



Information Security  
Specialist Group



## Secretary's Report – 2020-2021

I am extremely pleased to report another highly successful and very active year for the group.

Your committee held five meetings since the last AGM (Mar, Jun, Aug, Sep, Nov), all of which were well-represented by committee members. Unsurprisingly, all the meetings have been run via teleconference.

This year's programme has yet again proved to be extremely popular. In common with most other security events during the Covid pandemic, the ISSG has switched fully to on-line events, today's joint event with BT and this AGM being the first to have a face-to-face option since March 2020.

It's a tribute to our committee that their commitment, specialist knowledge and professional networks allow us to provide events covering such a wide range of topics. Today's event at BT is an excellent case in point and reflects the huge amount of work which goes on 'behind the scenes' by the organisers to make these events happen. The programme is well underway for 2021/22, with a number of events currently in the planning stages. Our aim is to maintain a rolling 12-18 month calendar of events. All events are advertised by our Member's Group Event Co-ordinator using Eventbrite and (where appropriate) via social media.

I would like to thank the Member Groups team at BCS HQ, and particularly our own co-ordinators Marie Setterfield and Caroline Vaan-Canning (who took over in August), for their incredible support throughout this extremely difficult year. Our committee is made up entirely of volunteers, all of whom also have a busy 'day job'. So much of the work in administering and organising events necessarily falls to our coordinator, without which many of these things simply wouldn't happen.

The coming year will see several changes to the makeup of the committee due to resignations. Firstly, I am extremely grateful to our outgoing Chairman, Ian Fish, who has worked tirelessly to provide direction and maintain our relevance and effectiveness. Ian has reluctantly departed (having threatened for some time) due to other pressing commitments and pressure of work. He has promised to keep in touch and provide support to the new Chairman as and when needed.

Also leaving the committee this year is Alan Woodroffe, who has very capably led for us on the judging and management of the David Lindsay prize award. Alan was the first committee member I met when I attended an event at the Covent Garden office many years ago, so should perhaps take some of the credit (or blame) for recruiting me.

The final departure from our committee is Gareth Niblett, a past chair of some 12-years. Gareth, who now lives in Estonia, has been a huge contributor to the group during his tenure as Chairman and ever since. He has similarly promised to keep in touch and provide support if needed.

Steve Sands,  
ISSG Secretary