

## FIA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021

The Council and support staff continue to work tirelessly to maintain a positive financial position despite the fall in membership over the last few years. The FIA can still give our members a competitive edge through technical support, training guidance and standards bodies' representation.

The Autumn Seminar was a great success with over 65 delegates and a full room of table top stands and bar sponsorship from Fujikura.

Steven Brown looks after our Commercial side and membership. Numbers have dropped to 142 and as ever we still need to work hard to raise this to a more sustainable 200 members, so please help raise our profile at every opportunity. Steven is also looking at producing some promotional videos for the FIA.

Our Communication Director, Jonathan Lewis, keeps an eye on the FIA website and is supported by Ed Bullen in maintaining its integrity and functionality. Jonathan also represents the FIA on various standards subcommittees.

Our Treasurer, Alan Bullen, supported by our day-to-day account manager, Margaret MacFarlane, keeps a tight rein on our finances. Alan will table his Treasurers Report separately. Alan also takes the role of Marketing Director and he looked at the dated FIA logo this year. The logo has now been brought up to date with a brighter fresher feel. Alan also looks after the website with Ed Bullen.

The AIS Scheme hasn't changed much this year, with the lack of the willingness of members to attend the free of charge training events. With COVID we stopped these training days and the only commitment we ask of these members now is to attend the Annual Seminar. Frank also looks after our liaisons with INCA and keep us and them up to date within our industries. Frank unfortunately advised of his resignation at the AGM due to his retirement and he thanks the FIA for the support offered over the past 28 years working with us. We likewise thank you Frank for all your input and hard work over this time on and off the Council. We wish Frank a very happy retirement.

Our Training and MOD liaisons Director Nigel Hedges, has worked to put together a training course matrix which is now in draft format. This is supported in part through his oversight of the Training & Qualifications Committee (TQC). Nigel also produces our excellent Newsletter and has put through several NCAGE MOD requests this year.

John Colton, Technical Director, has answered member's queries as they arise and has also acted as secretary of the TQC, an advisory panel of four training providers who give their time voluntarily. The panel members are busy people and so meet infrequently.

Paul Forster is a member of the TQC and worked this year to bring a new partnership between the FIA and EUSR (Energy & Utility Skills).

I must remind you that Council Members are all volunteers with a lot of their time being given freely. It is only with their commitment, and the goodwill of their employers, that the FIA can proactively represent our industry. The support that they, Jane Morrison in the Secretariat, and Margaret MacFarlane in Accounts, have provided to the FIA and to me as Chair, over the years has been invaluable, so on behalf of the Members, and for myself, I would like to thank them wholeheartedly for all their outstanding support.

Yours Sincerely

*JMarson*

**John Marson MSc,  
FIA Chairman**