

The people at Wrongs Covert

Short Biographies

Kathy Harris (*Founder and Director*)

Katherine's woodland skills and interests stem from her maternal grandfather who taught her how to coppice and plant trees for harvest as a small child. A strong belief in education through nature led to her establishing a lodge for students on Lake Tanganyika in the East African Rift Valley 40 years ago. Family circumstances brought her back home to Norfolk, where she has worked on establishing Wrongs Covert Woodland Project for the past 15 years, bringing all she has experienced throughout her unconventional life to the project with a wealth of knowledge about the natural world and an astute insight into human behaviour.

Katayoun Dowlatshahi (*Director & Facilitator*)

Katayoun is a professional artist, printmaker and educator, with a specialism in public art. Her most recent commission was the design and delivery of a pollinator habitat trail for Alexandra Park in Chester. She is also trained as a Level 3 Forest School Practitioner, has lectured in both the university sector, EYFS and key stage 3. Katayoun also mentors emerging artists and runs photography workshops from her Silverwood Art Studio. She loves the challenges that new projects bring and since moving to rural Norfolk entered into a love affair with the natural world, learning all she can and developing new skills in weaving with natural materials and in becoming a natural beekeeper.

Martin Castle (*Director and Safeguarding Lead*)

Martin's career in education spans some 40 years, teaching in the age range 6-16. There have also been roles in leadership and management. Martin has always been keen to take teaching outside of the classroom and to encourage children and young people to engage in their surroundings, wherever that may be. As a frustrated carpenter he is interested in helping others to work with wood and be able use tools to make items to take away. Working to encourage confidence and build self-esteem is the aim of every activity Martin works on.

Arthur Piers (*Director and Facilitator*)

Arthur Piers is currently studying Environmental Science as a mature student at the University of East Anglia. Growing up for the most part between Africa and the UK meant moving schools and homes frequently. Often travelling as an unaccompanied minor from a young age across the world has nurtured his independent and confident spirit. He has had an interesting and varied life, drawing on a rich family heritage of many nationalities and is keen to share his knowledge of the natural world. He is an experienced fisherman and enjoys teaching young people the finer points of this pursuit, while listening and mentoring with understanding and kindness.

Susie Thomson (*Associate and Facilitator*)

Susie has worked extensively over the last 25 years with children and adults in a variety of settings using the medium of music. Having qualified as a Music Therapist, Susie spent time working in the voluntary sector and the NHS using music to enable people to communicate. She continued into education becoming a qualified Music Educator concentrating on creating programmes covering a rolling programme of art, drama, music and design technology. Susie also created a programme for key stage 2 children to explore their sense of self and to encourage them to feel good about themselves called 'This is Me!' She is currently employed, part time, as a Parent Support Advisor but continues to teach music in schools and peripatetically. Susie also runs a Community Choir in North Norfolk which she is passionate about! She is an avid gardener who loves being outside with her children and animals!

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Kally-Ann Davidson (*Associate and Facilitator*)

Kally is a curious explorer of nature's art, a professional artist and enthusiastic experimenter in the whole process of creating, from gathering raw materials, making tools to finished artwork. She loves to create site specific textile installations of nature's spirit and colour, using her own hand spun jumbo/art yarns, saori weaving or sculpturally freeformed crochet. Kally has a BA in Wood, Metal, Ceramics and Plastics, trained in puppet making and performance, loves to make her crochet come alive with stop frame animation and create stories about the pareidolia tree creatures she meets on walks. She facilitates with the Barrington Farm Artists, at Kinda forest school and runs workshops in freeform crochet and natural dyeing. Kally is experienced and passionate about facilitating people of all ages to find their uninhibited creative flow, she uses a calm, instinctive and organic, person-centred approach.

Jason Calaz AKA 'Twig' (*Associate and Facilitator*)

Jason works as part of a team reconstructing prehistoric experiences, <https://www.prehistoricexperiences.com/> Twig joined the Prehistoric experiences team in 2019, A recent convert to bushcraft, he has thrown himself into ancient skills, starting by making himself the vital equipment and clothing of a caveman, and starting the long journey to become a proficient flintknapper. He works in educational settings with children and young people of all ages.

Clare Goodman (*Associate and Facilitator*)

Clare is a ceramic artist living near Great Yarmouth. She has loved working with clay ever since she was at school and art college in the late 1980's. However, her career path led her to become an occupational therapist and she worked in health and social care for many years. In 2016, after years of making ceramics in her spare time, she stepped away from healthcare to concentrate on her artwork. In addition to her own ceramic practice, she facilitates workshops aiming to make ceramics accessible for children and adults, particularly those with disabilities or additional needs.

She is extremely interested in experimenting with different clays, glaze materials and firing techniques. In particular, she likes to dig raw clay sourced from the area where she lives. This is earthenware (low-firing) clay, and she has used this to make beads, pinch-pots and even thrown with it to make pots on the wheel. She sometimes fires this in her electric kiln or using more basic methods such as a sawdust kiln or pit firing.

She has a BA Hons in Art and Design, a postgraduate diploma in occupational therapy (Dip OT) and a MA in Design Research for Disability.