

GILLIAN YARROW

Gillian Yarrow was born in 1950 and spent much of her childhood in the Far East – Sri Lanka, Hong Kong and Singapore. She attended boarding school in the UK from the age of nine and went on to Cardiff University, from where she graduated with a 2.1 Honours degree in History.

Having completed her PGCE at King's College, London, Gillian took up teaching in London. She ultimately became Head of the History Department at Lady Edridge School in Thornton Heath and Deputy Head of Sixth Form.

In 1982 Gillian left teaching in order to raise her two sons, one of whom has epilepsy and learning difficulties and needed a lot of support. However, her interest in education was sustained by her involvement as a School Governor at the local comprehensive, Southfields Community College, when she took on the role of Chair of the Exclusions Committee. She was also involved in a private preparatory school, Finton House in Wandsworth, attended by her special needs son. She became the Special Needs Governor in 1991 and went on to Chair the Board of Governors from 1993 to 1999.

Since 2000, Gillian has worked voluntarily for Mencap on a Special Events Committee, organising fund-raising events. She currently chairs that committee. These events have raised substantial sums for Mencap and have included balls at the Dorchester Hotel and the Hurlingham Club, literary luncheons, fashion shows and an annual carol service at St Bartholomew's in the City.

Gillian is a steadfast supporter of her husband, Alan Yarrow, as he seeks election to the Mayoralty in the City of London and is herself on the Court of the Feltmakers Livery.

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