

**Acting Chair Report for AGM March 2023**  
**Lindsay Flower**

As the first year after the pandemic, this year has been challenging. The Committee had thought that the Membership would be keen to return to face to face meetings, but this has not proved to be the case. The Group Meetings continue to be poorly attended whether they are on line or face to face. I suspect that information, being readily available off the internet, is not now the main reason for group membership. In addition, the more business like model which has been adopted by IAM RoadSmart has meant that Associates are more likely to complete the Advanced course and not remain Members. As such, I forecast that our main income, which is Membership fees, will continue to fall and this will clearly be a challenge for both the Groups and IAM RS in the future. As such the Committee has decided to abandon the monthly Group Meetings. In place we will have 'Events' which may include training, updates, updating specific new skills. Meetings will not continue on the same day each month. We also plan to emphasise our presence at external events to raise our public profile – volunteers to help out at these event would be welcome

Our number of Associates passing through our club has proved to be encouraging, as has the number of people willing to train to be Observers. We could do with more women and some younger people, and I say this as the only woman Observer. The number of Associates attaining Firsts is also very pleasing - we are clearly training to a high standard and I would like to thank David, our CO for his input

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my colleagues on the Committee: without their hard work and ongoing commitment, there would be no Group. If you think that you have anything to offer, I would be delighted to hear from you.

I would like to thank two very important people: Penny, who does the teas and Sue Phillips, our Minutes secretary who is leaving the Committee. If you think you could committee to doing this for the Committee, please, get in contact with me

Lastly, I would like to thank those people who support us and volunteer to help out at our external event. We need you to continue to volunteer and we are counting on you

Thank you