



Williamson Trust

Healthy Planet, Healthy People

David E Salt, PhD, FRSE Chair and Trustee



David has been a Trustee of the Williamson Trust since 2016, and became chair of the Trustee's in 2020.

David is a lifelong lover of nature and the natural world.

Professionally, this led him to become a plant biologist, studying how plants take up nutrients from the soil. David is now a Professor Emeritus with over 35 years experience as a world leading science communicator and research scientist, working in both the US and UK. He is an elected fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (FRSE).

David has held several leadership roles at universities, including Director of various centres and institutes at Purdue University in the US, and the University of Aberdeen and the University of Nottingham in the UK.

David has also performed research on cocoa, working with growers and chocolate makers around the world. He is now a co-founder and chief

science advisor at NuKoKo, a startup company creating a non-cocoa based sustainable chocolate alternative.

David is a dedicated potter, working at his studio SaltMud Pottery, where he explores the use of natural iron pigments and wood ash in the glazes for his hand thrown pots. Pottery directly connects David's appreciation of form and colour with the earth, and what grows from it. Linking both his creative and professional worlds.

David is a lifelong gardener, every year growing fresh fruit and vegetables to cook and feed his family. This desire to grow food is driven by his need to connect with nature, and to live healthily and sustainably.

He is also an avid runner, which provides a space for solitary contemplation, mental and physical challenge, and a great all-body workout.

