

## Arts Society Ashford Autumn Meetings

Dear Arts Society Member,

I hope you are all keeping well in these difficult times. The committee has met again and we are trying to find a way forward that will keep the society going for the future when Covid-19 has passed.

Restrictions are gradually being lifted, but while ever social distancing remains a requirement there is no prospect of restarting our live lectures in the village hall. The earliest that might happen is now thought to be January, and possibly not before an effective vaccine becomes universally available.

We are exploring the possibility of arranging live lectures from our next year program via Zoom. We hope to be able to arrange these lectures for the usual time of 11am on the designated Tuesdays each month. However, so far only one speaker has come forward and confidently offered to do a Zoom lecture.

If we do proceed with this lecture it should take place on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September. There will be a maximum capacity of 100 computers but we don't anticipate more than 100 of you signing in for the lecture. If it takes place, you will be sent instructions on how to join the meeting by email shortly before it takes place. It would be really helpful to know how many of you would be interested in joining a Zoom lecture. So if you would (or would not) be interested could you please RSVP by email Pippa Hill at [pippahill@hotmail.com](mailto:pippahill@hotmail.com).

We are still in conversation with several other speakers to see if we might be able to assemble a program and we will let you know in due course if we succeed. We will update the society website as information becomes available.

Meanwhile you should all be receiving the Arts Society quarterly magazine, and I hope you've signed up for the Monthly Highlights newsletter which arrives by email from the Arts Society in London.

A big thankyou to those of you who have renewed your subscriptions, your support will ensure that the society has a future. However we have so far not received subscriptions from approximately one hundred members. I hope this does not mean that we are about to lose a hundred members! If there is a significant surplus at the end of the year we can decide at the AGM what to do with it.

Best wishes

Paul White

Chair