



Statement concerning the ALM membership year 2010 onwards

It has been agreed that the membership year has been changed to coincide with the calendar year:

- membership renewal will become due on 1st January for the following 12 months
- any member joining or renewing after the 1st January will be a member for that calendar year, their membership will fall due the following 1st January
- during the transition period any member paying their annual fee between July 2009 and the end of 2010 will be a member for 2010, their membership will fall due on 1st January 2011.

Rationale

In the past the membership year was set up to coincide with ALM conference, where many members joined or renewed their membership.

The reasons for making the change from the situation in which the membership year runs from August to July:

- with the availability of on-line payment the majority of members can pay remotely (people who find this method difficult can still pay with a local cheque of course). This avoids trying to pay at conference when people are generally busy, and non attendees, obviously, cannot use the event to renew;
- with the development of a data base for members, renewal reminders can be sent out centrally. If renewal is at the start of the year reminders can be sent out to coincide with calling papers for the conference, ensuring membership in time to get reduced conference fees;
- establishing membership at the start of the year clarifies who is a member at conference registration and for the AGM, although people are still welcome to join pre-conference;
- it is easier to remember to renew at the start of the year;
- we would still hope to have a membership drive at conference and could, at the discretion of the treasurer and membership secretary, offer an 18month initial membership as a promotion, if we wished;

Adopted at ALM16 London