

‘FIFTY YEARS OF LANDSCAPE RESEARCH GROUP’: SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

LANDSCAPE RESEARCH GROUP HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS, 1967 TO 2017

The Group has always had a mechanism for recognising long and/or distinguished service by individuals by election of ‘Honorary Life Members’. The formal basis for electing them was set out in the Rules of the original association, and is now set out in Clause 9 (b) of the Articles of Association which states that:

A person shall be admitted to Honorary Life Membership of the Company if an Ordinary Resolution for his admission to membership has on the recommendation of the Board been put to the members of the Company in General Meeting and been approved by them.
(LRG Ltd, 1983a)

The Articles give no basis or criteria for election, giving complete discretion to the Board on the matter as in all other aspects of conducting the company’s business and affairs. After the setting up of the company the new Board resolved that the basis for any recommendations it might make to an AGM should be that the person proposed to be elected should have “*made a significant and sustained contribution to the work of the Group and/or the field of landscape research*”. In doing so, it deliberately decided not to specify more detailed criteria, because that might both unduly restrict future decisions by imposing constraints or guidance that might not stand the test of time and also unintentionally set an expectation that undertaking certain roles in the Group might ‘automatically’ lead to life membership (LRG Ltd, 1983b).

The AGM in 2012 asked the Board to consider whether the criteria for electing Honorary Life Members needed updating. The Board agreed that its originally agreed criteria were still appropriate subject to minor clarification. It recommended the AGM in 2013, and the AGM resolved, as follows:

The basis for proposing that an individual be elected as an Honorary Life Member of Landscape Research Group Ltd should be as follows: that the person proposed to be elected should have “made an outstanding and sustained contribution to the work of the Group and/or the field of landscape research”.
Any Director or Member wishing to propose an individual for election as an Honorary Life Member should do so by preparing a short written statement setting out clear reasons for the proposal, which should be submitted to the Administrator at least two weeks before the date of the Annual General Meeting to enable the Board at its immediately preceding meeting to consider whether it wishes to support the proposal and recommend it to the AGM.
(LRG, 2013a, 2013b)

There have been only eight Honorary Life Members in the fifty year history of the Group, as shown in Table 8. The three individuals who were elected such by the predecessor association were confirmed in that status by the first AGM after the founding of the company (in 1984). Since then, only five individuals have been given that status.

Table 8: Honorary Life Members of Landscape Research Group (LRG and LRG Ltd)

Honorary Life Member	Year	Summary of Basis for Election
<i>Alan Murray *</i>	<i>1977 (1984)</i>	<i>Founder Member, original Secretary and Treasurer of the Group 1967-75, and initial Editor of Landscape Research News (the newsletter that became the journal Landscape Research); elected by the predecessor body on his retirement – confirmed by the new company.</i>
<i>Leighton Irwin *</i>	<i>1982 (1984)</i>	<i>Founder Member and original Chairman of the Group 1967-73; elected by the predecessor body on his retirement – confirmed by the</i>

		<i>new company.</i>
<i>Ian Laurie *</i>	<i>1983 (1984)</i>	<i>Founder Member and Committee Member of the Group 1967-82; Editor of Landscape Research News 1973-76, and then Landscape Research 1976-79; elected by the predecessor body on his retirement – confirmed by the new company.</i>
<i>Prof. Jay Appleton *</i>	<i>1987</i>	<i>Significant service to the Group (as Executive Committee Member of the predecessor body since 1979 and Chair from 1981; Founder Member of the company/charity, Director/Trustee 1983-86, and Chair 1983-84; and secured the funding for the Nature-Experience Research Program 1984-87 and associated reports and publications). Distinguished contribution to landscape research including the seminal book ‘The Experience of Landscape’.</i>
<i>Prof. Jacquie Burgess</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>Significant service to the Group (as Director/Trustee 1990-2001, Vice-Chair 1991-93, and Chair 1993-98). Distinguished contribution to inter-disciplinary landscape research, especially those aspects of cultural geography relevant to planning and environmental policy-making; the importance of sense of place and contact with nature in people’s everyday lives; and challenging the use of monetised cost-benefit analyses to account for environmental values.</i>
<i>Bud Young</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>Distinguished long (30 years) service to the Group (as Executive Committee Member of the predecessor body since 1979, then Director/Trustee since 1983; and Editor of Landscape Research Extra since 1988).</i>
<i>Dr Steven Shuttleworth</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>Significant and distinguished long (over 30 years) service to the Group (as Executive Committee Member of the predecessor body since 1979; Founder Member of the company/charity and Director/Trustee since 1983 who led the transition to company/charity status; Treasurer since 1980; and Company Secretary since 1999).</i>
<i>Prof. Peter Howard</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>Distinguished long (30 years) service to the Group (as Director from 1984-2012, Editor of Landscape Research 1986-93, Vice-Chair 1993-99 and 2002-05, and International Officer from 2005-12; an active contribution to the Board’s work, in the demanding roles of Editor and International Officer in which he made significant achievements, but more generally in helping to formulate strategy and key initiatives that enabled the Group to develop from its early UK-based focus to a body with a well-regarded international reputation. Distinguished contribution to inter-disciplinary landscape research, especially expanding interest in and understanding of the cultural aspects of landscape perception, in particular in relation to art and design and to landscape and heritage. In that role, he has authored or edited (individually or jointly with others) several books which have become influential in the field, such as ‘Heritage Management Interpretation’, ‘The Artists ‘ Vision (History of the British Landscape)’ and ‘Companion to Landscape Studies’. Furthermore, he is a founder-editor of the ‘International Journal of Heritage Studies’, now established as a leading journal in that field.</i>

Those shown in italics with an asterisk have since died.

References

Landscape Research Group Ltd. (1983a) *Memorandum and Articles of Association.*

Landscape Research Group Ltd. (1983b). *Minutes of Board Meeting No. 2 (17 July 1983), Minute 18(iii) 'LRG Membership: Honorary Life Members'*.

Landscape Research Group Ltd. (2013a). *Minutes of Board Meeting No. 68 (23 May 2013), Minute 950(iv) 'Criteria for Honorary Life Membership', and supporting report.*

Landscape Research Group Ltd. (2013b). *Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2013 (23 May 2013), Minutes 27-28 'Election of Honorary Life Members'*.