

**THE CHARLES CAUSLEY TRUST – THREE TRUSTEE VACANCIES**

1. The Charles Causley Trust has volunteer role opportunities for individuals who wish to make a board level contribution, helping to shape our development at an important time for our organisation. We are looking to appoint three Trustees, including a Chairperson and a Secretary.

We are looking for individuals who are passionate about poetry and literature, community arts and development, and providing creative opportunities for children and young people. We’re also looking for individuals who can bring diverse perspectives to our Board. We are particularly seeking candidates with experience in the following areas:

* Arts and Heritage Sector Finance and Funding;
* Charity Development and Philanthropic Giving;
* Governance and Leadership;
* Community Engagement and Development.

**Vacancy:** Trustee x 3

**Roles:** Chairperson, Secretary, Board Member

**Duration:** 1 term to 2 terms (3 to 6 years)

**Salary:** Voluntary and unremunerated (reasonable expenses are reimbursed)

**Application:** Please submit a CV (or overview of relevant experience) and covering letter explaining your interest in the role and the skills and experience that you could bring to our Chair, David Devanny (email address below).

**Deadline:** 17th March by 5pm

**Interviews:** Week commencing 31st March

**Who are we?**

The Causley Trust is an arts and literary charity based in Launceston, Cornwall, the hometown of poet Charles Causley (1917-2003). Through workshops, residencies, competitions and events, we connect individuals with Charles Causley’s work and legacy, as a springboard for inspiring new generations of writers and artists. Cyprus Well, Charles Causley’s final home, is owned by the Trust and has become a hub for creativity, hosting writers in residence every year and facilitating events and cultural stays. In addition, we support skills development for community members and university students through an internship programme and volunteering programme.

We work with artists, novelists, filmmakers, researchers, broadcast journalists and other practitioners to ensure Charles’ legacy makes a practical difference in people’s lives. We currently operate a cultural venue and Causley bookshop in the historic Merchant House on Launceston’s High Street, providing a much-needed space in the town for literature-related activity. In May 2025, we are launching the Launceston Poetry Festival, the new version of a long-running series of such festivals in and around the town.

As well as an internationally-regarded poet for much of his life, Charles remained a primary school teacher until retirement. As part of his legacy, we continue to support children and young people’s education and access to the arts, whatever their social background.

**What do we do?**

We believe that, no matter their background. everybody should have access to the arts. The Charles Causley Trust supports access to poetry, literature and the arts (particularly in the South West), and builds on Charles’ legacy as a platform for social good in many ways.

* We celebrate the social legacy, poetic and literary works of Charles Causley in Cornwall and internationally. We use this legacy and the arts in general as tools for social good.
* We offer workshops and residencies for emerging writers and artists.
* We inspire children to engage in the arts, and provide access to literature through competitions, cultural events and engagement with schools.
* We support university students and local community members, through internships and volunteering opportunities.
* We run an international poetry festival and competition.
* We run a shop on Launceston High Street, selling books by and about Charles Causley and other second-hand books.
* We offer access to literary and cultural provision to communities in Launceston and North Cornwall. We are uniquely connected to Charles’ life and work through the ownership of his final home, Cyprus Well, and our central location in Launceston.

**Role Description and Responsibilities**

The Trustee role requires a commitment to attend quarterly Board meetings, which take place four times a year in a combination of online meetings and meetings in Cornwall. Trustees are also expected to join one or more of our sub-committees (online or hybrid). Trustees serve a term of 3 years, with the possibility of reappointment for a second term.

**Main Responsibilities:**

* Provide strategic guidance and oversight to CCT’s activities;
* Ensure the financial health and sustainability of the Trust;
* Maintain an oversight of the work of the Trust’s sub-committees;
* Ensure that the charity complies with its governing document and all relevant charity

and company legislation;

* Scrutinise board papers, engage in discussions and provide advice and guidance;
* Advocate for and represent CCT in the community and beyond;
* Collaborate with fellow Trustees and the staff team to fulfil our vision and mission.

**Key Skills**

* Act with integrity and honesty, in line with charity values;
* The ability to work collaboratively with other Trustees and staff;
* Communicate and engage actively in discussions;
* Ability to advocate for the Trust. and to build and sustain partnerships and networks

which support our mission;

* Willingness to undertake training and development to support the role;
* Bring unique perspectives or experiences that align with our mission.

**Eligibility**

Candidates must not be disqualified from acting as Trustees, as described in sections 178 to 180 of the Charities Act 2011. For more information about the role of Trustees, please see the Charity Commission Guidance.

**If you are interested these roles, please submit a CV (or overview of relevant experience) and covering letter to David Devanny, Chair of the Charles Causley Trust, at** [**chair@causleytrust.org.uk**](mailto:chair@causleytrust.org.uk). **Closing date for applications is 5pm on 17th March 2025.**

**Please also contact David if you would like to arrange an informal discussion about the role.**