

# Meet your current **SCMA Elected Members...**

## **Liz Stewart, Convener**

**City of Edinburgh**

Liz has been a childminder for over 20 years and established Murrayburn Childminding Group 14 years ago. Liz also runs St David Toddlers Group and has done so for the last five years.

Liz feels that she has the best job you can have, she has learnt so much about various countries and cultures from the children she has looked after over the years and many still keep in touch. Some children she has looked after bring their own children to me, which makes her feel old!

SCMA has helped Liz along the way by keeping her informed and updated with legislative changes. Liz had been a previous Elected Member a few years ago and was also Convener from 2009-2012. Liz loves being part of the Scottish Executive Board and is ready to help and share new adventures for SCMA members by being part of the exciting changes that are going on in the childcare sector.

## **Donna Dawson, Treasurer**

**Moray**

Donna was co-opted in 2018 and took over the Treasurer role in 2019.

Donna has been childminding for nearly 25 years. She has previously sat on the Scottish Executive Board a few times during her career and has thoroughly enjoyed developing childminding in Scotland as an elected member.

Donna was also involved in the setting up of a local partnership way back in 1999.

Providing **A Voice** for you...  
Meet your Elected Members



# Samantha Clarke

## Aberdeen City

Sam has been a SCMA Elected Member since 2015, She took on the role as Treasurer in 2016 and is currently Vice Convener.

Sam is also a SCMA Community Childminder and is involved in the Me2 service providing funded Early Learning and Childcare in the city. Sam has been childminding for more than seven years and loves what she does: "Every day is different and each and every family I meet are unique."

Sam became an Elected Member so she could help shape the future of childminding at its core.

# Claire Duff

## West Lothian

Claire has been childminding for 12 years and has a wide range of experience from children with learning difficulties to allergies.

Claire re-joined the Board in 2019 and thinks it is important to support the promotion of childminders and have a voice in policy making.

# Kay Finke

## Inverclyde

Kay has been childminding since 2009 after giving up her previous job that she did not enjoy. Now working for herself and being there for her own children is something that really makes Kay happy - she loves looking after little people, helping them grow and supporting them through challenges

Working so closely with local families and fellow childminders in the area, Kay has made some really great friends. Kay became a SCMA Elected Member to help shape the future of childminding in Scotland, especially when it comes to working alongside the Scottish Government and their expansion plans for Early Learning and Childcare.

The importance of SCMA and the support it has given to the childminding network in Inverclyde is something that Kay has recognised, and wants to highlight further and become a part of.

# Jemma Hogan

## Highland

Jemma has been a childminder since January 2016 and became an SCMA Elected Member in 2017.

Ensuring her minded children get outside, sensory and social filled experiences which are age and development stage appropriate is of huge importance to Jemma. The more she can encourage outside learning, thought-provoking sensory experiments and evaluate what meets everyone's need means Jemma is always learning and ultimately finding her job a lovely experience.

Jemma's main reason for becoming an Elected Member was because of her mum, who was also a childminder and a SCMA Elected Member. Jemma's mum has inspired and taught her so much throughout her career as a childminder and being an elected member brought her so much, Jemma wanted to experience it for herself. Jemma is really looking forward to networking and having a say in the future of childminding.

# Jayne Kirkby

## Dumfries and Galloway

Jayne has been a childminder for 15 years. During this time she has been a provider of places for the brokerage scheme in D&G and she now also provides Early Learning and Childcare for 2 to 5 years. Jayne was an Elected Member for Dumfries and Galloway for 6 years previously and she tries to keep up to date with training from differing sources.

She enjoy trying to give children as many different experiences as possible in her service/

Jayne likes to keep up to date with what is happening in childminding on a wider scale and being an Elected Member is a golden opportunity to do this. She also wants to help other childminders if possible by putting their view of childminding and what they need direct to SCMA.

# Susannah Knox

## Inverclyde

Susannah is a childminder from Inverclyde and became a SCMA Elected Member in 2015.

Susannah has been working as a childminder for 13 years, and in that time she has looked after children from six weeks old right up to 12 years. She really enjoys her job and the ability it gives her to make a real difference in children's lives.

Susannah got involved with SCMA as she was really interested to see how things worked at a national level. She wanted to provide real feedback about what was happening in an everyday childminding setting. Susannah also wanted to give back within the working community as she is passionate about childminders all working together.

# Margaret MacDougall

## Argyll and Bute

Margaret is a childminder from Argyll and Bute and was co-opted to the Scottish Executive Board in 2016. She became a SCMA Elected Member in 2017.

Margaret has been childminding for 12 years and works with children from six months to 16 years old. Working alongside Argyll and Bute Council, Margaret is also a Community Childminder and provides funded Early Learning and Childcare places for eligible two year olds.

Margaret was keen to get involved with SCMA and further develop it's Vision: "Quality childminding... building confident children within a family childcare experience."

# Laura McIntosh

## Aberdeenshire

Laura has been a childminder for 6 years now and have loved it. Laura is currently trying to get Early Learning and Childcare funded children and has been approved by her local authority to deliver these hours. She loves seeing the children develop over the period of time they are in her service.

Laura was elected in 2019 and decided to get involved not only to support childminding in her local area but all across Scotland.

# Susan Mooney

## Orkney

Susan is a childminder from Orkney and became a SCMA Elected Member in 2015. Childminding since 1991, Susan believes that being a childminder is wonderful. Susan thrives on helping the children and parents to be all they can be and more.

Susan enjoys being part of the Scottish Executive Board, being part of the developments and the way it champions childminding across Scotland.

# Katy Pollok

## Argyll and Bute

Katy is a childminder from Argyll & Bute and was co-opted to the Scottish Executive Board in 2016. She became a SCMA Elected Member in 2017.

Katy has been a childminder for 13 years, and alongside her three children of her own, she has cared for lots of other children. Katy loves being involved in their early years, seeing their daily achievements and knowing that parents trust her with their precious little ones.

Katy has been a member of SCMA since she became registered and wanted to be more involved with what the Association does for childminding across Scotland.

# Suzanne Scott

## Stirling

Welcoming families and children into Suzanne's setting and watching them grow and develop through the years is very humbling to her. Suzanne feels that as a business owner it is so important to embrace challenges and always strive to ensure that she is giving "the best" care and support to each child within her setting.

In past careers Suzanne has been involved at board level and she thinks now is an exciting time to be involved with SCMA as an Elected Member. SCMA is entering a phase of "Shaping" which Suzanne says is very exciting to be part of.

# Johanne Wood

## Fife

After 30 years in childcare, Johanne has experienced many changes within the sector, but nothing that has made her consider changing careers. Johanne loves her job and counts herself as very fortunate to be doing something she loves.

Having previously been an Elected Member and enjoyed her time, Johanne is now looking at getting back involved with the organisation at a critical time for childminding. With all the new changes and challenges facing childminders with the new funded hours that are planned, Johanne is looking forward to helping the organisation and childminders stay strong and positive.

# **Lindsay Officer** (proposed new Elected Member)

## **Aberdeenshire**

Lindsay has been a childminder to a wide range of families from different backgrounds and children from age one to 12. She has kept up to date with theories in childcare and the legislative background, and has also experienced the highs (watching children learn new skills) and the lows (saying goodbye).

Lindsay is passionate about promoting childminding as a career, and about ensuring childminders are recognised for their valuable role as educators and important figures in young people's lives. Lindsay knows that SCMA are equally passionate about this and she wants to assist as much as she can.

# **Sonia Watson** (proposed new Elected Member)

## **Midlothian**

Sonia has seen many changes in childminding over the 15 years and she has enjoyed the challenges and new ways of thinking that they have all brought. She has changed to loose parts and wooden toys are her main base for what the children learn and experience within my setting. Sonia loves being out with the children exploring the countryside or visiting attractions.

My planning and certificates are always up to date and she has good partnerships with all her families. Sonia wanted to be an Elected Member a few years ago but sadly wasn't able to take the role up. She would like to be nominated and do her best for childminders and become part of the SCMA family. Sonia feels she would bring new ideas and hopefully become involved in more of the workings of the organisation.