

Royal Society of Chemistry Historical Group

THE HANDED WORLD: 150 YEARS OF CHIRAL MOLECULES

Date: Wednesday 13 October 2021

Venue: Royal Society of Chemistry, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London

Programme

10.15 Registration and tea or coffee

10.45 Welcome – Prof. John Nicholson, Historical Group Committee Secretary

**First session: introduction; the science to about 1890, with postscripts
Chair Dr Michael Jewess (Meeting Organising Committee)**

10.49 Introduction to the day
Dr Michael Jewess

10.55 Discovery of the phenomenon of polarisation of light
Prof. John Steeds, FRS (University of Bristol)

11.35 Optical activity – a century of perplexity
Prof. Alan Dronsfield (University of Derby)

12.30 **Lunch:** this is not provided but there are many cafés and bars close by.

**Second session: the science from about 1890
Chair Dr Jane Skelly (Lewis Carroll Society)**

14.00 From *d* and *l* to *R* and *S*: discovery of absolute configuration
Prof. Henry Rzepa (Imperial College)

14.30 Molecular and supramolecular chirality
Prof. Giuliano Siligardi (Diamond Light Source)

15.15 Tea

**Third session: chirality in biology and pharmacology today; conclusion
Chair Prof. Alan Dronsfield**

15.45 Does the right hand know what the left hand is doing? – chirality in real life
Dr Ian Blagbrough (University of Bath)

16.55 Concluding remarks – Dr Michael Jewess

17.00 Close – Prof. Alan Dronsfield for the Historical Group Committee

Note for those needing a room for prayer or contemplation: Use the Priestley Room towards the one end of the corridor outside the meeting room.