



# Yorkshire Dry Stone Walling Guild

## **2020 YDSWG Secretary's Report**

Membership currently stands at 269 which is up again from the previous year at 244. The numbers are different to the usual comparisons we make as due to covid we have not removed any members that did not renew and to the same token we have not added as many as usual due to not running courses. This is made up of 14 honorary, 19 life and 120 paid members and 116 existing members did not renew. We made a decision not to remove any members this year as activity has been affected by the pandemic. All members that have paid this year will be automatically renewed next year and all that didn't renew will get the option to renew in the spring of 2021

The Guild website is the home of all our information and it's still a great way of promoting the organisation. We still hit nearly at the top of the first page when you google Dry Stone Walling Course. Many thanks to Euan for all his efforts in maintaining the web site. We also have a Facebook page which compliments the website and has 717 followers from all around the world, up from last year again. It's a great way of pushing information to members (and those interesting in walling) especially reminders about events. The Guild has also set up an Instagram page to again help promote what we do. Unfortunately, due to the lack of activity this year there haven't been many posts. Hopefully we will be back to normal next year.

You should all have received you Autumn newsletter recently. We didn't produce our normal newsletter as there wasn't any point and also to keep costs down.

Finally, it takes a lot of time and effort to keep the Guild running so I would also like to afford a special thank you to Paula, Sarah, Euan & Graham for the work and time they put into running this organisation and website. We wouldn't be sitting here today without their efforts every week of the year so thanks to you both.