



EMPOWERING ALL TO BE HAPPY, HEALTHY AND SAFE

**Celebrating 40 Years**

# Please Welcome



**Andy Kershaw**

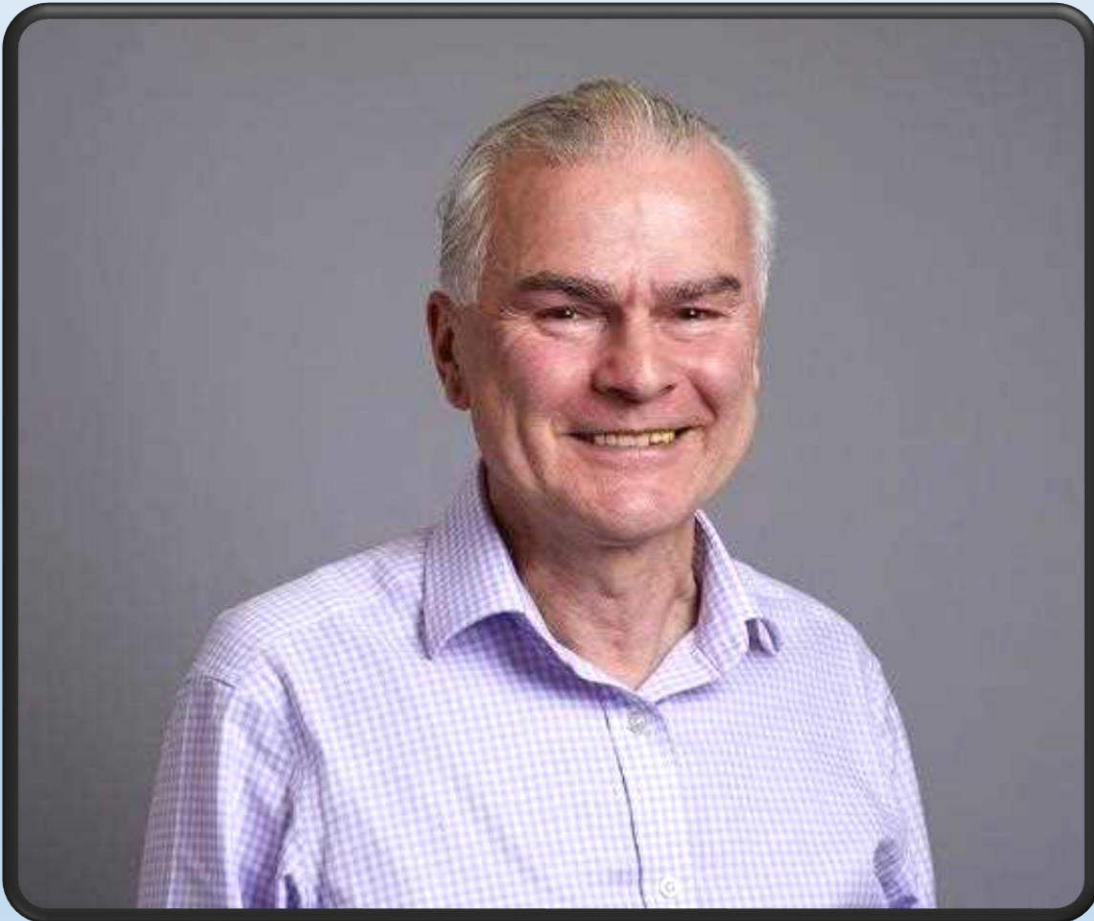
**Rachael Wilson**

**CEO Rush House Ltd**



# **Tony Stacey OBE**

**CEO of South Yorkshire Housing Association**



**CEO at South Yorkshire Housing Association since 1996 and has more than 30 years' experience as Chief Executive of two Housing Associations, South Yorkshire Housing Association and Hexagon.**

**During his time at South Yorkshire Housing Association, we have won a string of National Awards, including Most Innovative Social Housing Organisation and Best Provider of Care and Supported Housing.**

**He was awarded an OBE for services to social housing in 2017.**

# **Lisa Rachieru**

**Senior Manager**



**Lisa started her career at Rush in October 2003 firstly as a volunteer before later becoming a Project worker. In 2016 Lisa became the senior manager at Rush with responsibility for all accommodation and support services.**

# **Steve Harris**

**Deputy Manager**



**Steve came to Rush in February 2014 as a Key worker after a long career in social housing & DWP working with some of the most vulnerable people in Rotherham. In 2016 Steve became the Deputy manager for accommodation services.**

# **Michelle Corker**

**EET Manager**



**Michelle started at Rush in 2012 as a project worker in our Education, Training and Employment service. Michelle had previously worked at SOVA supporting ex-offenders to get back in to EET. Michelle is now our EET manager.**



## **Dr Joanne Thompson**

**Phd, PGCert MedEd,  
HE Dipl Couns, MSc,  
BA (Hons)**

**Senior University Teacher, Senate Fellow for Collaborative Activities, Co-Director of Studies (Phase 2a/b) Lead Student Selected Components (SSC)**

**Known since 2018 when we were approached by someone from the Medical School of The University of Sheffield at an event to consider the possibility of offering placements to their 3<sup>rd</sup> year medical students for their Social Accountability Programme. Dr Joanne followed up this initial connection and we successfully hosted students in 2018, 2019 and 2020.**



## **Rebecca Nock**

**Medical Student**

**Rebecca was one of 2 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year Med students placed with Rush in 2019 as part of their Social Accountability Programme. Alongside her fellow student (Flora) they produced a resource for Rush House service users entitled “Your Health Matters” which was an A to Z booklet of common, presenting health issues and appropriate information, advice and guidance as to how to manage those ailments. Rebecca states that her time at Rush has given her an interest in adolescent and young adult healthcare and that she applies her learning from her placement every day.**

## Keenan Freer

Now 22 years old – came to Rush in January 2016 after presenting as homeless.

Always into fitness, he now holds world records for his power lifting competitions for his age and weight and has built his way up to co-owning his own Gym (PowerXfitness) in Swinton and is in the process of applying to be a member of Rush House Board of Trustees.



## John-Luke Stephens-Platts

Moved to Rush supported accommodation Feb 2014 aged 20 and shortly after into private rented accommodation in 2015.

Luke re-engaged with Rush several years later accessing support with housing and benefits. Having stayed in contact since, Luke now works for Mansfield recovery, working for the Police completing vehicle recovery work.



## Amanda Haynes

A former Rush House tenant circa 2004 when she was 19 years old.

Amanda is currently a Health Care Assistant at Rotherham Hospital Urgent & Emergency Care Centre a post she has held for 7 years. She will be enrolling on her Nursing degree course in September 2022 and says *“The day I graduate I will be knocking on Rush House door in my cap and gown saying “I DID IT”.*



## Melanie Bryan

Now 36, Mel came to Rush when she was 17 after escaping an abusive family situation that she’d endured. At 18 she moved into her own home after securing a mortgage.

Today she is still free of the situation she ran from and is a qualified counsellor working with vulnerable children within the education system. *“I simply would not be here if it wasn't for Rush, I will be forever grateful to the staff that took such good care of me in those times of my life!”*



# Previous Employees

## Tracy Gollins

**Chief Executive of YWCA Yorkshire**



**First started work at Rush in 1989 as a Project Worker, After 2 years successfully applied for and became the Deputy Manager.**

**After a few months in post Jim Stevens, the then CEO put his trust in my abilities and gave me a service to manage independently (this was what was then called the outreach scheme)**

**Having gained the skills and confidence to manage a service, I didn't hesitate to apply when an opportunity to manage a new service in Sheffield arose. The role was to develop and manage a project for homeless young women in Sheffield in a building that was not yet renovated. This role was with Sheffield YWCA and is where I have been ever since.**

## Tracy Jackson

**Deputy CEO Roundabout**



**A Student placement at Rush in 1994, then signed up to do relief work around 1995/1996 when a permanent position came along as Life skills and independent.**

**After many years at Rush I then went to work for Shelter and started my journey into management and then went on to be Deputy CEO at Roundabout which I have been doing now for almost 14 years.**

**I would not be where I am today in my career without my time at Rush House and in particular without seeing first-hand how quality services for young people are ran.**

## Jamie Prescott

**Deputy CEO Target Housing**



**Started work at Rush in the capacity of support worker in 2003. I left in 2009 and can say in all honesty I have never had a job that I look back on so favourably with so many positive memories.**

**When I left in 2009 I went to Target Housing, taking on the role of Housing Support Officer, after 6 months I became service manager for one of the busier and more challenging projects within Target before becoming as I am now the Deputy CEO.**





# Julie Dalton

Managing Director – Gullivers World



**First became connected in 2021 when Rachael Wilson (CEO) and Lisa Rachieru (Manager) attended an event at Gulliver's Valley Resort organised by Barnsley and Rotherham Chamber of Commerce. We have since collaborated with Gulliver's to host a charity stall at one of their Christmas themed days and are now looking at future collaborations around their million pound Skills City project where we hope that our Brighter Futures service will take an active part in inspiring Rotherham to increase aspirations and start planning for EET from a young age.**

## **Billy Squires**



**Now Aged 20– Resided with Rush from November 2020 to June 2021 then moved into dispersed accommodation before gaining his own local authority accommodation. Billy remained in contact under our EET service and has found work as a chef, fast food worker and now as a security guard. He is also expecting a baby with his partner in the coming weeks.**

## **Aaron Joy**



**Now aged 22. Resided with Rush from Aug 2020 to Sept 2021 then left to go to Sheffield Hallam University to complete degree in Computer Gaming design and is currently in 2<sup>nd</sup> year of studying**

## **Gino Moyo**



**Now aged 20. Resident with Rush from Jan 2020 to Sept 2021 then left to go to Sheffield Hallam university to complete degree in Sports Science and is now in 2<sup>nd</sup> year of studying**

# Board Members

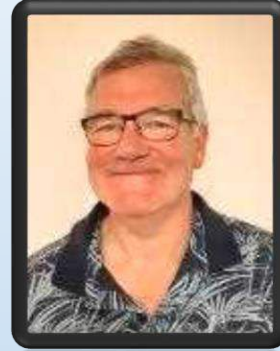
## Nick Knowles

Chairman of the Board



**I work with vulnerable people who may be struggling with autism, learning disabilities, self-harm or mental health. I have also been involved in creating a South Yorkshire wide Autism Alert Card as well as promoting an understanding of vulnerability in public services. I became a trustee with Rush House as I wanted to do my part in ensuring all young people, no matter how disadvantaged, are given the opportunity for a brighter future.**

## David Homer

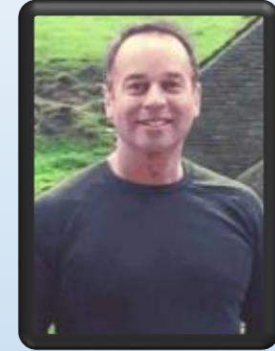


**My working life was mainly in teaching across the age and ability ranges in a number of subjects - mainly Humanities. Youth Work, Teacher Training and Special Education Needs were my vocation along with a continuous enthusiasm for the Performing Arts.**

**When I was told many years ago by an ex- student that I might be able to help the Directors at RUSH I was honoured. I knew about the fantastic work that they had continued to do.**

**I am keen to be a part of the RUSH family as we make more positive contributions to young people's lives right across Yorkshire**

## Alan Heppenstall



**I am proud to work with an amazing team at RUSH. Like many, there were several years that I didn't have anyone to encourage; support or to simply tell me that I everything would be ok; always feeling that I should be at the end of the queue along with all the other 'not quite rights. This drives me and my close friends to try and be the people we needed when we were young. I'm involved with RUSH because I believe that getting the balance of stable housing, life guidance and emotional encouragement right, will help and encourage those young people who are trying to change how their story ends.**

# **Joada Allen**

**President of the Barnsley and Rotherham Chamber of Commerce**



**Rush first met Joada at the BR Chamber Women in Business Afternoon Tea in Oct 2021. Around this time Rush had put themselves forward for the BR Chamber Charity of the Year.**

**In December 2021 at the Chamber Business Awards we were awarded a Highly Commended Award from Joada and CEO Andrew Denniff.**

**Joada is the owner and Director of Visualised it Video Production and Animation.**