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## To all Members

Dear Members and Friends

### IESF Meeting 17 March, the RAF Club - Advisory note about Coronavirus (COVID 19)

In view of the concerns expressed widely about the spread of Coronavirus (COVID 19), the President David Hughes has gathered important information from several sources set out below that you may wish to note in respect of your attendance at IESF and other meetings: -

*'I have spoken to our Speaker Dr. Mike Davies this morning. He will not complete his presentation until Sunday 15th March because he is attending many meetings concerning Royal Papworth and their anti COVID 19 preparations. He is keen to give his talk to us and happy to mention respiratory infections and to take questions-what brilliant timing is this!*

*I have quizzed our resident Microbiologist, Dr Diana Blaire-Fish, and she makes several points*

- *COVID 19 is infectious before symptoms appears (Prodromal Phase). Unusual for Viruses*
- *there are some 'Super Spreaders' who, like Typhoid Mary, keep on giving!*
- *We, the world, have no herd immunity*
- *Face masks are useless - totally porous to virus sized particles*
- *We must follow all the hand washing recommendations and avoid handshakes and kisses – even cheek to cheek or close proximity 'air 'kisses*
- *Underground travel, the worst of travel forms, to be kept to a minimum. Walking is best*

*Recent conference advice (Roger Venables) is that distant greetings do not indicate emotional coldness between friends!*

We will continue to monitor the situation as it evolves and keep members informed as information and advice becomes available.

Kind regards



John Beck

(on behalf of David Hughes)