

Jennifer Longford (RSD Chair) - I've been a volunteer with Refugee Support Devon (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 adult, community and further education in London and later engaged in consultancy in this field. My favourite pursuits include 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.



David Mezzetti (Company Secretary) - Social entrepreneur. Former advisory teacher and business owner. 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.

Chris Hill (Treasurer) - I am a retired Chartered Accountant and worked in industry for the early part of my career both in England and South America. I then joined Action Aid as Finance Director in Kenya, worked in Brazil for an inter-American climate change research organisation and then as Director of Finance and Administration for an insect research organisation based in Nairobi. I became RSD Treasurer from 2010 to 2014 and returned in 2017. I am a keen birdwatcher when not poring over budgets!





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. I'm retiring from my full-time role in the near future but will continue teaching there on a part-time basis. Walking, music and travel are particular interests outside of work. At RSD, I've been interested in the education and employability aspects of the service, and will soon have the time to become more involved.

Dr Ben Hudson – I have been a Trustee at RSD since July 2020. As a Trustee, I'm especially involved in RSD's educational activities and its work with young adults. In particular, I provide a direct link between RSD and the University of Exeter, especially in the university's Sanctuary Scholarships, i.e. scholarships for students from asylum-seeking and refugee backgrounds. In my day job, I am a Lecturer in Law at the University of Exeter, with research expertise in human rights and forced migration.



Liz Oxburgh – I am a long-time supporter of Refugee Support Devon shaped by childhood friendships with refugees in London and later by the experiences of my in-laws in the Second World War. After being a volunteer for a few years, I became a Trustee in 2018 and am mainly involved with awareness-raising and other events. I have a special interest in the work of the Drop-In and Destitution projects. I retired four years ago after working as an IT Project Manager. When I'm not involved in Refugee Support Devon I am fortunate to spend time with my family and on my twin passions - pottery and painting.

Bernadette Chelvanayagam – I have long supported RSD as a volunteer and now currently as a Trustee. I was inspired to get involved by the RSD founder who mentored me!

I came to the UK as a child and gained British citizenship, whilst some of the rest of the family members sought refugee status in a number of European countries due to the Sri Lankan civil war.

I work in Clinical Negligence and Personal Injury law. And in my personal time I love walking in the woods by my home with family and friends. I also love cooking and eating together.



Grace Frain - I began volunteering with RSD in 2015 when I moved to Exeter for University and continued to work alongside them whilst I was President of Student Action for Refugees. I helped lobby the University to establish the Sanctuary Scholarship scheme and achieve University of Sanctuary status in 2019. I have been a Trustee with RSD since November 2019 and focus on community fundraising, Refugee Week and Giving day.

I am a part time Masters student studying Refugee Protection and Forced Migration, work with students to support wellbeing and run a micro-bakery 'Brownies Beyond Borders' with 25% of profits going to refugee related food charities.

Shurouk Al-Sabbagh - Solicitor specialising in claimant clinical negligence and with substantial experience of company management.