

WELCOME

TO THE



This 'Welcome Guide' is designed to introduce you to the many things that the ICG has to offer, so that you can hit the ground running!

eGroup

In many ways, the beating heart of the ICG, the eGroup is the place to get recommendations, seek advice or discuss a burning issue. You'll be amazed by the speed of response and warm camaraderie.

Members also post work opportunities on the eGroup.

You can find out how to get the most from the eGroup [here](#), this includes our no self-promotion rule which keeps the group spam-free and other rules to ensure it provides a positive space for debate. The group is a closed group and all discussions are confidential – what is said on the eGroup stays on the eGroup!



Collaboration

Collaboration is key to the ethos of the ICG from problem solving events to members building teams to work together on projects.

We exhibit at conferences/ expos and work with the MRS, AQR, AURA and others, to promote independent consultants and micro-businesses in market research.

Events

We run a wealth of online social, networking & learning opportunities so members can be connected wherever they are based.

We also provide opportunities to meet face-to-face including local get-togethers and the Christmas and Summer parties.

See the events listings [here](#).



Webinars and Training

We run a programme of webinars and training sessions on varied topics, from developing key research skills and techniques, to understanding legal requirements like GDPR, to general business advice.

Find out what is coming up [here](#).

Forums

A place for smaller groups of members to have more detailed discussions on areas of shared interest or specialist techniques.

Any member can start a new forum discussion. Find out more about forums (you will need to log in when prompted) [here](#).



Directory of Members

All members get a page in the membership directory - a place to showcase your skills and experience.

Used by members looking to build a team for bigger projects and open to clients looking for a researcher.

Browse the directory [here](#).



The Latest Thinking

Our website has a wealth of articles written by members including news, research & business knowledge and practical tips. All members are welcome to submit their own pieces for the website.

Check [here](#) for the latest posts.



Discounts

The ICG works hard to secure discounts from a variety of suppliers from business services (like insurance) to research support services. View the unique discounts secured from our Lunch&Learn advertisers [here](#) and access other ICG advertisers [here](#).



The ICG Award



We run the annual **MRS/ICG Award for Independent Consultants** which showcases excellence in research from micro businesses and celebrates the contribution of researchers who work as independents.

Click [here](#) for more information.

There are many ways to get more involved and so get more out of the ICG

- be active on the eGroup and forums
- participate in events
- collaborate with members
- attend a webinar or, better still, do your own
- write for the website
- organise a local meet-up
- take advantage of member discounts
- enter the MRS/ ICG award
- join the committee

If you want to discuss any of these opportunities, then please get in touch with the [ICG Manager](#).



Business Mentors

If you are starting out as an independent, we have a small team of established ICG members who have kindly offered to act as 'business mentors' in your early days.

If you have any business questions, please feel free to contact [Kath Rhodes](#) (also our Co-Chair), [Nanda Marchant](#), [Dan Young](#) or [Alan Bowman](#).



The ICG is led by a voluntary committee supported by the ICG Manager, Lucie:

Manager & Website: [Lucie Wernicke](#)

Co-Chair: [Karen Elton & Kath Rhodes](#)

Advertising & Sponsorship: [Barbara du Perron](#)

Business Development: [Riaz Marzban](#)

Diversity & Inclusion: [Annabelle Phillips](#)

eGroup Moderators: [Teresa Hadfield & Arthur Fletcher](#)

Events: [Deanne Gold](#)

Finance: [Mark Lyons](#)

Knowledge Share & Recruiter Accreditation Scheme: [Lynne Chapman](#)

Marketing: [Karen Elton](#)

Membership: [Phil Gray](#)

Member Collaboration: [Kath Rhodes](#)

The MRS/ ICG Award: [Matt Kirby](#)

Training: [Jane Oakley](#)

Webinars: [Sally Alsop](#)

If you have any suggestions, please email Lucie or the relevant committee member - simply click on the name above.

