



President IESF (British Section)
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Post Survey letter to Membership & New Programme 2020/2021

Dear Members

We are saddened by the recent deaths of James Rhind, Ken Guiver, Gwilym Roberts and Peter Varley and by losing the support of Elizabeth Simpson and Amie, Birgit Ahm. For myself, I will particularly miss Peter’s bonhomie and Elizabeth’s quiet charm at IESF gatherings.

Thank you to those who responded to Our Membership Survey last month. Quite a few picked up the telephone to share their distress. They so wanted to support us but were still too uncertain about 2021. It is no surprise. The Survey was challenging but you returned some very useful feedback which I shared with Council on 28th July.*

In the Survey, 55 members felt able to respond. As the replies came in, we were also realising that Programme changes were needed. The feedback has been very helpful. Thank you and thank you to Jane who has administered this, putting in much work.

The Survey shows our confidence rising through 2021 and we have responded to this guidance.

Pushing back against the COVID Pandemic this year, we are following other Groups and embracing the internet!

We welcome the contributions of William Powles – ‘Our Man in Paris’ - which you can read in the *News Update* section of our IESF website (iesf.co.uk).

The *Articles by Members* section features contributions from members on a variety of interesting topics as well as abridged versions of Presidential

Addresses from earlier years. Do please look it up every 2 weeks or so, No Password is needed to view the Updates.

Our Council Meeting* was an Internet affair (Zoom-like) via the Microsoft 'Teams' Platform, facilitated by our Specialist Knowledge Societies Executive, Shelagh Fleming.

Jean & Roger Venables will shortly help me call in (by Zoom) on some of our more locked-down members.

Our original 2020 Autumn Speakers have generously agreed to give their Lectures by Internet (ICE Platform) in place of a physical gathering – more about this later.

We will hold the **25th January 2021 AGM online**. Council has agreed that there will be no Presidential handover for the year 2021. Our Secretary will communicate further on the governance arrangements in due course.

I am hopeful that Vaccination will become available to us by the turn of the year. In the meantime, watch our website and look forward to more information coming to you direct about how you sign up for each Autumn Lecture in succession. It's easy – even if you are a novice!

Best wishes and Stay Well,



David R Hughes

President

Attachments 1. Survey 2020 Report;
2020/2021

2.IESF Programme