

Report from the PPI Chairperson Andrew Reitemeyer

It has been a frustrating but profitable year. Getting things done has been hard due to the lack of access to resources especially those to our two bank accounts and certain IT assets. In the last month we were first able to get a list of what IT assets were available and a statement from one account. This is why we have not been able to levy fees as the last GA required nor report in a timely manner. However, this has made us innovative and until we are able to get things rectified, we will have to continue in this manner. For example we have a paypal account for individual membership fees and can pay small bills from that but it is not suitable for full member fees. For these reasons major projects were not possible and will not be for some time.

After a year we are near to having a new website. The fact we are not permitted to contact the server admin was a major hurdle. These problems are historic and structural but should be easy to fix. In the mean time PPI has the opportunity to concentrate on helping member parties, especially those that involve ad hoc international cooperation, with the assets we do have available.

I hope the assembly will agree to enter a permanent GA for the coming year so we can sort out the statutes in a considered manner and find servers etc. that we can be sure of if necessary.

I will not be seeking the chair this year as I face an uncertain year with medical treatment ahead of me that, while not very serious, will cost me in time and energy. I do have full confidence in the candidate standing and that she will be more than able to carry on the work of the organisation.

It is with sadness that I note the tragic events in recent weeks and yesterday. We send sympathy and our thoughts to those affected in Munich. The world is a dangerous place and we need a different form of politics - politics in another way – Politik mal anders as the German Pirates say.