

Debbie Barber

I have been a member of HGCT since we moved to Herefordshire in 2007 and am keen to help the Trust move forward to its goal of restoration of a fully working canal.

I have considerable experience in being a trustee - I was trustee for a national horticulture educational charity for over 12 years - the last six years of which I was Chairman - so I am fully aware of the roles and responsibilities required. I oversaw the updating of all processes and day to day working, assisted in raising the charity's profile and participated in fundraising. In my final year I was part of the team that secured a large donation three years running.

I was first involved in HGCT when writing the Board meeting minutes back in 2012/13. My other responsibilities then grew, and I had to stop. Currently I have written the minutes since January this year and was co-opted onto the board as a trustee in March to develop fundraising capability. With several major projects in the pipeline this will be a key role moving forward.

I don't have any engineering experience – there are plenty of others with that - but I believe I can assist in other ways such as fundraising and promoting the Trust.

I have been interested in canals since my college days – both in their history and in physical work helping on the Stratford canal when it was in the ownership of the National Trust (a long time ago!) and in helping on the Kymin site – which is within a stone throw of our house. I am part owner, with my husband Ralph, of a 58-foot narrowboat on which we have cruised a considerable part of the canal system.

Nominated by: Janet Moulton