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### Web Site

For latest information about IRSE events, news and how to become a member, visit [www.irse.org](http://www.irse.org). We welcome all those who are interested or involved in the fields of railway control systems, communications, data management or systems engineering.

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The IRSE needs active younger members for its future success. What can the IRSE offer to younger members? On joining, many younger members are focused on acquiring knowledge through preparation for taking the IRSE Exam or equivalent.

However the IRSE provides other opportunities for personal development, for instance by preparing and presenting on a topic at a Local Section meeting. A presentation is less onerous than having to write a paper and having it peer reviewed, but still needs enough rigour in thought and be delivered with good technique to be of value to both the presenter and the audience.

A Local Section meeting provides an informal setting with the advantage that your target audience is already supportive. Presenting, while initially challenging, does lead to improved confidence in public speaking and ability to convey your messages to the audience.

Another path that may suit some people is to consider the opportunity of career development within the IRSE committee based structure. Our committee system relies on volunteer effort to advance the IRSE's work. Our structure is multi-layered, with Local Sections, various Committees of the main IRSE, and ultimately Council.

In Committees, at whatever level, many disparate views are expressed, as is to be expected of an increasingly diverse multi-national organisation with members having differing subject matter expertise. I have found that while the achievement of consensus can be time consuming, working in Committees generally leads to a much deeper appreciation of an issue or topic.

The IRSE needs to continually regenerate and re-invent itself, and having an active base of younger members is essential for our long term health. So I suggest you seek out your Local Section Committee members and offer to present on a suitable topic, and also consider joining a Younger Members Section or group to network with like-minded people around the world.

**Peter Symons, President IRSE**



Front Cover: The IRSE is committed to Diversity, Equality and Inclusion, and has recently launched a policy on this topic. On p7 of this issue Judith Ward explains our approach, and our front cover celebrates the diversity of our membership at a range of events over recent years.

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