

## Parham Airfield Museum Annual Report for Parish Meeting

We are pleased to report that we received our first Trip Advisor "Certificate of Excellence" in 2019 and we continue to receive great reviews from visitors. We are currently ranked number four out of 27 attractions in the Woodbridge area. Our most recent reviews are as follows:-

*"This is so much more than a museum. It's a memorial to the lives of Americans and Brits who offered their lives to win the war. The PAM folks keep that memory alive in this beautiful farmland in East Anglia."*

*"An excellent museum with well-informed and kind staff"*

*"Always a pleasure. I have visited the museum many times in my life, starting with when it was just an almost derelict shell. Every time I visit I continue to be amazed at what has been achieved by the Kindred family and the small army of volunteers. I shall continue to visit and I highly recommend it as a museum which should not be missed."*

We are still sending out our regular newsletters and this is a great way of staying in contact with our supporters.

We have not opened for the 2020 season because of Covid 19. We have taken on advice from the national museum associations and government guidelines and have decided that we are not ready to open yet. Before we could consider opening we would need to carry out extensive consultations and risk assessments. The mitigations, which might include hand sanitisers, floor markings, one way systems and possibly screens around the shop counter, would be expensive, and difficult to implement in some parts of our buildings. They would also require a high level of staffing at a time when some of our volunteers, many of whom have vulnerabilities, may well feel they would be safer if they did not participate. This is a disappointing situation to find ourselves in but we have to prioritise the safety and visitors and volunteers.

On a more positive note, work on our new building is progressing well. The electricians have finished light and power in the main exhibition hall, the underfloor heating system is working, and the roof which connects to the older building has been completed. We have now painted the main floor and next week the fire and security systems will be commissioned alongside the new 24/7 cameras. There is much to be done internally but we are now making good progress. There has also been a lot of other maintenance and improvement work around the museum, which continues in a safe and socially distanced way.

Our priority for the moment is to concentrate on the building project. We will keep any possible opening date under review as circumstances develop.

As a separate matter, we would like to thank Parham Parish Council for its recent donation. We have used the money to purchase a new display board- and look forward to the day when we can re-open for visitors to see it.