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Report from Communications and PR Committee to the IGC 2012 Plenary

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During the last year we have struggled with the problems caused by the melt-down of the old FAI web server and the subsequent difficulties re-creating the various databases. Locating back-ups of many of the files was a particular problem. An update will be provided by the FAI Secretary General, but this situation has been frustrating for all, including the FAI staff members who have been working to resolve the issues.

Peter Ryder, our webmaster has been working with Faustine Carrera to ensure that the new-look website provides the information that we want to publicise.

A group of “IGC Journalists” were recruited last year. Angela Sheard, Marina Vigorito and Jill McCaw agreed to provide stories about our pilots and our events and other IGC news for the website and this means that we are now routinely able to put up-to-date stories on the website.

The media coverage of our events is back under the control of the event organisers with the Contract between the FAI and Flying Aces having been terminated. While Flying Aces provided good material about FAI events in the past, the limitations imposed by the contract meant that organisers found it difficult to arrange real-time media coverage.

Presidents Newsletters have been continued through the year and we are constantly on the lookout for stories, especially those about safety and youth initiatives that we can publish.

My thanks to everyone that contributes to providing IGC news and information and especially to the dedicated efforts of Peter Ryder.