

The NI Assembly - Relationships with other UK Assemblies

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Speakers' Pen Portraits

Brigid Hadfield is a Professor of Public Law at the School of Law, The Queen's University of Belfast. She has a large number of books and articles published in the fields of Constitutional Law and Administrative Law.

Simon James works in the Constitution Office of the Cabinet Office with responsibility for Policy on devolution, referendums and the establishment of the British-Irish Council.

Richard Cornes BA.LLB (Hons) Auck is a New Zealand public lawyer currently working as a Senior Research Fellow at the Constitution Unit, School of Public Policy, University College London. His Primary Research interest is intergovernmental relations, both domestic and international.

Robert Hazell is the Director of the Constitution Unit and Professor of Government and the Constitution in the School of Public Policy, University College London. Originally a barrister, he spent most of his working life at the Home Office. He left Whitehall to become Director of the Nuffield Foundation and founded the Constitution Unit in 1995.

Martin Evans is the head of the Devolution Unit at the Welsh Office. Born in Swansea and brought up in Cardiff he joined the Civil Service in London in 1973, serving in the Department of the Environment and the Department of Transport. In 1985 he joined the Welsh Office where he was responsible for the Schools Division and then, from 1990, Urban and Rural Development.

John Osmond is Director of the Institute of Welsh Affairs, a policy think tank based in Cardiff. He is an author, a former political journalist and television producer. He has written widely on Welsh politics and devolution. His latest book is *Welsh Europeans* (Seren, 1996). He has published this month a pamphlet with the Fabian Society *Reforming the Lords and Changing Britain*, which argues the case for making the House of Lords a "regional" chamber, representing the nations and regions of the United Kingdom.

BIOGRAPHY

MARTIN SIME

Martin Sime is the Director of the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations, the umbrella body for the voluntary sector in Scotland. SCVO represents the views of its members to Government and seeks to promote the interests and improve the effectiveness of the voluntary sector. SCVO has over 900 members.

Until 1991 he was Director of the Scottish Association for Mental Health, the main campaigning and community care providing organisation for people who have mental health problems. Prior to joining the voluntary sector, Martin was a sheep farmer on the Isle of Lewis.

Martin is a member of the Scottish Advisory Task Force on New Deal and has also joined the Expert Panel on procedures looking at how the Scottish Parliament will work. In addition, he is Secretary of the Scottish Civic Assembly.

Who's Who in Scotland 1995

Sime, Martin, MA. Director, Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations, since 1991; b.23.9.53, Edinburgh. Educ. George Heriot's; St Andrews University; Edinburgh University. Social and Economic History Researcher, 1976-78; Sheep Farmer, 1978-81; Freelance Researcher, 1982; Project Manager, Sprout Market Garden, 1985-91; Secretary, Scottish Civic Assembly. Recreations: cinema; food; bridge. Address: (b.) 18/19 Claremont Crescent, Edinburgh, EH7 4QD; Tel - 0131 556 3882

IAN WALFORD - THE SCOTTISH OFFICE

Ian Walford is the Head of the Functions and Whitehall Negotiations Division of the Scottish Office Constitution Group. The Division has played a major role in the preparation of the Scotland Bill, particularly in defining the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament and the powers and functions of Scottish Ministers, and in preparing for other aspects of devolution.

Ian joined the Civil Service in August 1987 having obtained a BA and MA in International History at Leeds University. He worked initially for the Department of Education and Science (as it was then) in Whitehall. He filled a number of different posts during his six years there, including a spell as a private secretary to a Minister, before transferring to the Scottish Office in October 1993. He spent 3.5 years working in the Higher Education Division of the Scottish Office before moving to the Constitution Group in May 1997.