

Dear WRS / TSF Member / Potential Members to WRS-TSF

Introduction:

My name is John Ireland and I left the RN in October 2020. Some of you may have met me or been associated with me during our time serving in the submarine service and I am currently the Membership Manager for We Remember Submariners (WRS).

Following the recent launch of The Submarine Family (TSF), a number of personnel both serving and retired have joined the TSF, a charitable organisation that aims to bring a number of submarine charities together and which relies on donations into the charity to support other submarine related charities. People joining the TSF are free to donate as they so wish.

On joining the TSF members may elect to join some of the other organisations associated with the TSF and are asked on joining if they are already a member of that organisation and if not, would they wish to join it.

In the case of We Remember Submariners, we currently have

1. A number of active members who total in the region of 1400 personnel and
2. Approximately 350 personnel whose membership has lapsed and has not been renewed by the member.

The reason for this email is to clarify to those considering joining the TSF or those who may have recently joined as to what entails being a member of WRS at this moment in time. This has become necessary as some confusion exists among those already joined with some indicating within their TSF profile on creation that they are 'members' of WRS when in fact they are either 'not a subscribing member' or their 'membership has not been renewed and therefore has elapsed'.

Prior to Sep 2019, WRS had in place a pin pledge programme where people pledged to buy annual pins which commemorated submariners who had crossed the bar during the previous year. Additionally people are able to purchase items from the WRS shop online where they needed to create an account to do so. Unfortunately prior to this time, when someone in these groups signed in the front page has the title 'member sign in' and this has understandably cause some confusion.

From September 2019 the charity moved forward and the pledge system was removed but people still have accounts to enable shop purchases. A subscription membership with an annual £10 subscription was introduced and this made a subscriber an '**active member**' of WRS where they received a membership badge and an annual pin for that year. If you have never subscribed to this then you are technically not a 'subscribing member' of WRS even although you may hold an account to purchase shop items or you have asked for our newsletters to be sent to you.

In total since 2019 we have had approx. 1750 personnel subscribe as members with approx. 1400 still active and approx. 350 who have allowed their memberships to lapse and therefore these personnel are no longer an active subscribing member of WRS.

To date **39** people who have joined TSF exist in one of these two categories (i.e. never been a member or lapsed) and have declared in TSF that they are a current member of WRS.

Additionally a further **30** people have joined TSF, have never been subscribing members of WRS and have correctly indicated through TSF that they wish to become a member of WRS through the TSF route.

OK so what will happen?

When we are able to upload and create memberships for TSF members inside the WRS data base it is my intention to take all **69 (and any further ones submitted to that date)** of the above personnel and on a successful completion of data upload trials I intend to upload all of the profile data. Immediately afterwards I will mail to these people (and all subsequent people who join WRS through the TSF by stating their desire to join) a WRS membership badge and the WRS 2022 Annual pin.



The membership will be valid for one year from the date on which I process the request and if the person remains a member of the TSF in future years we will renew that membership for a further year etc etc until they leave the TSF. If they decide to leave the TSF then the membership will continue until the end of the membership year and it will then lapse as a member.

Current WRS active members whose membership is still current and live will continue as WRS members until the expiry date of their membership and then if they are a TSF member we will renew the membership through the TSF – WRS route.

Anyone who has a WRS membership through the TSF route will continue to have their membership renewed unless they leave the TSF after which time their WRS membership will continue with WRS benefits until the expiry date which could be up to 1 year after leaving the TSF.

During a person's time as a member of the WRS they will qualify for some benefits which are outlined on our website, a link is provided below.

<https://we-remember-submariners.com/>

<https://we-remember-submariners.com/charity-information/wrs-the-charity/about-the-pin>

General enquiries regarding membership itself should be addressed to the membership manager (myself) at:

membership@we-remember-submariners.com

For issues regarding IT and password resets etc please see:

[Support - We Remember Submariners \(we-remember-submariners.com\)](https://we-remember-submariners.com/support)

In the first instance and if you are still unable to access then support for IT issues can be accessed via an email to:

support@we-remember-submariners.com

Further details can be found below:

<https://we-remember-submariners.com/charity-information/wrs-the-charity/contact-us>

Again, in summary as soon as I have been able to upload the details of requesting TSF members into our data system I will send out a membership badge / annual pin and provide them with some login details and a password which they will be advised to change at the first opportunity through the WRS website. Additionally they will be able to access their profile data and I request that they take the opportunity to check it and if necessary add any additional information that the profile contains or requires e.g. do you wish to receive the WRS newsletter etc.

To those who choose to join WRS through the TSF route, Thank you for your support.

For those who do not wish to join the TSF the ability to join WRS or to continue to subscribe to WRS annually (or for a number of years) will still exist in its current format and will not change at all. Again thank you in anticipation of those who continue to subscribe direct to WRS and in turn supporting the charity conduct its business for present, past and future submariners.

Regards and Thanks

John Ireland
We Remember Submariners Membership Manager

