



# *it's the most* **DECEMBER** *wonderful time of the year*

Dear Members...

This is my final message for this calendar year and I will keep it brief, as I am sure we all have the forthcoming festivities on our minds, and are looking forward to spending precious time with our friends and family.



So, a quick catch up: first, our YPG Christmas Curry night went down a storm! It was well attended, and we shared a lot of stories of success and ideas for the future – watch this space...



I was also delighted to be invited to attend the Willis Towers Watson Young Professionals end of year Christmas celebrations. It was great to hear about all the brilliant things they have been up to in 2017, and their plans for 2018. We plan to engage more with this group next year, so that we can knowledge share and benefit from their experience in order to promote the status of our own young professionals from all companies locally.

I was honoured to represent our local institute at both the Chelmsford and Cambridge annual dinners in the last few weeks. Both were very well organised, entertaining and professional evenings. I am very eager that their presidents enjoy themselves at our dinner as much as I did at theirs!



## **IF1 Study and Guidance Sessions - Closing Date 24th Dec!!!**

On the subject of young professionals, I hope you have seen our flyer for the IF1 Study and Guidance Sessions? We are keen to make sure we are providing adequate studying and revision support locally and so we have planned a set of study and guidance sessions for anyone studying, or wishing to study, the Certificate in Insurance mandatory module, IF1. These will take the form of a series of bitesize learning sessions, during lunchtimes, to give you the opportunity to benefit from support, guidance and encouragement throughout your studies. The deadline for applications is the 24th December 2017, so don't hesitate – click [here](#) to learn more and book your place.

## Saying Goodbye...

We are sorry to be saying farewell to two hugely valued council members who are leaving us.

Ed Hance has been deputy education secretary for two years and we are grateful to him for supporting Mark Harris in organising our packed education programme. Ed has found that he doesn't have the time to dedicate to council in his current role, but we are hoping to entice him back in a few years when things have settled down.

Steve Welch was a long-standing member of council - for around 30 years, I believe! He took on the role of chair of the sports & social committee fairly very soon after joining council; and our events calendar was certainly full in those days, with seven or eight events a year, mostly during the summer. We had car treasure hunts with up to 65 entrants, the annual quiz, outings to Greene King and the like, ten pin bowling, wine tasting and plenty of other activities. Steve was a regular in our annual Christmas pantomime, too, and always performed his part with pure professionalism – I miss those pantos! Steve will be missed, too; and on behalf of all of the council I would like to thank him for his service to council and the local institute.

## Save the Date – March 22nd Keynote Event

More details will follow, but I'd like to ask you to make a note of this date in your diary. The aim of the day is to reinforce the values of equality and diversity, bringing together the ideas that I have been trying to spread during my presidential year alongside some practical and technical sessions, to build on what we achieved at our all-day event in September. My six 60-second interviewees have agreed to take part in a panel session where we will pose some pre-agreed questions to them, to expand on what they shared with our membership through their interviews. I believe that each of these people represents a valuable role model for the many different members of our institute and I think we can learn a lot from them. There will be the opportunity to raise your own questions prior to the event and on the day itself.

## Annual Dinner – 20th April 2018

Places are now limited so if you haven't finalised your booking please do it now. We have over 200 guests attending and I am sure it will be an evening not to be missed! Contact me at [Johanna.mulley@crawco.co.uk](mailto:Johanna.mulley@crawco.co.uk) to secure your place.

## 60 Second Interviews

I still have two 60-second interviews to share with you. As I am keeping this missive brief they will be sent out with my January and February messages – ready for the event in March.



This just leaves me to wish all of you a happy, peaceful and loving festive season; I'll see you again, raring to go, in the New Year!

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Johanna Mulley  
President at the Insurance Institute of Ipswich, Suffolk and North Essex.



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