

## Virtual Exhibition Guidelines 2022

This is the third year we have held a virtual exhibition. Creating an exhibit electronically is new and challenging but offers huge scope for Members to present their research in a wide variety of electronic formats which can add to the appreciation of the research and the story of the exhibit.

### Categories of Awards & Voting

Members will vote for the Member's Choice Award and the Member's Choice Award for the Best Use of Technology in an exhibit.

Voting for both awards is conducted online and the voting system can be accessed from the Virtual Exhibition page. Voting will open on 10<sup>th</sup> September and will close at 15.00 on 24<sup>th</sup> September and the results will be announced at 16:00 (UK time) by the President alongside the results of the physical exhibition.

### The Rules & Guidelines

**Categories and Criteria** - in the virtual exhibition there are no classes of entry and the exhibits will not be 'judged' but will be voted for online by the members:

The two awards are: the Members' Choice Award and the Best Use of Technology – note this doesn't mean the most complex or advanced use of technology, but the one that made the exhibit work and tell its story.

**Re-Using Exhibition Entries** - virtual exhibits are allowed to be *based* on work submitted as physical Convention exhibits in previous years i.e. not wholly identical to a previous exhibit, but an exhibit with a new slant or with additional information that has come to light since it was last displayed. Original virtual exhibits are also eligible to be entered a future (physical) Convention.

**Security** – In order to maintain security and privacy, the virtual exhibition will take place in the Members' Area of the OMRS website, so only Members will have access to the exhibition area and will have to be logged in to view it. Exhibitors should be aware that some presentation formats mean their exhibits will be downloadable.

**Format of a Virtual Exhibit** – this is very much up the exhibitor. It is suggested that a simple, well thought out and well-structured exhibit will work better than one that tries to use technology experimentally, but is too complex or breaks down. That said, it would be great to see some innovation and experimentation in how a virtual exhibit could be put together. Suggestions for possible formats are:

A PowerPoint or 'online' presentation, e.g. Prezi

A PDF document – may be in a Journal-type article format – as an example of what could be done in this format, see attached at the bottom of the page <https://www.omrs.org/conventions/exhibition-back> what Jim Kemp produced for the OMRS website when he won the Member's Choice Award for the third time in 2015. Please remember this an exhibit not a book, which is where Jim's write-up of his exhibit strikes a good balance between images and text. **Please note: we do not accept as exhibits articles from the OMRS Journal or articles that have been published previously in other publications.**

Excel spreadsheets - In the case of research projects that have large amounts of data, it is suggested that only samples of data are used along with an explanation of how they are used in the project.

Photographs or a video walk-through of an assembled display – relatively easy to do these days using a mobile phone.

Website - in previous years Members have entered websites they have developed themselves and have been used to good effect to create exhibits.

**Key Dates:**

**1st May** – entries open for the virtual exhibition. Please enter your exhibit by contacting Richard Emsley at [omrsconvention@afionmedia.com](mailto:omrsconvention@afionmedia.com) directly with the following details

Please send the exhibit title, a short summary of its content and the intended format of the exhibit (this can be changed if you change your mind up to the closing date for entries).

**27th August** – entries close for virtual exhibition.

**3rd September** – final date for virtual exhibits to be submitted for loading onto the OMRS website.

**10th September** – virtual exhibition goes live on the Members section of the OMRS website and voting opens. This allows two weeks for Members to work their way through the exhibits and cast their votes.

**24th September** – 15:00 voting closes and results announced later in the afternoon (time TBC).

If you have any questions about entering the virtual exhibition please send them to [omrsconvention@afionmedia.com](mailto:omrsconvention@afionmedia.com). You are probably not the only person thinking about the issue!