

PRESS RELEASE

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New Chair Appointed at the Circadian Trust

Ross Parker has been appointed Chair of the Circadian Trust, the not-for-profit organisation that operates five leisure centre sites and one dual-use sports centre across South Gloucestershire in partnership with the local authority.

Ross is a senior economist for Bristol-based Imperial brands, with a specialism in regulatory policy. Prior to this he served in various UK government departments, advising on financial services regulation. Ross also chairs the tax policy group of the International Chamber of Commerce.

Previous roles have seen Ross serve on Sir John Vickers' Independent Commission on Banking and support Professor John Kay on his review of UK equity markets. He has also advised foreign governments from Nigeria to Kyrgyzstan.

Since joining the Trust in 2014, Ross has served on the Redevelopment sub-committee overseeing the expansion plans for the Active Centres at Bradley Stoke and Longwell Green. He has also chaired the Audit & Finance sub-committee. Across his wide-ranging role with the Trust, one of Ross's favourite moments to date has been presenting the annual Chairman's Award to staff who have gone above and beyond in delivering for our customers.

A keen runner and skier, Ross lives in North Somerset's Chew Valley with his wife and two young children, where he serves as a primary school governor. He is a keen advocate of fitness and of being outdoors, leading campaigns for greater pedestrian access to the area's many beauty spots and to the maintenance of public footpaths. His daughter began learning to swim at Active Longwell Green, and his whole family are enthusiastic participants in local Parkrun events.

Ross said: "I have seen the Trust make significant strides over the past three years inspiring a range of clients to adopt a healthy lifestyle, not just through sport and activity but through a total lifestyle approach to their wellbeing. This strategy will continue to be a focus for the Board going forward.

"I am particularly proud of our achievements with harder to reach communities through initiatives such as the Dementia Café and helping people rehabilitate after significant illness."

Ross takes over from Jon Edwards, who has stepped down after 12 years in the role.

Trustee Patrick van Beek, head of ALM, UK Life Finance at Aviva, takes over the role of Vice Chair from Ross.

The Circadian Trust operates centres in Yate, Bradley Stoke, Longwell Green, Kingswood, Downend and Thornbury.

Photo caption: New Chair of the Circadian Trust, Ross Parker (right) presenting the Chairman's Special award to Luke Newman.

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Notes to editor:

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About Circadian Trust

- Circadian Trust operates five leisure centre sites and two dual-use sports centres across South Gloucestershire in Bradley Stoke, Downend, Kingswood, Longwell Green, Patchway, Thornbury and Yate and is a company and charity. Working in partnership with South Gloucestershire Council, the community strategy and overall shared philosophy is to contribute to the improved health, cultural and social wellbeing of the local community improving quality of life.
- Working in partnership with South Gloucestershire Council, any profit made by the Trust is reinvested to improve facilities, equipment and services for its customers.
- For more information, visit: www.circadiantrust.org