



NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2020

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Dear Friends & Supporters,
It won't surprise you to know that all my work is cancelled, at least until the end of the year. Whether anything will be on offer between the New Year and Easter 2021 is also an open question. In fact, assume that everything up until Easter is OFF, unless I indicate otherwise.

I hope you have been managing ok! As for me, I've had a big health problem this summer (not covid) but it did involve an operation. And despite the fact that I'm all right now, the whole thing does put me somewhat in the "at risk" category — and since I rely totally on public transport, I am cautious about resuming my former lifestyle yet awhile. Added to which, I'd be a very likely carrier in any new wave of Covid, what with all

those buses and trains and crowded rooms.

I can't tell you how much I miss everything and everyone! However, I won't be resorting to e-lecturing/zoom-lecturing etc. Nothing against it, but I don't possess the equipment or the skills, and can't face trying to learn. "The low-tech lecturer" has always been my label, and my whole life has been live performance (earlier in my career I worked in theatre, and the habits learnt on stage can't easily be shrugged off).

Do keep an eye out for me in publications like the Ashmolean brochure, and the programmes of history societies and music clubs. I don't plan to vanish any time soon!

So, to re-iterate: if something positive and unforeseen does happen, allowing normality to return in some manageable form before next Easter, I'll be in touch round about New Year. Otherwise, it'll be a little longer.

Good luck! Good health!
My very best wishes!

Tim
Porter