UKIC Secretary Report 2020

As we are all too acutely aware this year has been a testing time (no Pun intended!!) for one and all. Throughout the Pandemic we have however recruited and increased the UKIC Membership from last years figure of 745 renewals to 863, having now 29 Chapters; all at a time when Chapters within the US have decreased significantly. The Worldwide membership has substantially fallen from 21000 to just over 16000 within a few short years. I have to question how this has occurred and it seems to me that it’s down to the lack of Leadership from the BOD. They should, in the UKIC opinion, have tackled this issue and questioned each Conference to establish how this has occurred.

This year saw the present UKIC Board elected unopposed for the next 2 years.

I was fortunate to be part of the International Election Committee which changed the Law in Maine to allow Electronic voting, which saw an increase in voting percentage for the recent BOG. As you are aware next May is the International Elections and each Member will receive an email entitling them to vote. Can I ask that Chapter Presidents inform their members and would like to think that this new system makes the new Board more accountable.

With regards to accountability, we the UKIC will be meeting with your Presidents to discuss how we want the Conference to move forward within the Organisation. There is considerable wastage of funds from International in our eyes, especially surrounding the Travel expenses. Did you know that the spouse of the International Chairman for example is entitled to claim travel when accompanying the Chairman?

This year due to the Pandemic savings have been made to the tune of $17000 from the allocated $24500. This saving should in our opinion be passed back to the Conferences, something we will actively be pursuing.

There is a need now for change within the International rules to enable further recruitment and leadership needs to be shown. Recruitment from International is nothing short of a disgrace, the recruitment video produced, the terrible rag that we receive from them and the membership rules need amending to reflect the changing Police Service within the UK.

The International Board had certainly not endeared themselves of late surrounding the cancelation of the 2021 Ireland Rally, which fortunately due to pressure from within the UKIC and other Conferences and the BOG finally resulted in Ireland hosting the 2022 International Rally and the UKIC Conference. We will all be looking forward to that.

As you are aware next year see’s the International Board increase with the addition of a second VP, recruited from within Europe and the UKIC on a 2-year rota. The UKIC will be recruiting first and as this is an appointed post it will hopefully give us a voice on the BOD itself.

On a sombre note, 2020 in addition to the Pandemic, this January saw the first BK serving member killed on duty, Nick Dumphreys, a member of England 16. The Fraternal spirit saw donations to his widow totalling £2500 and UKIC thank one and all. He like all those who entered Heaven 1 will be remembered.

In conclusion we as your Conference are here to continue to Represent your interests and look to make International more accountable in the future. Let’s hope 2021 sees the end to this Pandemic and we are able to meet up on the roads and do what we do best, ride our bikes with likeminded people.

Walter Head UKIC Secretary.