Membership numbers have continued the trend from earlier this year and so we continue to do better than the last six years, but still slightly shy from the level we were at in 2016. Growth since February has been steady with an overall strong continuing trend.

**Figure 1. Membership numbers on a monthly basis for the last 5 years**

**Figure 2. End of September UK and Ireland membership numbers according to grade**
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, while the budget to spend on extending the section’s website for membership development was approved. There were several messages sent to move this on, all remained unanswered, and so quotes for that work are still to be obtained before the development can start. The next steps are now likely to be a e-notice across our community to find suitable companies/individuals who can help with the development taking that personal networks haven’t brought us anywhere till date. There continue to be applications coming in for support, but the volunteering network is currently very low and so it is hard to deal with the incoming requests in a timely manner, a new request for volunteers may therefore also be required.

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..

Wim J.C. Melis
Membership Development
IEEE UK & Ireland Section