

Dear Members and Friends

As everyone who either lives in Hong Kong or who are frequent visitors to the SAR will be aware, we are now facing all the challenges - health, social, educational and economic - associated with the impact of the fast-spreading novel coronavirus, Covid-19.

This crisis, of course, brings back memories for the community of the SARS virus which struck the region in 2003. The coronavirus has affected life here just as the social unrest of 2019 was abating somewhat, with a degree of normality returning to Hong Kong!

It is with this situation in mind that the Branch Committee has taken the decision to postpone the events planned for March 2020, i.e. the presentation on the Defences of Macau and the proposed visit to our sister SAR.

I am sure that I do not need to dwell on the reasons behind this decision, but the availability of suitable venues for talks must be added to the more obvious reasons which spring to mind.

The Branch Committee will adopt a case by case approach regarding future events, depending on the local situation, but will go ahead with activities if they are felt to be possible and safe. We will keep you informed via e-mail and MailChimp announcements.

One rescheduled event for the diary is Les Bird's presentation entitled "Along the Southern Boundary," which is now planned to be held on Tuesday 6 October 2020. Confirmation to follow in due course.

As always, comments and feedback for future activities are most welcome.

Best regards and stay safe!

Martin Heyes

Hon. Secretary
OMRS HK Branch