

BRANCH LIAISON SECRETARY

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OFFICERS' NEWSLETTER 149

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Society Insurance Policy Renewal for 2018

The Insurance Policy for 2018 is now available and a copy can be provided on request.

The cover for portable branch equipment (eg digital projectors, laptops, PA systems) is on the basis of new for old and attracts an excess of £250.00. There is cover too, as before, under public liability for attending exhibitions and for officers' liability.

It is important to note that details of the policy are strictly confidential to Society Officers and should not be automatically distributed more widely to third parties.

Please send any updates relating to branch equipment as soon as possible after purchase or disposal so that the records can be amended accordingly – preferably by email, to liaison@rcts.org.uk. Even if there have been no recent changes it would be helpful to check the records from time to time; so there will be another reminder in the Autumn, before the next insurance renewal, to make sure that we have up to date information for the insurance policy.

Recruitment for 2017

Recruitment figures are now in for the whole of 2017 – a total of 187 making this the second best year since 2001. The total for 2016 was 160.

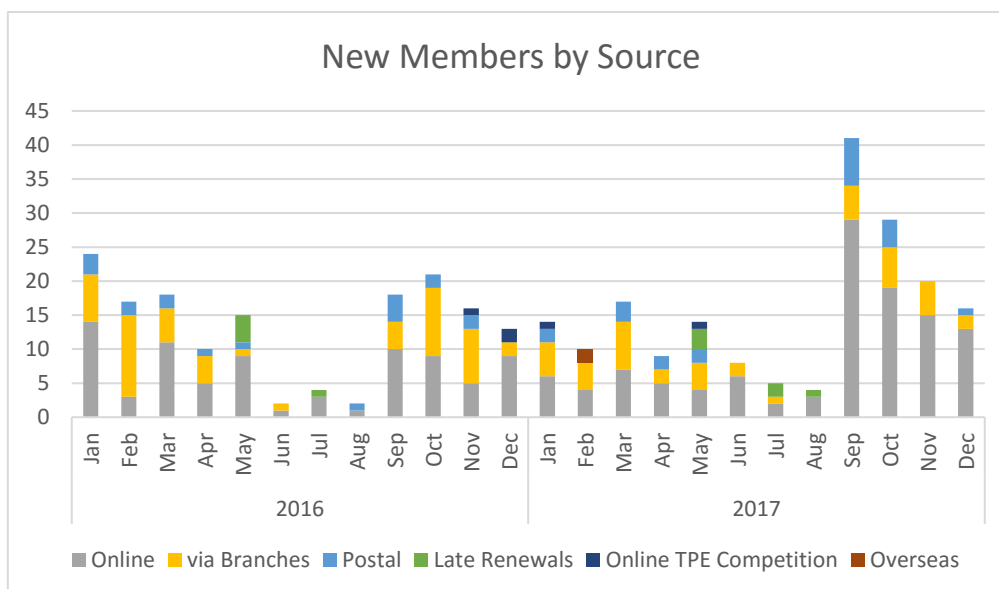
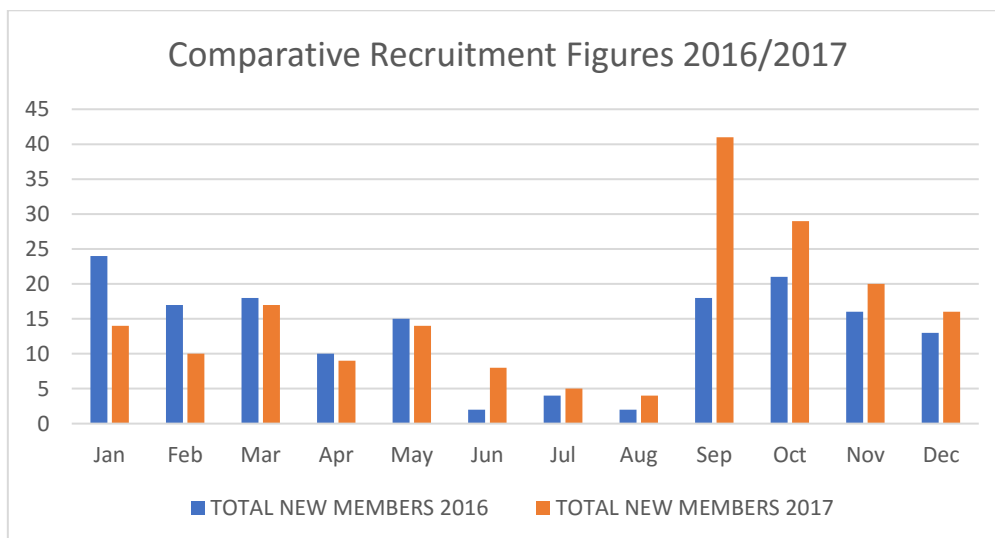
There are two simple bar charts overleaf, one showing the contrast between overall new member numbers in 2016 and 2017 and the second showing the source of the new members. Some explanation is required to help explain the details.

The months of June, July and August all show lower recruitment figures. This is the period when most branches take a Summer break from indoor meetings – is this an opportunity? Recruitment also shows as much higher from September onwards in 2017 when compared with the same period in 2016. This correlates well with the appearance of a series of RCTS articles and advertisements in the mainstream railway press. There is a reason to be cautious about drawing any firm conclusions from this as it is not always clear where someone has heard about the RCTS and why they have joined, and there could also be a link to the new member offer that gives a new

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membership starting in the Autumn the bonus of running through to the end of the following year which is very good value. Let's see how many of the new recruits we can retain.

This information is taken into account within the wider drive to improve recruitment figures by the Branches and the Society as a whole.



As a final note on branch recruitment, the above charts show the calendar years from January to December. The Branch award for the most recruits over the year that is awarded annually at the Officers' Conference in October runs from 1 October to 30 September each year in case you are wondering about the actual numbers and why they might not exactly match the charts above.

Kind regards

Irene

January 2018