WHO AM I?

- I’m a Carer and Emergency Services Worker from London and I’ve been a party member for 10 years.
- I’ve sat on 3 party group Execs, 2 NUS Committees, College and Uni SU’s, been an FE College Governor and Chaired a Youth Council. I currently work with the Patchwork Foundation and Stonewall.
- I have 20 years experience of campaigning on equalities issues from lobbying Government Ministers to peaceful direct action and I’ve received national recognition for my work.
- I’ve stood for Local and National elections and was the 1st ever trans PPC in Wales in 2017.
- Experienced trainer - I’ve been creating and delivering training at all levels for 15 years.
- I have postgraduate qualifications in Volunteer Management and Partnership Working I want to use to help Plus succeed.

CHAMPIONING LGBT+ LIB DEMS

I have worked for years locally, nationally and internationally to support and empower LGBT+ people and our allies. Since I was co-opted as an Ordinary Member of the Exec I have worked to support the organisation and build links with other parts of the party and I want to keep doing that.

ACCOUNTABILITY

I will continue to hold the LGBT+ Officers accountable for the actions they take on our behalf, support their work holding the party to the highest standards on LGBT+ issues and keep working to make us more open to our membership.

DEVELOPING OUR MEMBERSHIP

Plus members deserve to receive value for our membership. We must also make sure that Plus is at the forefront of supporting LGBT+ people in the party. I want to work with other members of the exec to build up what we offer our members and keep working on building access and opportunities such as:

- Creating a mentoring scheme
- Increasing access to development opportunities.
- Creating training sessions and resources to help our allies
- Providing safe and judgement free spaces for people to develop their own knowledge
- Reforming the LGBT+ Constitution to ensure we can better support and represent our Members.

If you have any questions please get in touch!

www.twitter.com/CharleyHasted
Charley@CharleyHasted.co.uk
www.facebook.com/CharleyHastedLD
About me

My name is Shelly and I work in the health service. I am chair of the staff LGBT+ network.

I am proud to have stood as an openly gay candidate in the local elections.

My Aims

I am standing as a candidate as an ordinary member with the following aims:

- Increase membership so that the group truly represents the entire party membership across the country.
- Regular engagement with members, utilising the wide range of experience within the organisation.
- Support and celebrate LGBT+ candidates across the country. From action days to hustings to social media.
- Introduce a buddy scheme for new candidates.

Vote Shelly #1 for Ordinary Member
FRASER GRAHAM
For LGBT+ Lib Dems Ordinary Member

I have been a Lib Dem member since 2016, and an Ordinary Member of the LGBT+ Lib Dems Exec since 2019. In that time, I have worked as the ‘Scottish’ member of the Exec, coordinating our activities within the Scottish Lib Dems. I live in Edinburgh and work as a Chartered Architect.

fraser@fgraham.co.uk  @fgzstar

Here’s my plan for the LGBT+ Liberal Democrats:

Better representation in our devolved nations:
• Establish Scottish LGBT+ Lib Dems to work with the Scottish party and support our work in Scotland
• Support Welsh members if they wish to create a Welsh LGBT+ Lib Dems
• Bring a Constitutional Amendment to provide Scottish and Welsh Reps on the LGBT+ Executive

Streamlined Processes:
• Reform the format of our meetings to make them more accessible and transparent
• Have an online strategy conference before the end of 2020, incorporating the AGM
• Develop a social media strategy to allow us to better engage with other organisations

Improved Member Engagement:
• Improve our website to make it easier to join and keep track of our activities
• Provide regular email newsletters to keep you up to date on what we’re doing and how you can get involved
• Create a new policy working group of members to develop policies to present to conference

Greater Collaboration:
• Have more collaborative events to boost our profile and attract more members
• Work regularly with other SAOs on common areas of interest
• Collaborate more regularly with the party leadership and elected members.

Vote FRASER GRAHAM for Ordinary Member
BIOGRAPHY

My first experience of LGBT+ activism was during the California Prop 8 (2007) campaign and aftermath. Prop 8 sought to ban gay marriage in my adopted state, and was approved, by a narrow margin (52% / 48%). I was 19 years old.

Thirteen years later, few people would say that California is an unfriendly place to be for LGBT+ people, and gay marriage is fully legalized and broadly popular. What changed? Many things, but in summary, people from all sectors of society came together to fight for our rights.

Much of my activism since has been in working for migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. In that area, I've had the privilege of working with many LGBT+ voices and allies, such as Stop Funding Hate, Twilight People, and others.

Today, we’re fighting for protections for transgender and non-binary people, like myself, against a concerted and institutionalized campaign of disinformation and exclusion. We must find new ways to take up this challenge, and defend the rights which we have, with difficulty, earned so far.

I would love to bring my significant professional experience in publicity, outreach, and communication to the Plus executive. I believe I can leverage this to build the membership of Plus, fight against discrimination and hatred, and more effectively represent all LGBT+ people in the Lib Dems.

KEY EXPERIENCE

- I have been openly genderqueer since 2015. I joined the Lib Dems in 2016. Highlights involve being an agent for 57 candidates in LE2018 and Secretary of LDEA since 2019.

- I have worked in publicity and communications for many different organizations in the third sector, including designing websites, handling social media communications, networking, organizing events, etc.

- I was involved with Stop Funding Hate’s inaugural campaign in 2015-2016, which won the Jo Cox Memorial Award for Bravery and Heroism. Later, I helped inform their decision to work with Mermaids UK against transphobia in the media.

- My extensive work in migrants and refugees’ advocacy has frequently involved support for LGBT+ refugees.

- I was a US politics journalist from 2007-2010. I remain a US citizen, active in US politics, and have a number of connections there.

- I have strong relationships with the co-chairs of LGBTIQ+ Greens, who are currently fighting hard to foster and protect transgender and non-binary rights in their party.

EM DEAN
LGBT+ LIB DEMS EXECUTIVE (ORDINARY MEMBER)

WHAT I CAN BRING TO PLUS:

- Expertise from a strong academic grounding in philosophy and ethics
- Extensive experience of professional publicity and comms for equality and rights organizations
- Non-binary representation
- Networking opportunities with LGBT+ advocates across the country and the world
- I’m not on a hundred committees, and I’m not a politician!

CONTACT ME:
Please drop me a line!

E-mail: em4plus@protonmail.com
Twitter: twitter.com/edofmund

If you want or need to chat verbally, please let me know via e-mail or Twitter, and I can arrange this.

This is my first SAO election – if you like what you see, please tell others about me. Thank you!
Sam Cumber for Ordinary Committee Member

I am a hard working and organised person who will always get the job done well! I am up for any challenge. I will always stand up for LGBT+ members of the party!

My aims

- Promote LGBT+ Lib Dems (Plus) and the work that they do in supporting LGBT+ members and encourage them to join.
- Be a strong voice within Plus.
- Work with MPs and local councillors in supporting legislation to support the LGBT+ community.
- Work with external organisations to support LGBT+ people in the wider community.
- Ensure that the Liberal Democrats is a safe space for all LGBT+ members.
- Work with Plus in organising events such as Pride.
About Me

Hi, I’m Natasha (She/Her). I’m a bisexual woman and a Masters student at Nottingham Trent University, studying Endangered Species Recovery and Conservation. I’m currently working on my thesis, which is about the use of civets in international wildlife trade.

I believe that it is absolutely vital that our party has a well-functioning, responsive LGBT+ organisation that is able to advocate for queer members, keep our party’s leadership well-informed on issues affecting our community and isn’t afraid to speak truth to power. Now, more so than ever, considering the relentless attacks on our trans siblings from all sides and due to the way transphobia is being used as a weapon to go after LGBT+ rights as a whole.

I would like to be elected as an Ordinary Member in order to support the new Executive to be able to do all of those things.

My Experience

I’ve been a member of the Liberal Democrats for a decade, as well as a member of Plus

I have held a number of elected and unelected roles at different levels within and outside of the party, and have learned from things that worked well as well as the things that didn’t

I have been the Lib Dem Women Youth Rep, Lincoln SU Women’s Officer, Chair of Lincoln, Sleaford and North Hykeham Liberal Democrats, Social Liberal Forum Council member, Membership Development Officer for Lincoln, Sleaford and North Hykeham Lib Dems, and Policy working group member

I have campaigned extensively with the party since I joined at local, national and European elections, as well as on specific issues such as same-sex marriage, sex workers rights and reforming the GRA

In my time as a member I have successfully networked with many different sections of the party and I will bring that experience to Plus so as an organisation we can increase our ability to support both the members and champion liberal, LGBT+ policies

If Elected My Aims Are –

- I will support the new executive in pursuing aims that will protect our members, support LGBT+ electoral candidates and ensure that our voices are heard by the party leadership

- I will ensure that activities and decisions undertaken by the executive are transparent and clear to our members

- I will be accessible to members so that I can listen to their suggestions or concerns and pass these on to the executive
MY PRIORITIES FOR LGBT+ LD:

• Ensure we are championing and fighting for trans rights, both within the party and on a national platform.

• Push for greater representation of LGBT+ voices within the internal party structure and on party committees.

• Help Plus expand so we can become a more representative voice for everyone in our LGBT+ Lib Dem community. We need to be inclusive, accessible and champion the rights of everyone, throughout the party!
Jennie Rigg for Ordinary Member

About me

I am 42 and have been a member of the party (with one brief gap) since 2008. I am a bisexual polyamorous woman (she/her/hers) and I live in Yorkshire with some of my partners, my son, and my dogs.

I am very politically active and have a long track record of fighting for LGBT+ rights both inside and outside the Liberal Democrats.

I believe that LGBT+ Lib Dems needs a strong and active executive to campaign both within the party for better representation for LGBT+ people, and training in and recognition of our needs for all party members at all levels.

My experience

➔ Currently English party rep to FCC and English party candidate assessor
➔ Great contacts across political parties and the LGBT+ charity sector, including within Stonewall and THT, but also within the party hierarchy and federal structures.
➔ Previously chair of LGBT+ Lib Dems (2016 - 2019)
➔ Various other elected party offices including Chair and Press Officer of Calderdale local party, regional exec member, regional candidates committee member, and FCC member
➔ Have chaired federal and regional conference debates, chaired fringes and Q&A sessions, run training, and run selection and election campaigns at all levels of the party.

My priorities if elected

➔ Ensure Plus has a strong voice in the party, particularly the federal structures
➔ Use my contacts to ensure that liberal perspectives are represented in LGBT+ campaigning outside the party as well as to the party hierarchy.
➔ Continue to campaign for important LGBT+ matters such as:
   ◆ Bisexual inclusion in all LGBT+ matters;
   ◆ LGBT+ education in schools and beyond;
   ◆ Elimination of the remaining parts of the blood ban;
   ◆ Prep for all who need it;
   ◆ Proper equality for same sex marriages, including religious matters;
   ◆ Trans rights, including but not limited to defending trans access to same sex spaces, campaigning for the removal of the spousal veto, and defending the Equality Act.
➔ Be open, transparent, and accountable to the members of LGBT+ Lib Dems, and be easily contactable by members and represent their views to the exec.
Dear friends,

I was proud to stand as the party’s youngest LGBT+ candidate at the last General Election and hope to continue offering a platform for all young LGBT+ members within the party.

This election comes at an unprecedented time of radical change for both the country and the party, and I believe it will prove to be an ideal time to elect a new executive to take LGBT+ Liberal Democrats into both a new age for the party and the country, to ensure that our voice is a prominent one when it comes to standing up for the rights of all individuals who form the wide LGBT+ family.

The election will ultimately come down to a question of what the executive will do in relation to the SAO itself, the party and for the wider community across the country.

I’m pleased to be standing to be an ordinary member on the following platform and hope to earn your first preference vote.

Many Thanks,

George Rice

The Group

- Implement methods of virtual voting for issues usually decided at a physical AGM
- Monthly updates for members in the form of a newsletter
- Encourage internal policy submissions from members to be considered for submission by the SAO

The Party

- Open a dialogue with FCC with the aim of making toilets at physical Federal conferences gender neutral
- Devolve the responsibility of writing the LGBT+ section of future manifestos to the SAO
- Hold regular action days for LGBT+ candidates in marginal and development wards

The country

- Increase the SAO’s presence at Pride events across the country including Trans Pride and Black Pride
- Publish guidance for council groups about implementing LGBT+ inclusive policy within their local authorities
My name is Rachel-lee Mackenzie & I’m standing for Ordinary Member of the LGBT+ Lib Dems.

I believe that we can do more to:

- Inspire all of our LGBTQ+ members to get involved in our vision for the future of the LGBT+ Lib Dems & our party.

- Forge greater bonds within the LGBTQ+ community, work more closely with nonprofit organizations & independent community groups to show them that the Liberal Democrats have been the only party to consistently fight for LGBTQ+ rights & equality.

- Do more to support LGBTQ+ members to become candidates in all levels of government, & lead campaigns for LGBTQ+ rights within their communities.

- Further engage & support our MPs to fight to protect the LGBTQ+ community from discrimination both nationally & internationally.

- Hold more workshops & panels to educate our allies so that they're better equipped to fight alongside us, in their communities, workplaces & universities. As well as being a part of helping the LGBTQ+ community to achieve lasting governmental changes for the protections & equalities that we need to thrive.
Cass Macdonald has been a member of the Liberal Democrats for three years and is based in Scotland. They are standing for Ordinary Member.

Over the last two years they have been a member of Plus. As well as being queer and non-binary, they are disabled.

Cass currently works as a nurse and is a member of their trust’s LGBT network and is currently involved in trying to get a statement released supporting transgender patients, in the context of transphobia and GRA reform.

As Diversity Officer for their local party, Cass ensured Lib Dem attendance and activity at local LGBT events and engaged in networking.

Cass was part of facilitating the Scottish Lib Dem participation in the cross party LGBT statement during the last General Election. Cass was also part of a panel on the future of LGBT in health and social care at the last Federal Conference. Cass also raised non-binary and transgender issues as part of consideration for the party’s Abortion policy.

Cass’ key interests are diversity and intersectionality within politics, as well as equity and equality. If elected, Cass’ main aims are:

- To encourage and develop regional and national LGBT groups and associations and more independence
- To work to facilitate cross party cooperation, working with national and regional charities and groups for the LGBT communities
- To continue assisting with advocacy and awareness within the party, on social media and further as necessary, pledging to work with the rest of the Plus executive.