ICT Chairman's Report – 2023

This will be my final Chairman's report for the ICT, as I will be stepping down from the position during this AGM. I started in the Chair position just before the world turned on its head with the covid pandemic, something that seems like a distant memory at times, although we do still feel the impact it had, both good and bad to this day.

It's been a challenging 12 months for our membership, the industry has lost some notable characters, Martin Cotton as an example, and we've also lost some of our fabricators from the business. With these losses it makes me even more grateful for what we do have and what we have achieved as the ICT. Our membership numbers increased in the year, we were able to host industry events both in person and online, and we continue to train the new talent through our foundation course.

Bill and Chris will provide you with a much better summary of our various events, the membership, and accounts of the ICT, so I want to spend most of my report thanking people that made the ICT a success in 2023:

- Richard Wood-Roe for our revamped and excellent Journal, along with all the support he provides with the website and getting the word out via social media.
- Chris Wall for the time he volunteers as treasurer to the ICT and keeping the accounts in order (and making sure we pay our membership fees!).
- Pete Starkey for his wonderful write-ups of the ICT events, the perfect way to catch-up if you had to miss an evening seminar or the annual symposium, and also putting the ICT on the map for a much wider audience.
- Steve Payne for his years of service as the Vice-Chair of the ICT, Steve will also be stepping down from the position this year, so an even bigger thank you for taking on this role these recent years.
- The Council for their dedication in working to continually improve the ICT for the future.
- Francesca Stern, the unofficial record of the ICT Council meetings, a job that anyone who takes meeting minutes knows is a pain.
- All our speakers and lecturers who give their time at evening seminars, the annual symposium, webinars, and the foundation course. There is a lot of work that goes in to preparing for these events let alone the nerves that can come with presenting to a knowledgeable industry audience.
- Our corporate members for continuing to support the ICT and giving their teams time to attend the different ICT events.
- The PCB fabricator group, who help the ICT in continually developing the offerings to best support the industry.
- Saving my biggest thanks to last, Bill Wilkie. Bill is an amazing technical director that we are so lucky to have. Bill is the heart of the ICT and without him we would not have had any of the events we enjoyed in 2023 and our membership would not be as strong as it is.

Thank you all for your support during my term as Chairman, it has been an honour to take on this role and I look forward to supporting the ICT in the future in whatever role you see fit to have me in.

Emma Hudson