

HHS PROGRAMME 2020: THE YEAR THAT HAS GONE....WHAT NEXT??

The *Newsletter* distributed in June reported how the coronavirus crisis had caused the cancellation of the planned HHS Programme 2020 from March to August inclusive.

It is now time, therefore, for an update. Very sadly, your Committee has concluded that we must cancel all the visits and meetings planned for the rest of the year up to and inclusive of December. This is very disappointing but, given the continued restrictions on organised gatherings, we were left with no alternative. In the circumstances we have decided to roll-over the subscriptions paid for 2020 to 2021.

What happens next? Planning will soon begin for the Society's activities in 2021. At present, of course, the prospects for 'normal' activities still remain unclear. It is very likely, therefore, that we will be faced with planning for 2021 on a 'different' basis to what we would usually do. The current intention is to look at arrangements whereby we can provide some regular monthly 'Mini-Meets' plus a range of 'walks and talks'; some indoor visits might be possible depending on number/spacing restrictions and the willingness of hosts to accommodate us on these terms. We fully understand that some members may still not be comfortable attending events until more normal conditions prevail. Given current parameters both the Mini-Meets and other activities would have to be on a 'book-able advance notice' basis and we will be looking at how best to achieve this. The intention is for a Programme 2021, however constituted, to be ready for circulation at the end of December in 'sort of' the usual way.

None of this is ideal but we are determined to try and offer some form of organised activities for 2021 so please watch out for forthcoming updates and, if you can, check periodically on the Society website (www.hitchinhistoricals.org.uk)

Thank you all for your patience and continued interest in the Society during a tricky year – and keep your fingers crossed that patience will be replicated at this end as we search for solutions (!!!).

David Howlett
HHS Programme Secretary
September 2020