

Trustee Candidate Biographies



Andrew Dotchin

The Revd Canon Andrew Dotchin is vicar of the [Kesgrave and Fynn Valley](#) Churches, in the [Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich](#). He was ordained in the Anglican Church of Southern Africa in 1984, after training for ministry at the Federal Theological Seminary in Imbali Township outside Pietermaritzburg – an inter-denominational multi-racial institution with a long history of standing against Apartheid. He has served in parishes in Mpumalanga Province and the Transvaal and was a school chaplain in Johannesburg. On returning to the Church of England he has served in rural, estate and seaside parishes in his home Diocese in Suffolk. He is a long-term member of General Synod and is a [Franciscan Tertiary](#). Before ordination he worked as an Industrial Chemist in fields as varied as pharmaceuticals and confectionary, geological analysis and printing ink technology.



He was 'known' to the South African Police for his anti-apartheid activities and actively promoted the ordained ministry of women and Black people in the South African Church. In the United Kingdom he is involved in the work of the [National Hate Crime Awareness Week](#) and the work of the group 17-24-30 which raises awareness about all types of Hate Crime in England.

Andrew has strong links with Suffolk Pride and is a chaplain and a champion for Inclusion amongst the Royal Air Force Cadets and was among the first to publicly bless a Lesbian couple Civil Partnership in a Church of England service. He is known by those who disagree with him as 'The Wizard of Woke' (sometimes insults become compliments) but may be found more easily on Social Media and his blog as SuffolkVicar.

Hope Lawrence

Hope is an independent trustee based in Berkshire. As senior business leader at a global technology company for over 25 years, she has driven awareness and change for LGBTQ+ employees and been part of a massive shift towards making Inclusion a core component of workplace culture. She has also been involved in a variety of Christian leadership roles, both before and after transitioning publicly in 2018, including being part of the leadership team for Sacred, a monthly LGBTQIA+ inclusive service in Christ Church Cathedral in Oxford, and currently worships with her wife of 30 years at St Mary's Church in Twyford (where she is also PCC secretary). Hear some of her reflections on life as an evangelical trans Christian here on the [Inclusive Evangelicals podcast](#).



Emily Richardson

Emily was born and raised in South West London and has experienced a range of church environments from a teenager in the local baptist youth group to a small new monastic contemplative community. She works in communications for a large liberal Anglo-Catholic parish, where she also worships.

Interested in inclusion since her late teens Emily has been involved in LGBTQTI+ groups and in 2015 attended her first Inclusive Church/St Martin in the Fields Disability conference. She shared her story as a Storyteller in 2016 and thereafter has served on the planning committee. During the pandemic she worked with Dr Naomi Lawson Jacobs to write the book “At the Gates: Disability, Justice and the Churches” where they weaved the stories of disabled Christians with the theology of disability and disability justice. This was longlisted for the Michael Ramsey Prize in 2023.

Living with a chronic condition, she uses her time sparingly and when not resting or working enjoys reading, theatre, board games and working through box sets.

