



I am Rachel, one of Othona's new Trustees.

I visited Othona West Dorset for the first time with my family in 2008, and have maintained a regular connection to the community since then, attending a range of fantastic events over the years. A particular highlight was being part of the old art room demolition team during a gloriously sunny week in July 2019 – and then returning to see the opening of the beautiful Four Seasons Studio nearly two years later! Othona is for me – as for many – a very special place and I am thrilled to be able to support the community by joining the team as a Trustee.

I am currently working as a policy civil servant at the Ministry of Justice, a job that has particular challenges at the moment but which nonetheless provides much to enjoy. Prior to that I worked as a software analyst, before

spending 6 months on a career break studying Mandarin Chinese in Taiwan. Outside of work I enjoy 'making things': previous enterprises have included clothing and furniture; more recently I have taken up etching again (which I love – although I am starting to realise there are only so many prints of owls that a person really needs...).

I live in north east London with my partner, but also enjoy getting out of the city to greener lands. Particular favourites include the Scottish highlands, Shropshire where my parents live, and of course the Dorset coast.

I'm looking forward to getting to grips with the Trustee role and hopefully meeting many more of you in person in due course.