

Candidate's Statement (should be at least 400 words long and no longer than 1000 words) :

I was elected on to the Board of CF10 in 2017 and have watched the Trust grow both in terms of membership and influence. The last few years have been tough ones for Welsh Rugby, firstly hit by Covid lockdowns and now dealing with the problems of the WRU's outdated governance structure and claims of misogyny at the highest levels. I have been proud of the way CF10 has been able to support and advise Cardiff Rugby during these difficult times. I have been a member of the Comms group throughout this period, helping to ensure we keep our supporters up to date with rapidly changing events, and giving them a voice in the ongoing discussions.

I am also closely involved with the heritage work of CF10, and it has been rewarding to see the club fully embrace their heritage, with the name reverting to Cardiff Rugby and the colours reverting to Blue and Black. We have already done a great deal of work to protect the precious objects held in the Trophy room and to improve and revamp the displays. The entire collection has been catalogued and made available online, the important collection of photographs that are on the walls of the Clubhouse have been digitised to a high standard, and we are creating an archive of interviews with former players and others associated with the Club. We continue to write blogs about key heritage topics, and we now have a regular spot in the Matchday programme to highlight objects within the collection.

We have worked hard to open up Cardiff Rugby's heritage to more people, giving talks at Summerfest, opening the Trophy Room to visitors, giving talks to local history and sporting memorabilia groups. In the last few months, we have opened the doors of the Trophy Room to the Sporting Memories organisation, a group that tackles dementia, depression, and loneliness through the power of sport. It has been wonderful to see the way people have responded to the collections and the enthusiasm for heritage through all the age groups. Our eventual aim is the development of a proper museum space within any redevelopment of Cardiff Arms Park.

As we move toward the 150th anniversary of the Club's creation we will be working closely with Cardiff Rugby to celebrate this great milestone, and to ensure that we still have a Club to be proud of and not just an anonymous compass point.

I have really enjoyed the last three years on the Board of CF10 and am constantly impressed by the skill and hard work of my fellow members. I would very much like the opportunity to continue to contribute to the work of the group.