Membership numbers have continued the trend from earlier this year and so we continue to do better than the last few years and nearly back to the levels of 2018 & 2019. Growth since February has been good even though it seems to be slowing down a bit in the more recent months, but the overall trend is looking good.

![Figure 1. Membership numbers on a monthly basis for the last 5 years](image1)

![Figure 2. End of September UK and Ireland membership numbers according to grade](image2)
Looking at the different types of members, we can see that the increase is among the student members as well as the higher grades, so that looks like a healthy improvement and should hopefully be reasonably future proof.

As from a membership development perspective, the same actions are being continued. It seems that HQ has been sending out messages to our members about elevating to senior membership, while they did not inform us about this. However, as a consequence, we have seen an increase in requests to support members who don’t know enough other members that can serve as referee. The members that have been supporting this process are reducing for a number of reasons and so a refresh will be needed, although it would be nice to align this with being able to launch our web platform for this process. This is currently progressing with a full description of the requirements now produced and solutions being looked into.

It remains important that we continue online activities to our members, as this could help us eliminate some of the geographical issues we have had for years, so ensure you have online activities and advertise them to the whole section through e.g. the website, twitter, etc..

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