

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.