



**NEW
WOLSEY
THEATRE**

NEW WOLSEY THEATRE

Recruitment Pack Board Members & Chair of the Board *Voluntary Role*

Deadline: 9am, Friday 24th October 2025

Interviews: Wednesday 12th November 2025

Photo credit: Will Green Photography

Welcome

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Board Director of the New Wolsey Theatre (NWT). NWT is a registered charity and we are currently looking for two Directors and a Chair of the Board. The role of a Director is sometimes called a Trustee. We call our Trustees Board Directors. We want individuals who can bring insights from a broad range of experience and backgrounds to enhance the skills of current Directors.

Members of the Board have ultimate responsibility for every aspect of the charity's operation but they do not deliver the work of the charity. Day-to-day management functions are delegated to the Chief Executive and the Senior Management Team.

The Chair leads the Board in setting strategy and governance, fosters effective collaboration with staff, chairs meetings, ensures decisions are implemented, supports and appraises the Chief Executive, and may act as spokesperson or final adjudicator in disciplinary matters when required.

It is an exciting and challenging time at our award winning theatre. Across the work on our stage, in our purpose built participation space (NW2), in schools and community settings and in touring venues across the country, we are delivering brilliant audience experiences, life enriching participation and vital community engagement. All our work is driven by our belief in the transformative and life enhancing power of theatre and creativity. We are also navigating the challenges of the theatre sector recovering from the pandemic, the cost of living crisis and funding cuts.

It is great time to join the charity as we move forward into 2026 and beyond with an ambitious programme of work that will ensure our essential role at the heart of the community continues.

Our board needs to be representative of the community we serve. We'd love applications from people of all backgrounds, especially from Black, Asian and ethnically diverse backgrounds, those who identify as D/deaf and disabled people, neurodivergent people, members of the LGBTQIA+ community and those from lower socio-economic backgrounds. We are up for exploring support and development needs and will make reasonable adjustments to enable applicants to participate in the selection process, and for the successful applicant to carry out their role.

If you have any further questions after reading this material and would like an informal and confidential discussion about the position, or would like this recruitment pack in a different formats, contact Lucy Parker lparker@wolseytheatre.co.uk 01473 295940.

The closing date for application is **9am, Friday 24th October 2025**
Interviews will be held on the afternoon of **Wednesday 12th November 2025**

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours warmly,

Sara Corcoran
Chair (outgoing)

Douglas Rintoul
Chief Executive/ Artistic Director



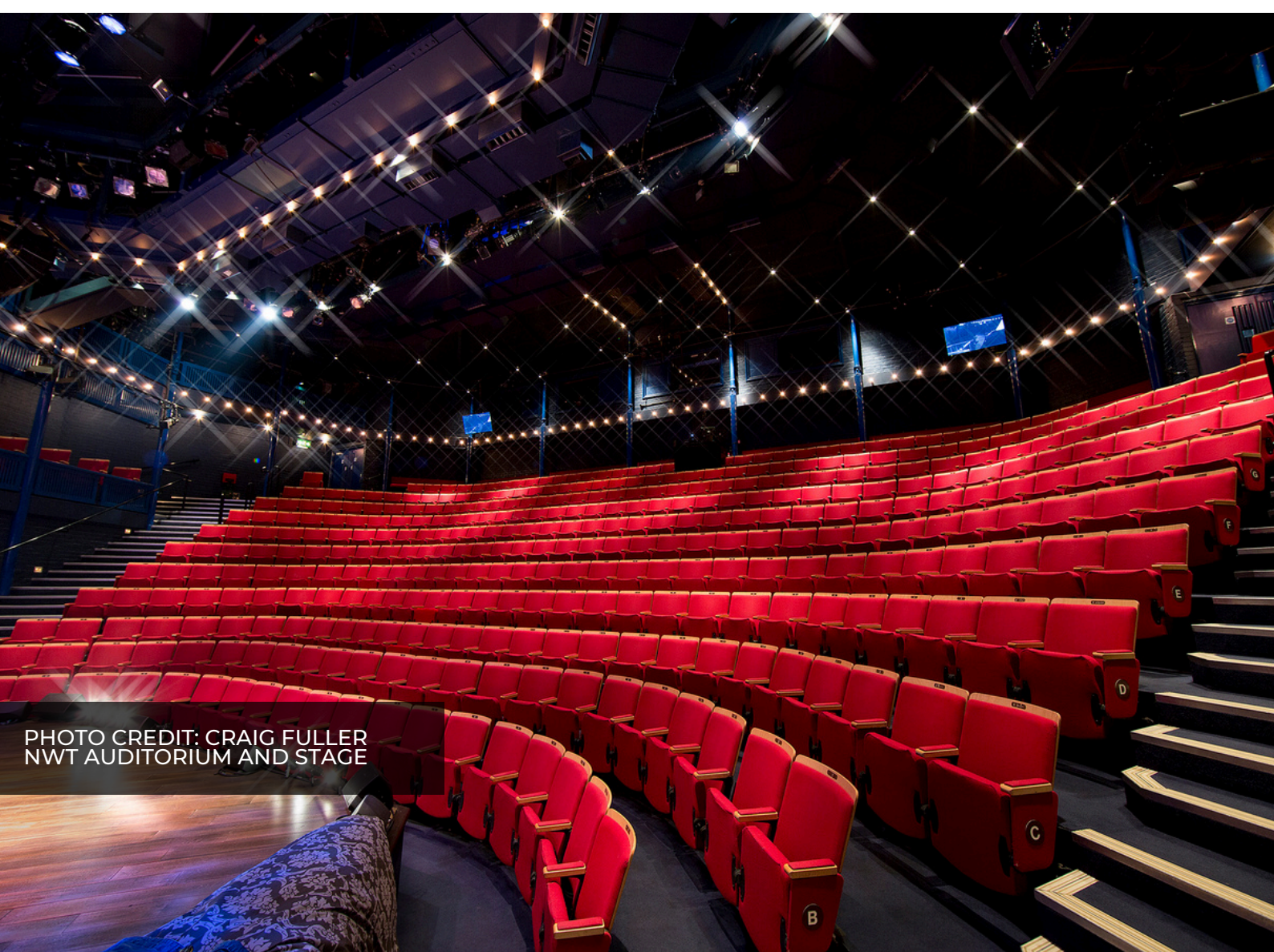


PHOTO CREDIT: CRAIG FULLER
NWT AUDITORIUM AND STAGE

Our Vision, Mission & Values

Our Vision

The New Wolsey Theatre will enrich the lives of everyone in greater Ipswich—bringing people together through the life enhancing power of storytelling and creativity.

Our Mission

At our core is a passion for live performance and deep engagement with our communities. We produce, and present a diverse and vibrant performance programme that reflects, inspires, challenges, and entertains audiences in Ipswich and beyond. It includes our own original productions, dynamic collaborations with local, regional, national, and international artists and companies, and the very best touring shows from across the UK. Through our Creative Communities programme, we ensure that those in Ipswich who need the arts the most have the opportunity to experience, participate in, and shape high-quality creative programmes. Through our artist relationship programme we offer vital career support and opportunities for local freelancers.

To achieve this we will...

- Be a truly open theatre, welcoming everyone into our creative home.
- Deliver a programme of work that reflects, nourishes, and delights our communities.
- Champion new voices, fresh ideas, and brave innovations in theatre making.
- Support and nourish local artists with a special focus on young people and underrepresented voices.
- Provide creative engagement opportunities that spark curiosity, nurture creativity, and inspire career aspirations.
- Build strong partnerships—whether with sponsors, co-producers, or funders—to expand our reach and impact in Ipswich and beyond.
- Be a theatre of both local, regional and national significance, shaping the cultural life of greater Ipswich, Suffolk, East Anglia, and the UK.
- Take meaningful action on environmental sustainability by reducing our carbon footprint, embedding greener practices, and actively advocating our approach to our audiences, partners, and stakeholders.
- Secure the theatre's long-term future through smart financial and business decisions that ensure resilience and growth.



Our Vision, Mission & Values

Our Values

At the New Wolsey Theatre, our values guide everything we do—for our audiences, participants, artists, partners, stakeholders, volunteers and staff.

We are OPEN

Our theatre is a home for all. We welcome people from every walk of life, creating a warm, inclusive space where curiosity thrives. Whether you are an audience member, artist, participant, partner, or colleague, you will find a place here to connect, create, belong and influence. We are open to criticism and welcome new ideas.

We CREATE JOY

We bring joy to the stage and into people's lives—not only through laughter and celebration but by embracing the richness, complexity, and diversity of the human experience.

We are NOURISHING

We provide a supportive space for artists, participants, and staff to grow, explore, and take creative risks. Through storytelling, skills development, and meaningful engagement, we empower people to shape their own paths and contribute to a thriving cultural landscape. We are also committed to nurturing our environment, embedding sustainable practices into our work to ensure a greener future for generations to come.

We are BRAVE

We don't take the easy route. We push creative boundaries, take artistic risks, and challenge ourselves to think differently. We stand firm in our commitment to inclusivity, ensuring diverse voices are heard, represented, and valued. We are unafraid to have difficult conversations, explore new ideas, and confront uncomfortable truths—because real change and powerful theatre happen when we are bold enough to step outside our comfort zones.



About the role of Board Director

You will understand the positive and essential impact that arts and culture has on our community and you will have an interest in the work of our theatre.

Members of the Board have ultimate responsibility for every aspect of the charity's operation but they do not deliver the work of the charity. Day-to-day management functions are delegated to the Chief Executive/ Artistic Director and the Senior Management Team.

The Board meets on a regular basis to receive reports from the staff on all the key areas of the charity's operation. Board members vote on issues as appropriate, set the direction, approve budgets, and support the staff team.

Board members have a duty of care and diligence and are expected to bring their skills to the Board for the benefit of the organisation. Sometimes Board members will be invited to sit on sub-committees/ task groups appropriate to their skills.

As an NWT Board Director you will:

Ensure that NWT delivers its mission and purpose as defined by its governing document, by working with the board to develop a long-term strategy to deliver its vision.

Ensure that NWT complies with its governing document, charity law, and any other relevant legislation or regulations.

Deliver effective governance of NWT, including ensuring appropriate policies and procedures are in place, and reviewing them regularly.

Constructively contribute to the overall strategic direction of NWT, setting policy, objectives, targets and reviewing our performance against those targets.

Assist the Chair in ensuring the Board regularly reviews its structure, role and relationship to NWT staff, members and others, implementing changes as necessary.

Support reporting obligations to Arts Council England as part of the National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) status.



About the role of Chair of the Board

The Chair is the linchpin between governance, strategy, and external accountability. This is especially vital for maintaining NPO status and fulfilling Arts Council expectations.

The Chair is expected to:

- Chair and facilitate the Board meetings
- Provide leadership and direction to the Board of Directors and Trustees, enabling the Board to fulfil their responsibilities for the overall governance and strategic direction of the charity.
- Optimise the relationship between the Board and the staff.
- Provide leadership for the Board in their role of setting the strategy and policy of the organisation.
- Give directions to Board policy making.
- Ensure that decisions taken at Board meetings are implemented.
- Act as a representative and spokesperson for the organisation, attending key meetings with funders and partners.
- Liaise with the Executive team to keep an overview of the theatre's affairs and to provide support as appropriate.
- Hold the senior leadership team to account, supporting the Chief Executive/ Artistic Director, and appraising their performance.
- Act as final stage adjudicator for disciplinary and grievance procedures if required.

About you

The following are the skills, attributes and experiences that NWT is seeking from new Board Directors. We are interested in hearing from people who have some, but not necessarily all the skills listed below.

- An interest in the arts and theatre
- An ability to work collaboratively for the benefit of the company
- An understanding of the issues of equality, diversity and inclusion
- Objectivity, fairness, integrity, and good judgement
- Effective communication skills
- Ability to dedicate time and commitment to the board
- An understanding of good governance in business, and the responsibilities and requirements of being a charity Trustee (or willingness to learn)
- Willingness to bring your knowledge, skills and experience to the NWT

We're particularly interested in seeking applications from people who have skills and experience in any of the following:

- Working in the education sector, ideally at senior level
- Experience of leadership in the cultural sector
- Experience of fundraising and income generation

We are also particularly interested in hearing from individuals with a home base, or connection to in Ipswich, Suffolk or East Anglia, but we are open to applications from outside this area.

You may have skills, abilities, and experience we haven't mentioned. We would be interested to hear about them.

Our board needs to be representative of the community we serve. We'd love applications from people of all backgrounds, especially from Black, Asian and ethnically diverse backgrounds, those who identify as D/deaf and disabled people, neurodivergent people, members of the LGBTQIA+ community and those from lower socio-economic backgrounds.

Board Director Commitments

- Board Directors are expected to attend all Board meetings, including the Board away-days, unless there are exceptional circumstances. If it is not possible to attend a meeting, you should give your apologies, and contribute your views on the contents of the papers circulated either to the Chair or Chief Executive/ Artistic Director, so that your views can be taken into account at the meeting(s).
- There are four Board meetings each year, scheduled annually in advance, together with an AGM. Meetings are held in person, in central Ipswich from 5.30pm to approximately 7.30pm.
- Sub-committees or “Task Groups” meet approximately four times per year, to which Directors will be invited to attend, depending on their specialism and interest. Members of Task Groups are expected to report back to the full board.
- Away days are scheduled approximately twice per year to enable directors to work with the executive and senior management team on the strategic direction of the organisation.
- Directors are expected to read and respond to papers, including the activity plan and investment principles plan, accounts, and any policy reviews.
- Directors are expected to attend several events or functions focused around artistic activity, including that of NWT’s Creative Communities programme, and to use their role as ambassadors to encourage others to attend, and become supporters of the theatre. These events or functions include regular attendance at Opening Nights, Supporters Events and corporate entertaining.
- Directors are expected to make themselves reasonably available to provide advice and support to staff in their area of expertise, either virtually or in person, on a pro bono basis.
- Directors can serve for a period of up to six years.

The role of Board Director is voluntary. We will reimburse reasonable travel expenses for Directors to attend meetings and away days.

Induction and support

New Board Directors will be given an induction, including time with the theatre’s staff and other Board Directors. This includes meeting the Chief Executive/ Artistic Director, Executive Director, and Senior Management Team to ensure their integration with and understanding of the operation.

Details of term of office, and other issues to do with the procedures of the Board, are included in the company’s Articles of Association, available from the Company Secretary (NWT’s Head of People).

How to Apply

If you are interested in becoming a part of our Board, please submit an up to date CV and a supporting statement outlining why you are interested in being a Board Director, or Chair of the Board, and how your skills and/or experience will help NWT deliver its mission and priorities. Please also complete our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Monitoring Form available via the website <https://www.wolseytheatre.co.uk/current-vacancies/>

If submitting a written statement is not the best way for you to tell us about your skills and experience, we can accept your application another way, such as via a video or audio file (no longer than around 5 minutes). For further details or support, please contact Lucy Parker on lparker@wolseytheatre.co.uk or 01473 295940.

If you need us to make any adjustments to allow you to fully participate in this application and selection process please get in touch.

However you choose to apply, please submit your interest to admin@wolseytheatre.co.uk by **9am on Friday 24th October 2025**.

We will be meeting candidates on **Wednesday 12th November 2025**.

We will reimburse reasonable travel expenses for candidates to attend interviews.

For an informal chat about the role with the Chair of the NWT Board, please contact Lucy Parker who can arrange that for you.

We hope that this pack will answer all your questions, but if there is anything else you would like to know about the role or NWT please do get in touch with Lucy Parker, Head of People 01473 295940 or by email at lparker@wolseytheatre.co.uk





BRIEF ENCOUNTER (2023)
PHOTO CREDIT: MARC BRENNER

About our work

The New Wolsey Theatre is a not-for-profit organisation and registered charity that thrives on a mix of funding sources, including support from Arts Council England, Suffolk County Council, Ipswich Borough Council, corporate sponsorships, donations, and individual giving.

In 2024-25, we welcomed over 80,000 visitors to 285 performances, showcasing a diverse programme of work.

A key focus is our actor-musician musicals, such as **Kinky Boots** (2022, co-produced with Queen's Theatre Hornchurch) and **Brief Encounter** (2023, co-produced with Wiltshire Creative in association with Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, touring to Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds and Northern Stage). In 2024, we collaborated on **Little Shop of Horrors** with Bolton Octagon Theatre, Hull Truck Theatre, and Theatre by the Lake, as well as Footloose with Pitlochry Festival Theatre. In Spring 2025, we delivered our first international collaboration with a co-production of Michael Frayn's **Noises Off**, touring Ipswich, London, Cumbria, and Luxembourg and this autumn we are presenting a adaptation by Nell Leyshon of the Daphne du Maurier short story thriller **Don't Look Now**.

Our annual Rock 'n' Roll Pantomime, featuring a cast of actor-musicians, remains an Ipswich institution, entertaining thousands each year. Recent highlights include **Dick Whittington and His Cat** (2023/24), which attracted over 28,000 attendees across 80 performances, and **Sleeping Beauty** wowed audiences in-person and online in 2024/25. The festive fun is back again this winter with **Beauty and the Beast**.

We also focus on curriculum-linked productions for schools, featuring early-career actors from the region. Recent productions include Dennis Kelly's **DNA** (2023) and a fast-paced adaptation of **Romeo & Juliet** (2024). This Autumn we are partnering with Eastern Angles for the first time to deliver a new production of John Godber's **Teechers**, specially adapted for East Anglian students.

Throughout the year, we present an exciting mix of productions from acclaimed touring companies, including English Touring Theatre, London Classic Theatre, Le Navet Bête, Frozen Light, Breach Theatre, ThickSkin Theatre, Pentabus, Ad Infinitum, ATC, Middle Child, Rifco, and Tilted Wig. This ensures Ipswich audiences have access to some of the best theatre in the UK, right on their doorstep.

Digital innovation remains central to our work. Our first 'blended production', **The Snow Queen** (2020), involved live contributions from audiences at home alongside live performances in the theatre, reaching audiences worldwide. We continue to livestream much of our produced work to ensure accessibility, earning the 2021 Best Digital Pantomime Award for **Jack and the Beanstalk**.

continued..

About our work

Not all our work is just about us. We have an inspiring cohort of associate artists including Aspire Black Suffolk, Jamie Beddard, Mae Munuo, Martha Loader, The Paper Birds and Spinning Wheel Theatre.

In 2024, we co-produced Martha Loader's darkly funny new play *Bindweed* with The Mercury Theatre Colchester and HighTide, in association with The Royal Exchange Theatre. Martha, a recipient of the Film4 and Peggy Ramsay Foundation Bursary, has been with us for a one-year attachment to continue developing her craft and a new play for us.

We are proud to have received the East Anglian Daily Times Community Impact Award and the Suffolk Business of the Year Award, recognising our contributions to the arts and our local community.

We in the process of cultivating exciting projects and co-productions with new UK and international partners for 2026 and beyond.



SLEEPING BEAUTY (2024/25)
PHOTO CREDIT: WILL GREEN PHOTOGRAPHY



LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS (2024)
PHOTO CREDIT: PAMELA RAITH

Creative Communities

NWT recognises that culture plays a significant role in building and sustaining communities. We believe in the power of the creative potential in each of us, and strive to provide communities from every part of Ipswich with opportunities to participate in, make and enjoy culture.

Creative Communities is our programme of productions, projects, activities and opportunities for young people, local communities, and the education sector. Some of our recent work includes:

- A social prescribing project **Tell Your Story** delivered in collaboration with the NHS
- A **Warm Space** offer in our Front of House that supported the most vulnerable members of our local community during the cost of living crisis
- **Let's Play** an early years project created in partnership with a local primary school
- **Get up and Go** free summer activity for children in receipt of free school meals
- **The Big Afternoon** a free, outdoor community festival
- **Twelfth Night** a mainstage production by our Youth Theatre groups
- **Hare & Tortoise** a Primary schools production touring to 24 schools across Suffolk

Our Creative Communities work also includes supporting the education sector to engage with our produced work; offering creative careers focused opportunities to young people and community hires in our main auditorium.

We run seven term time Youth Theatre groups, including our new Young Creatives offer for 16-21 year olds who are emerging theatre makers. There are 150 spaces for young people to take part across the year which includes our Youth Theatre Plus and Squared offer for disabled and neurodivergent young people.

Alongside our own projects we regularly collaborate with other organisations and support the work of a wide range of local groups including Aspire Black Suffolk (advocacy), Volunteering Matters (social action), UnScene Suffolk (a community arts organisation for visually impaired adults) and Suffolk Refugee Support, by hosting them in NW2. Having communities, staff, practitioners, and artists in the same space provides fertile ground for future creative collaborations ensuring NWT is truly representative of Ipswich.





HARE & TORTOISE (2025)
PHOTO CREDIT: WILL GREEN PHOTOGRAPHY



SENIOR YOUTH THEATRE
PHOTO CREDIT: WILL GREEN PHOTOGRAPHY

The Board



SARA CORCORAN (CHAIR)
APPOINTED DEC 2019 AND AS CHAIR
MARCH 2023

Sara has over 25 years' senior Human Resources and Organisational Development experience and played a leading role in some hugely exciting projects, such as the launch of the University of Suffolk (2016).

She now focuses on leadership coaching and facilitation, and as co-founder of Thinking Outside Ltd, is drawing on the natural environment to deliver inspiring and impactful individual and organisational development. Sara is a qualified Executive Coach, a Fellow of the CIPD, a Governor of Writtle University College and Co-Chair of the OD in HE network.

Her interests include reading, dancing, walking, theatre, watching rugby and travel. She is also the very proud mother of two incredible young men



JAMIE BEDDARD
APPOINTED JULY 2025

Jamie is Joint Artistic Director of Diverse City and Lead Artist in Extraordinary Bodies.

Recent artistic projects include two Extraordinary Bodies theatre productions; Delicate, (writer and co-director); Waldo's Circus of Magic and Terror (co-writer with Hattie Naylor); and the New Wolsey Theatre production of The Red Lion (assistant director). As a performer Jamie has played the title role in the Elephant Man, the Leader in The Messiah at Bristol Old Vic, the role of Mathias in The National Theatre's production of The Threepenny Opera, and performed in 'Weighting', a large-scale outdoor circus show created by Extraordinary Bodies. His acting credits go on to include Quills, I.D, All the King's Men, Wonderful You, Ubu, Alice in Wonderland, Flesh Fly, 15 Seconds, and Waiting for Godot. He has previously been Agent for Change at The New Wolsey Theatre, Diversity Officer at the Arts Council, and an Associate Director at Graeae Theatre Company.



MARC BRADROOK
APPOINTED MARCH 2023

Marc is a passionate supporter for the transition from fossil fuels to a clean future and wants to leave something positive behind for his kids and future generations.

Marc is Vice President of Business Development at Drax. Drax's strategy is to become a global leader in negative emissions, by deploying its BECCS technology around the world to support the decarbonisation of energy systems and industry and the global drive to tackle climate change.

Outside of work Marc loves the NFL and has been a San Francisco 49ers fan since 1985.



VICKIE BRAZIER
APPOINTED SEPT 2023

Vickie has lived in Ipswich all her life and has a background in law, qualifying as a Chartered Fellow Legal Executive and is an Associate at Taylor Haldane Barlex Solicitors in Ipswich, working in the area of Family Law, specialising in Child Care Law. Vickie works in the community, attending organisations that support young parents, providing legal advice and attending educational settings, promoting the legal profession to young people. Outside of work, Vickie enjoys reading, the theatre, socialising with family and friends and trying to get to the gym! Vickie has been interested in drama from an early age and once sought to pursue a career as an actor, undertaking work experience on the show *Le Misérables* at the Palace Theatre, London. Vickie likes to fundraise for various charities.

In October 2022, Vickie engaged in a firewalking event raising funds for St Elizabeth Hospice. Vickie also likes to attend quiz nights.



ALICE HARDAKER
APPOINTED MARCH 2023

As Development Director at the University of Suffolk Alice leads the Alumni Relations and Development team, fostering relationships with the University's communities, donors, friends, graduates, honorary graduates and other stakeholders. Before this Alice was Head of Fundraising at Essex Wildlife Trust where she built and lead a portfolio of income streams including corporate development and partnerships, grants and trusts, gifts in Wills, individual philanthropy and membership. For several years she was General Manager at multi-award-winning London fringe theatre Southwark Playhouse, seeing its successful relocation into larger premises and leading on financial and operational management. She also led the in-house team across marketing, press and publicity, education and outreach, production, visitor experience and sales.

Alice grew up in Suffolk and has been very lucky to work for organisations that support creativity, placemaking, education and our green spaces - all causes that are close to her heart. The skills and hobbies she wishes she kept up include yoga, music, languages and surfing. Alice has an MA in English Literature from the University of Leeds and has also studied at Trinity College, Dublin and University of California, San Diego. She is a qualified Nutritional Therapist.



WENDY HERBER
APPOINTED JUNE 2024

Wendy grew up in Ipswich and returned to raise her children here after living in London. After some time in the financial sector, she volunteered in our local Citizens advice centre and found her place in the charitable sector. Since then, Wendy has run befriending schemes for older people, set up and managed a volunteer centre and worked with a range of organisations supporting and funding our amazing local charities and community groups.

Over the years, she has worked extensively with our local health, care and voluntary sector leaders, to influence policy, strategies and shape funding to help ensure people get the help they really need. Wendy is currently the Independent Chair at Healthwatch Suffolk, an organisation that has the legally established role of gathering and sharing lived experiences of health and care services to shape better care for local people.

Wendy is passionate about wellbeing, culture and Ipswich. She loves our local cinema, theatre, dance and music offer and sees Ipswich as Suffolk's hidden gem. She believes that NWT, along with our other arts organisations, has a vital role to play in the ongoing development of Ipswich and the life chances of those who live here.



LAURA HERBERT
APPOINTED SEPT 2023

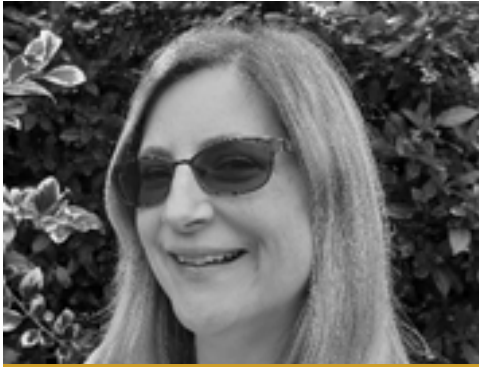
Laura grew up in Ipswich and has lived in the local area for several years. She has always loved reading and storytelling: she studied English at the University of Bristol and was involved in student theatre whilst there. Laura joined Birketts LLP in 2018 as a trainee solicitor in the charities team and continued her training in the employment and employee incentive teams. She qualified solicitor in 2020 and now specialises in employment law providing commercial and strategic advice to employers and employees, focusing on finding pragmatic solutions and helping clients with their engagement and culture. Before becoming a solicitor, Laura spent long periods abroad: she worked as a chalet cook in the Alps across two years; she worked alongside the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on an

international protection scheme for Myanmarese refugees and she spent time in the Calais camp, mostly putting her cooking skills to use in the kitchens. In her spare time, Laura volunteers with the Suffolk law advice centre. She is a keen sportswoman has held various roles on the Ipswich hockey club's committee, including as their ladies' club captain. Through a friend who is a hot air ballooning pilot, Laura has been involved in the GB hot air ballooning community and has represented the country at national championships as a crew member.



COLM SEELEY
APPOINTED JUNE 2024

Colm is Insight & Innovation Manager at Ukie, the trade association for video games in the UK, where he continues a career of supporting the creation of video games by all sizes of creators having previously worked at the British Film Institute and for independent video games festival IndieCade. His work at Ukie includes the UK Games Map, the UK Games Industry Census and annual valuations of consumer spending on video games in the UK as well as learning more about SIC codes than anyone could want to know. He studied Physics at Cambridge University at undergraduate and postgraduate level. Originally from Belfast, Colm moved to London in 2014, where he haphazardly fell in love with theatre without any knowledge of it. He believes video games and theatre have more in common with each other as art forms than either does with film & TV and is curious to discover what more they can learn from each other and create in collaboration. Colm moved to Ipswich in 2021 and is much more positive about the town than anyone from Ipswich seems to be. He sings tenor with the Ipswich Choral Society and can be found playing board games with The Ipswich Gamers on Monday nights.



SARAH SHEPPARD
APPOINTED MARCH 2023

Sarah has lived in Ipswich and the surrounding area all her life. She has been a frequent visitor to The New Wolsey Theatre, taking in many shows a year. She enjoys the diversity of shows put on by The New Wolsey Theatre – from comedy to musicals and plays to pantomime. Sarah's professional skills help to support The New Wolsey Theatre and the benefits the Theatre brings to Ipswich and the surrounding area. A CIMA qualified account with over 24 years' experience, Sarah currently works for The Sigma Trust, a Multi-Academy Trust in Clacton. The Trust is responsible for running 8 Secondary and 4 Primary Schools, all based in the Colchester and Tendring areas of North Essex. Prior to her current role, Sarah has also worked in the NHS, accountancy practice and the corporate world.

Outside of her working life, Sarah is a keen walker and is an active member of Ipswich Outdoor Group. She serves on their Committee as Treasurer. Many of her weekends are spent walking in the local area. Sarah also enjoys travelling further afield, hiking in the hills of the Peak District, the Lake District and beyond.



JASON WEBSMALL-EGHAN
APPOINTED JULY 2025

As the Events Manager at the University of Suffolk, Jason leads on the delivery and development of all the University's flagship events, including University undergraduate and postgraduate Open Days, Graduation Ceremonies, applicant visit days, interview days, the Spotlight Suffolk Series, the Open Lecture Series and the annual Suffolk Higher Education convention. Jason's focus is to strategically develop and deliver the University's diverse programme of events to ensure that they fully support the University's ambitious growth targets and not only reflect but enhance the University's brand and reputation.

Jason has worked at numerous UK Higher Education Institutions, Charity and Private sector organisations in Events Management, External Relations and Business Development roles since 2016.

He has worked with various levels of stakeholders, including VIP's, Academics, Internal Staff and Students to organise a range of events such as Live Performance Events, Academic and Minority Group Conferences and International Hybrid Events, before joining the University of Suffolk in 2022.

Jason grew up in Tottenham, in North London, and has always been a keen follower of music, film, events production and culture. He has attended numerous productions at theatres in London and at the New Wolsey, even before moving to Ipswich in 2020. He is also a keen sportsman, having played in non-league football and competed in national University Athletics competitions for the University of Essex in Shot Put.

Arts and Culture, Suffolk and the East of England

If you don't know much about Ipswich, it's the county town of Suffolk and is a medieval port and industrial town with a strong history; the urban area has a population of 130,000 and all eyes are currently on the town – and for good reason. The town has been reinvented by investment in its extremely popular waterfront as well as the introduction of the University of Suffolk in 2007. It has a new vision to transform the life of the town and has one of the fastest-growing economies in the UK and is emerging as one of the best places to live in the country.

Unusually, Ipswich has a very large arts ecology, being home to local, regional, and internationally renowned companies including DanceEast, Gecko Theatre, High Tide, Russell Maliphant, Spill Festival, Eastern Angles, Red Rose Chain and New Wolsey Theatre. The cultural sector is dynamic, connected and collaborative; the leadership of NWT plays a significant role.

Because the town is small, it means it has everything you need within proximity. You also get the benefit of the Suffolk countryside, and it's only about 12 miles from the coast. Ipswich Station and Derby Road are the two primary train stations in the town. The former is on the London to Norwich line and has services to London Liverpool Street in a little over an hour. There are also direct trains to Colchester, Felixstowe, Lowestoft, Peterborough and Cambridge.

Equal Opportunities

We are committed to ensuring equality and fairness for all employees, collaborators, contractors and the general public. We will not discriminate on grounds of gender, marital status, race, ethnic origin, colour, nationality, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or age. We oppose all forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination and will work to promote opportunities for sections of the community that are currently under-represented.

All individuals will be treated fairly and with respect. Selection for employment, promotion, training or any other benefit will be on the basis of aptitude and ability. All employees will be helped and encouraged to develop their full potential and the talents and resources of the workforce will be fully utilised to maximise the organisation's output.

We strive to create an environment in which individual differences and the contributions of all our staff are recognised and valued. No form of intimidation, bullying or harassment will be tolerated.

We actively encourage applications from people of all backgrounds, especially those currently less represented in our organisation, the arts industry and on our stages. We are particularly interested to receive applications for this role from Black, Asian and ethnically diverse people, those who identify as D/deaf and disabled people, neurodivergent people, members of the LGBTQIA+ community and those from lower socio-economic backgrounds.

We are happy to make reasonable adjustments to enable applicants to participate in the selection process, and for the successful applicant to carry out their role. We will regularly review our employment practices and procedures to ensure fairness. This policy has the approval of the Board and will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Environmental Responsibility

NWT recognises the climate emergency and the role each of us can play in contributing to, and advocating for, a sustainable future.

We are proud that since 2012-13 our investment in building improvements has resulted in a 65% reduction in the carbon footprint created by our use of energy and water.

We are working on a range of measures to make significant environmental impact reductions across all strands of our work and have recently established a cross-organisation working group made up of passionate committed colleagues to set ambitious targets and delivery plans.

All NWT staff are participating in Environmental Awareness training and we are working with organisations such as The Suffolk Carbon Charter to ensure that we draw upon expertise and best practice.

We have been recognised with a Suffolk Carbon Charter Silver Award.

NWT's position at the heart of our community makes us ideally placed to be a shining example of positive change.