

## The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees at Bentham-Moxon Trust consists of no fewer than three and not more than six people. The Trustees oversee the management of the Trust and are responsible for ensuring its long-term financial stability. They meet twice a year in June and November, the latter meeting being used to review grant applications and make the grant awards that further the work of Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. The Trustees serve on a part-time basis with the day-to-day management of the Trust delegated to the Secretary/Treasurer.

### Dr Isabel Larridon, Chair

Isabel is the Priority Leader Accelerated Taxonomy at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew where she is responsible for achieving the Initiatives set out in Kew's Science Strategy on Documenting Biodiversity, building the Tree of Life, Innovating Species Identification and identifying Tropical Important Plant Areas. As Priority Leader, she also supports the organisation of the MSc in Plant and Fungal Taxonomy, Diversity and Conservation organised by RBG Kew and Queen Mary University of London. Her research focuses on the evolution, biodiversity and conservation of African and Madagascan plants with particular emphasis on the Cyperaceae or sedge family. She regularly publishes in specialist journals and leads research programmes on plant and fungal taxonomy in Madagascar, and on the Cyperaceae and Compositae families. She contributes to the scientific community as founder of the International Sedge Society, and as a member of the IUCN-SSC Freshwater Plant Specialist Group and the West Africa Plant Red List Authority. Isabel also serves as a Council Member and Vice-President of The Linnean Society, and carries out editorial duties for the scientific journals Kew Bulletin and Plant Ecology and Evolution. Further information can be found at: [Dr Isabel Larridon | Kew](#)

### Rebecca Bower OBE

Rebecca is a Chartered Accountant who spent most of her career as Head of Finance for the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew before retiring in 2013. She has had good experience as a trustee of several other charities and is currently a trustee of Devon Wildlife Trust.

### Dr Mark Carine

Mark is Principal Curator of the Algae, Fungi and Plants Division at the Natural History Museum where he is responsible for the team managing a collection of c. 5.25 million botanical specimens. He is a plant systematist with particular interests in pre-Linnean botanical collections and in island floras and biogeography, working on taxonomic (classification) problems, phylogenetic (evolutionary) relationships and biogeographic patterns in Atlantic island floras. He has served on a number of committees including as Secretary of the Botanical Research Fund and on the Systematics Association Council where he was Grants and Awards Secretary. Mark is also an Associate editor for Systematics and Biodiversity. Further information can be found at <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/our-science/departments-and-staff/staff-directory/mark-carine.html>

## **Ruth Close**

A retired Finance Director, Ruth spent the majority of her career in the not for profit sector. Working in a variety of roles across a wide spectrum of organisations, she gained experience in finance, facilities, IT and project management. She worked in the finance team at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew some years ago and more recently her roles have included positions at the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and Thames Hospice in Windsor. Ruth is also a trustee of a local charity, Learn English At Home.

## **Diane Scott**

Diane Scott is a qualified solicitor with over 30 years experience across a variety of sectors, including significant experience in the charity sector. Diane is currently General Counsel at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and was previously Director of Legal at Cancer Research UK.