

Pyramus & Thisbe Society
Membership Officer's Interim Report to the Management Board
23rd July 2025

Composed on 19th July 2025

Introduction and Apologies

Firstly, let me apologise for not being able to attend this month's meeting, as I will be on holiday and no doubt in an unfit state to participate! Blame the Pina colada's!

The membership team still consists of five individuals, who meet at least once monthly (on the first Thursday of each month), with relatively regular communication in between. The team members are as follows:

- David Bowden – complaints
- Adam Linard – membership changes and interview process
- Stephen Mealings – complaints
- Derek Bate – New applications and membership updates
- Myself – membership changes

Interviews are largely coordinated and managed by Adam, although all members are available to assist and hold interviews when needed. We wither have 2 or three interviewers.

Membership Numbers

The current overall membership stands at 837 members, as follows:

- Members: 567
- Fellows: 52 + 15 Honorary Fellows
- Associates: 111
- Students: 8
- Affiliates: 30
- Retired: 54

In comparison, the figures as of December 2024 were:

- Fellows: 49
- Members: 630
- Associates: 148
- Students: 13
- Affiliates: 39
- Retired: 54
- Honorary Fellows: 9

This indicates a slight decline from December 2024's total of 942 members to the current 837. While the retired and honorary categories are stable, the overall membership decline remains a concern.

However, the round-robin email last month to members who had not renewed seems to have successfully encouraged some renewals, which is positive. Additionally, the launch of the Green Book will hopefully spark member interest and engagement.

Application processing

Our approach to membership processing remains a hybrid approach, incorporating the initial website applications combined with manual handling for the applications afterwards.

As of 19th July 2025, there are no known outstanding applications or issues, and we are not aware of any current complaints.

General

On the use of the Society's references and logos in promoting individual members and trade companies.

One question for the Board is whether company websites sail close to boundaries of permissible use, specifically when the references might imply an official endorsement of specific firms or practices—similar to concerns raised previously about the Institute of Party Wall Surveyors.

A related query has arisen: *'Can a member of the Society use the Society's logo or reference to promote their office or business?'*

Specifically, is a member allowed to state that their firm is a member of or endorsed by the Society?

Or, do they need to clarify that only the individual is a member, not the firm itself?