



President IESF (British Section)
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Dear Members and Friends

President's Message

As the second half of the year commences, we look forward in hope, hope that there will be full classrooms in September and that the measured emancipation of the population does not cause a second wave of Coronavirus. With such uncertainty it is difficult to make definite plans about the life of IESF British section and its gatherings in 2021.

The COVID19 Pandemic and the Medical Webinars have been a great mental stimulation to me. Jane has taken the lead in the cancellation of our programme for 2020 up to September 30th. We are grateful to the many members who have sent us messages of sympathy, sympathetic feelings we offer back to them as well.

We have arranged bookings for a full programme up to July 2021 and wait to hear if ANDRA is willing to host our scientific visit, for 30th September & 1st October 2021, on our Voyage d' Etude. (We have revised these dates to fit with the Worshipful Company of Engineers September 2021 visit to Durham). I believe it is time now for us to cancel the final meetings scheduled for October and November 2020.

Your Council will now explore how we might conduct the business of our AGM 2021, scheduled for Monday 25th January at ICE, working in concert with the Events team at the Institution and what provision of social distancing will be put in place in all our usual venues. The 2021 Programme must depend upon the willingness of the membership to travel and the reassurances they need to congregate safely. To this end not only the Spring Voyage to Bergues, but also the Voyage d' Etude to Troyes will be based on private coach hire from the UK for our sole use throughout the visits.

We will be inviting you shortly to give Council your feedback on your feelings about travel, venue arrangements etc in order to finalise the revised 2021 programme. I have asked Jane to receive and collate your feedback. Her contact details are given in the current Membership Handbook, under Amis.

David R Hughes
President