

Report on NWTN Membership – June 2020

The total number of members in the network is currently 155, which corresponds to an increase of 17.4% on the previous year. Break down:

- Full members = 123 (+18%)
- Student members = 24 (+30%)
- Associate members = 8 (-20%)

In the year running from April 2019 to April 2020, we gained 50 new members, including 24 students. Note, however, that most of the Student members of the previous year did not renew their membership (only two became Full or Associate members in 2019-20). We have to work towards retaining our Student members better in the future.

Some of our new Full members are so-called VIP members, which means that they have been granted a free Membership year for services to the Network (training, committee work).

The membership fees remain unchanged at £50.00 (Full Membership), £25 (Associate Membership) and free for students who can justify of a current enrolment at university.

Renewal campaign 2020:

The members who joined after April 2019 benefit from a rolling membership year, which means that every year they will renew in the same month as the one in which they joined. The bulk of the membership (about 80%) continues to be renew in March. However, as the NWTN has extended this membership year by six months, to support our members during the Covid-affected period, their renewal campaign has been postponed until September 2020. All other members due to renew between April and August 2020 will also benefit from a six-month extension. The same extension applies to the new members joining between April and August 2020.

At the time the renewal campaign was postponed, at the end of March 2020, only 25 members had renewed. This means that we cannot at this stage confirm definitively the renewal numbers for 2020. At the current date, only 4 members have given notice that they will not renew, 2 because of a change of career, 2 because of retirement.

Membership distribution:

In June 2019, I made a map localizing our members in the region, in order to have a better idea of their distribution. This revealed that a significant proportion (>50%) of our members reside in Greater Manchester. Most other members live in towns and cities easily connected to Manchester (e.g. Chester, Liverpool, Preston, Warrington). Arguably, this supports our current practice to hold most of our events in Manchester. However, we are aware of the fact that a number reside further afield or may find it more difficult to come to Manchester (transport availability and/or cost) and we should ensure that we do our best to take this factor into account.

Laurence Bisot – Membership Secretary – 09/06/2020