



### **Mark Stephen, Journalist & Broadcaster, BBC Scotland**

Mark Stephen is one of Scotland's best-known radio broadcasters. He studied at The Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and Glasgow University. After a year spent as a commercial producer in local radio, he joined the BBC where he has spent over 20 years on their staff in a wide range of jobs - floor manager, researcher, trails director, newsreader, senior announcer, instructor, producer, and presenter.

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### **Rhona MacLennan, Principal Solutions Architect, TORCH @ The Data Lab**

Rhona MacLennan is the Principal Solutions Architect for the Data Lab's Torch Advisory Service. Rhona is an experienced enterprise architect with in-depth expertise in all aspects of Information Strategy, Architecture, and Governance.

Prior to joining The Data Lab, she worked in the Oil & Gas, Financial Services, Technology, and FMCG sectors initiating data journeys, shaping and delivering enterprise solutions, and developing in-house data capabilities.

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### **Derek Smith, Head of Digital Engineering, Virgin Money**

Derek is the Head of Digital Engineering at Virgin Money, where he leads teams that develop and enhance digital products across all Customer and Colleague web and mobile channels.

Derek has had a varied career across Financial Services, leading teams in Product, Sales & Engineering and is passionate about how we adopt, embed and iterate modern agile, design & engineering practices to develop better Customers focussed digital products through empowered and motivated teams.



### **Graham Johnston, Senior Director of Omnichannel and Transformation, Asda**

Graham Johnston is the Senior Director for Omnichannel Customer support & Transformation at ASDA and formally headed up Omnichannel Transformation for Three UK. For the past 10 years, Graham has led large-scale transformations in customer interactions, focussed on innovation to bridge the gap between physical and digital. Graham also hosts his own podcast series 'Think Omnichannel' where he speaks to fellow Omnichannel experts about the use of digital innovation to create better customer experiences.



### **Rich Wilson, CEO, Gigged.AI**

Rich is Founder and CEO of Gigged.AI, a Talent Platform powered by AI. Rich is a former executive at Gartner and also part of The Data Lab's Skills Advisory Board.



### **Pooja Jain, Co-Founder and CEO, CogniHealth**

Pooja Jain is the Co-Founder and CEO of CogniHealth. She is interested in the role and use of digital technology in health and social care, with the viewpoint of "it's not about the technology but people and their mindset".

Pooja started her journey focusing on the dementia care sector. She worked as a professional carer and sees that it is possible to live well with dementia. She co-founded CogniHealth, a Scottish health-tech start-up, that aims to improve the quality of life of affected families. Her work so far at CogniHealth has led her to be named the Top 20 women to watch out for in Scotland in 2018 by Business Insider. Pooja is a former RSE Unlocking Ambition Enterprise Fellow and won the AcceleraterHer Award hosted by Investing Women.

She hopes to transform the lives of people affected by dementia and help improve cognitive health around the world.



### **Gary Haldane, Head of ICT, Kingdom Housing Association**

Gary joined Kingdom in 1993, as a Finance Officer and progressed to IT several years later. Gary gained a Master's Degree in ICT Strategic Leadership in 2015, at Napier University, and is now Digital Director at Kingdom. The role has strategic responsibility and overall operational management of the Digital Service. Gary is an early adapter of technology and leads Kingdom's digital transformation journey.



### **Nick Condon, Managing Director, Squiz**

Nick Condon is the Managing Director - EMEA at Squiz based in United Kingdom. I'm a strategy focused, leader with a reputation for driving high-performing teams to deliver innovative, engaging solutions. I'm passionate about change, and obsessed with the customer. As a commercially minded executive who isn't satisfied with the status quo - I love to solve problems in new ways! My experience in technology, marketing and general management over 20 years gives me a unique offering perfect for digital transformation.



### **Alan Lees, Scotland Director, BT**

Alan Lees, who has held several senior sales related roles at BT, has been appointed as the new director of its Enterprise business in Scotland.

The Glasgow-born executive started his career at BT in 2001 and has worked in a variety of roles during nearly twenty years with the firm. Alan will lead its Enterprise business' relationships with large business and public sector customers across Scotland.

Alan has started his new role during a particularly challenging time for Scotland, and the entire UK, due to Coronavirus.



### **Simon Haston, CIO Regions & Devolved Government, BT**

A graduate of the University of London, Haston has more than 15 years' experience in change and transformation programmes, particularly in digital and IT solutions. Previous roles with Scotland Excel, The Improvement Service and the City of Edinburgh Council saw him lead "complex, multi-agency digital change programmes across the public sector". He brings an incisive, visionary and creative approach to how BT can help the public sector deal with digital change and use technology most effectively."



### **Julie Snell, Chair, The Scotland 5G Centre**

Named in 2019 as one of the UK's top smart city leaders, Julie is a successful leader of establishing / delivering strategic and transformational change in multiple business disciplines & sectors. Experienced across Central, Local Government, Health Care, Corporate, Academia & SME. Chair of The Scotland 5G Centre, (a Scottish Government funded organisation which has been set up to accelerate the adoption of 5G and realise its economic and societal potential for Scotland), The Scotland 5G Centre aims to collaborate with businesses, academia and the public sector across Scotland, the UK and internationally to realise the benefits of 5G.



### **Patrick Grillo, Sr Director Solutions Marketing, Fortinet**

As Senior Director, Security Strategy, Patrick is responsible for creating and evangelizing key messages about Fortinet's cyber security solutions. Through his in-depth understanding of the complexities surrounding the subject, Patrick is able to cut through the half-truths and myths to provide clear and concise information to Fortinet's customers and partners.

Prior to joining Fortinet, he has worked for a number of small to medium size organizations as well as larger companies such as Wellfleet Communications, Bay Networks, Nortel Networks, Hughes Network Systems and Comtech Mobile Data Communications in the United States, the United Kingdom and France, holding a range of senior level international sales and marketing roles. Patrick is based at Fortinet's EMEA office in Sophia Antipolis, France.

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### **Justin Short, Co-Founder & COO, Synergi**

Justin has spent over 20 years working in technology, with the last 10 years specialising in cloud adoption, digital transformation, and process automation. At Synergi he has led the digital transformation projects with Princes Foods, Northumbrian Water and Scottish Fire & Rescue amongst others. He's worked with clients across multiple sectors from finance and manufacturing, to retail and transport. In addition, Justin represents our partner Nintex as a vTE (technical evangelist), delivering keynote speeches and presentations across the UK. When not travelling around the UK, Justin's passions are music and motorcycling - not always at the same time!





### **Inez Hogarth, Managing Director, Data Understood**



Inez is a motivated data strategist with over ten years' experience delivering results in the fields of information technology, health and service industries. With a deep understanding and application of data science, she utilises her skills in statistics, programming, and storytelling to lead others to embrace data influenced decision making. She communicates complex concepts in easy to understand ways and has a proven record of improving business performance through better understanding of customers, automation, and optimisation.

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### **Alan Somerville, Chief Sustainability Officer, arbnco**



Alan is highly experienced at board level and a leader in ESG, responsible investment & sustainable finance. He is expert in the development of ESG & stewardship strategies and engagement propositions based on a deep understanding of client needs, external factors and commercial drivers.

He joins arbnco with global experience across UK, European, US, Chinese & ASEAN markets with significant and in-depth experience of structuring & completing complex analysis and evidence to inform decision making and secure support for business and investment cases.

Experienced in influencing, challenging & developing businesses in the advisory, construction, ESG, sustainability, benchmarking & PropTech sectors across private, public and 3rd sector organisations. Alan is a recognised thought leader & regular contributor to media, conferences & industry leadership groups.

Alan has been advising clients for the last 10 years on effective strategies, solutions and insight. He is also an active & enthusiastic participant in industry groups & policy making forums, helping to shape market direction and contribute positively to regulatory change.



## **Dr Sonali Mohapatra, Space Applications Lead, Craft Prospect**

Dr Sonali Mohapatra is the Space Applications Lead at Craft Prospect. With a PhD in Particle Physics and Quantum Gravity with an interdisciplinary background in quantum, optics and AI, Sonali works across the AI and Quantum verticals at Craft Prospect, identifying innovative quantum and AI solutions for space, bridging the gap between innovation and commercialisation. She is part of the upcoming mission ROKS – which will be the first-ever mission in the world to demonstrate AI powered Satellite to Earth Quantum Key Distribution for future cybersecurity using a small satellite called a CubeSat.

Sonali regularly writes in various international magazines, is the author of the poetry compilation “Leaking Ink”, and the founder of the Queer/Feminist platform Carved Voices. She is a board member of QIndia, the Chair of the New Voices in Space Working Group of Space Scotland and has ten years of experience working to improve equality, diversity and inclusion in various work spaces.”

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