

14<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Old Mercer,

I am writing to inform you that your Committee has agreed that, because of the Covid-19 situation, the programme of the Old Mercers' Club for 2020 should be moved to 2021, and the Club will continue until 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021.

Therefore neither the postponed President's Reception nor the Lunch on 22<sup>nd</sup> September this year will now take place, and there will be no General Meeting of Old Mercers in 2020.

We have reached this decision because it remains very uncertain whether the current restrictions will be sufficiently relaxed to enable a social event to be held this September. We would have to decide whether or not to send the invitation to the Lunch by the beginning of July, when the situation will most probably still be unclear. As the virus affects older people more seriously it is likely that Old Mercers would be cautious about making a journey to central London, even if some non-essential travel were allowed again.

The proposed dates for 2021 are

14<sup>th</sup> May President's Reception at Barnard's Inn

21<sup>st</sup> September Final Lunch at Mercers' Hall

but I must emphasise that these dates are at present provisional, as neither venue can confirm arrangements for next year.

We hope that by the middle of 2021 a sufficient degree of normality will have returned to enable the proposed programme of events to go ahead.

Updates will be posted on the Old Mercers' Club website oldmercersclub.org.uk, as further information becomes available, and notified by email to members whose email address we have. It is not proposed to send any further letters by post during 2020. Invitations to next year's events will be sent by email or by post as appropriate, assuming (as we hope) that they are able to take place as planned.

Again, I would ask those of you that receive this by post to let us have an e-mail address if you have one.

Yours sincerely,

H.G.J. Worth

President