



Refugee Support Devon

TRUSTEES

Helen Hartstein (Chair) I joined RSD as Chair of Trustees in November 2024. I'm also part of the leadership team at Exeter's museum, RAMM, responsible for developing the museum's overarching strategy, business and financial plan, and ambitious cultural programme. I've had over 20 years' experience of marketing management in a variety of sectors, including in running my own business in Spain. I've also held previous trusteeships at Exeter Northcott Theatre and Victoria Park, Buckfastleigh. I love visiting museums (of course) and I'm also interested in archaeology, walking on Dartmoor, flamenco, weaving and crocheting. I'm also learning Latin in my spare time!



Ruth Grove-White (Vice Chair) I joined the RSD Board in January 2021 to support its communications and media work. My background is in migration, refugee and minority rights, and between 2004 and 2015 I led on policy/campaigns for various charities including the Migrants Rights Network and Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants. I now work as a freelance consultant in the charity sector. We moved to Devon in 2019 and in my spare time I love exploring the beaches & countryside with my two young sons.



David Mezzetti (Company Secretary) I'm a social entrepreneur. I was also an advisory teacher and business owner. I've been an RSD trustee since 2003. I have long experience of working alongside Directors and Trustees in a variety of voluntary sector organisations, with a strong emphasis on effective, collective management. In RSD, I support the outreach team. I'm a big walker and vegetable grower in my spare time.





Yvonne Woodward (Treasurer) I joined RSD as Treasurer in January 2026. I bring a a wealth of experience in financial leadership and governance, gained over a long career in public service and the not-for-profit sector, most recently as Director of Finance and Resources at Cornerstone Housing in Exeter. I am passionate about using my skills and playing a part in supporting refugees and people seeking asylum across Devon. I am committed to ensuring that RSD has the strong financial foundations it needs to continue its vital work. I am a Fellow Member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance Accountants and the Association of Accounting Technicians.

Jennifer Longford I've been a volunteer with RSD since 2005, working with the drop-in clinic and teaching English to some of RSD's clients. I was the volunteer co-ordinator for RSD's English language programme from 2011-2016 and joined the Board of Directors in 2012.

Before I retired, I had been a teacher and manager of English for Speakers of Other Languages in London and later engaged in consultancy in this field. I enjoy walking Devon's beautiful coast and countryside, yoga and choral singing, not to mention my garden, where I find endless work to keep me busy.



Alice Murdoch (Community Fundraising) I joined the RSD Board in May 2025. I have over 20 years of fundraising experience, working with a range of arts and social justice charities. I am currently in a fundraising role at Exeter's museum, RAMM. I bring a strategic understanding of fundraising and have have skills in grant writing, individual and corporate giving. I have lived in Totnes, Devon for the past twelve years and worked in Exeter for five of those years. I love Devon, and enjoy the local beaches and countryside.



Robert Mycock I have been involved in teaching English as a second language for over 40 years. I've been the ESOL manager at Exeter College since 2005 where many RSD clients study, so I know the local refugee and asylum seeker community well. The most satisfying part of the job is seeing the progression of learners, many of whom have gone from studying English at a very basic level to doing GCSEs and even Access to prepare them for university study. Walking, music and travel are particular interests outside of work.



Anna Camilleri (Communications) I joined the RSD Board in November 2021, having been active in the field of refugee support for the previous ten years, first as a volunteer in different NGOs, and then in a communications role with the UNHCR in Malta. My main skills are in project coordination, communications (content writing, social media, website management, media relations), community and stakeholder engagement, event planning, English language teaching, research and reporting.



Emma Marshall (Fundraising) I joined the RSD board in February 2024, having first joined RSD as a volunteer in 2008. I was also employed by RSD to drop-in service from 2009 to 2014. I am currently a lecturer in the Law School at the University of Exeter and my PhD explored access to immigration advice in the South West of England. Through my work I aim to find collaborative ways to challenge the injustices of the British asylum and immigration system. In my spare time I enjoy cooking and spending time with my family (and cat).





Shehany Warnakulasuriya I joined the RSD board in December 2022. I've had experience of volunteering in various refugee organisations for a number of years. I'm a medical student at Plymouth University. I am the vice president of Student Action for Refugees (STAR) Plymouth, an Equal Access activist for STAR national and a member of the youth advisory board at Refugee Education UK. I'm passionate about women's rights and have spoken at the House of Lords. During my spare time I like to go for long runs and play the guitar!

Elizabeth Smith I joined RSD in January 2020 as Minutes Secretary to the Board. I was previously a British Airways trainer and conference organiser. I also created a transracial adoption support group in London and volunteered at the Hounslow Chinese Community. I'm now a history guide at Exeter Cathedral.



Jury Arevalo I joined RSD as a trustee in April 2024. I came to the UK from Venezuela in 2014 as an asylum seeker and volunteered with the British Red Cross Refugee Services where my lived experience was able to inform strategy and policy. I joined RSD in 2022 to support asylum seekers in initial accommodation hotels. I was then recruited as a manager of one of the largest asylum hotels in the country. I've developed a good understanding of the UK asylum system, having experience of seeking sanctuary as well as having worked with both the charitable and private sectors providing support to asylum seekers.