## Coronavirus

On the 5<sup>th</sup> March the History Group Committee discussed the implications of the increasing number of cases of Coronavirus being recorded in the UK.

At the end of that discussion, and by show of hands, the committee unanimously decided it is in the best interests of our members to postpone all Halberton History Group activities until further notice, including the AGM on 26<sup>th</sup> March.

In taking that decision we were particularly mindful that:

- The Chief Medical Officer to the Government has stated that it is now highly likely that the virus is going to spread in a significant way in the UK. He has already advised that people should not be meeting together in a closed environment.
- The membership of our Group is predominantly made up of individuals in the high risk group (older people and those with an underlying medical condition). We feel it is our responsibility to do all we can to limit the risk of spreading the infection.
- People are unlikely to turn out to events even if the spread of the virus doesn't get worse than it is now. If we do go ahead with our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event and the Twose exhibition on the 25<sup>th</sup> April there is a significant risk it will turn out to be a very half-hearted affair. That would not be worthy of the occasion nor just reward for the vast amount of preparatory work that has already been undertaken.
- Our planned events are not in any way time sensitive, high priority or urgent.

We would like to emphasise that this was not a decision that was taken lightly. In doing so we had in the forefront of our minds the health of our members. We hope that "normal service will be resumed as soon as possible" and will notify you as soon as that is the case. At this stage we are hoping that we will be able to hold the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary / Twose exhibition later this year, perhaps in the autumn. We are also hoping that in lieu of cancelled indoor events we may be able to organise some outdoor events such as walks.

Any changes will be notified to you via email and <u>our website</u>. If you have any comments about this notice, please reply to the email address <u>halbertonhistorygroup@gmail.com</u> or contact any member of the committee.

You can keep up to date with the latest situation and current medical advice at Public Health England.

Regards and best wishes,

All members of the Halberton History Group Committee

Please note; you have been sent this email because you are either on our list of current members of the group or on our list of interested others. If you do not wish to receive any further emails from us please reply to this notice and your contact details will be removed from our lists.