skills development, helping young people and adults gain the confidence and abilities to thrive in the creative industries.

I have led large-scale services such as Create Music, where I have overseen complex transitions and managed multi-million-pound budgets, always with a focus on strategic growth and sustainability. In addition, I have worked closely with The Sussex Archaeological Society through the Good Space volunteering programme, which supports inclusive volunteering opportunities in cultural and heritage venues.

I am eager to explore how I can further support this partnership, particularly in expanding opportunities for people of all backgrounds to engage with Sussex's rich heritage.

In addition to my professional career, I have served in various voluntary capacities, such as Trustee of the National Association of Music Educators and Board Member of South East Dance, where I supported governance and strategy. These roles have strengthened my understanding of the responsibilities of trusteeship and the importance of robust governance and stakeholder engagement in achieving long-term success.

I believe that The Sussex Archaeological Society mission to preserve and share the region's history is vital to our community's identity, and I would welcome the opportunity to contribute my expertise in creative learning and skills, and inclusion to its future direction.