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LICHFIELD GARRICK
Theatre & Studio

PRESIDENT
Professor Rex Harris
FEng., FIMMM, FInstP.

8:00 pm on Tuesday 10th June 2014
in the Studio Theatre of the Lichfield Garrick, Castle Dyke, Lichfield

FROM CORTEZ TO CADBURY: The History of Chocolate

Jim Evans
Formerly of Cadbury's Technical Department

The Cocoa bean has been known to man for several thousand years. The first European to come across them was Columbus in 1502 during his fourth visit to the Americas. It was Cortez who first brought some beans back to Spain in 1519. At this time “chocolate” was only a drink and exclusive to the royal court. By today’s standards it must have been disgusting!!

This talk describes how the chocolate drink in Montezuma’s court was prepared and follows the important changes that eventually led to the production of the chocolate bars we know today. The first bars were dark chocolate. Milk chocolate bars followed many years later. Many of the key inventors are names we still know today such as Henri Nestlé, Conrad van Houten, Daniel Peter, Rudolphe Lindt, Joseph Storrs Fry and George Cadbury; all made significant contributions to today’s chocolate products.

Initially chocolate was a product for the wealthy but as production techniques improved it became more affordable for everyone. Some pictures of original and current manufacturing operations will illustrate this aspect.

Jim Evans joined Cadbury Brothers in the Research & Development Department as a Chemical Engineer in 1967. Initially working on Foods products, he later ran one of the many Cadbury factories before moving back into the Technical arena covering the African and Indian operations. He has always had a keen love of history as well as science and has had the privilege of access to the extensive Cadbury archives. The talk however sets out to cover the work of the many people and companies that has led to the wonderful array of chocolates we can eat today.

For further information, please see our website at www.LSES.org.uk
Visitors £5.00 Tickets are not issued in advance: please pay at the door.
Students and Members must sign in.

This lecture is expected to finish by 10.00 pm.