

Lichfield Science & Engineering Society

LICHFIELD GARRICK Theolog & Studio

PATRON

Mr Ian Dudson CBE

HM Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire

PRESIDENT

Dr Zsuzsanna Nagy MD, MA, DPhil

8:00 pm on Tuesday, 13th June 2017 in the Studio Theatre of the Lichfield Garrick, Castle Dyke, Lichfield

LIVING WITH CLIMATE CHAOS

Professor Carolyn Roberts

FRGS FIEnvSc FCIWEM CEnv Csci CWEM SFHEA
Gresham College

Whilst many business leaders and politicians are claiming that great progress is being made towards environmental sustainability, some of the environmental lobbying groups assert that not enough has been done, and that unless society changes its behaviour radically, our children will face insuperable problems. Alternative facts and fake news are deployed to support both positions. Whatever the truth of the matter, we know that the Earth is the only habitat we have, so resolving the debate is crucial.

Drawing on experience from thirty years as an environmental scientist working on applied problems and innovation with businesses, universities and government, Professor Carolyn Roberts will weigh up the evidence for and against an impending environmental crisis. She will focus particularly on climate change and the challenges of managing water supplies and flooding in an era of change. What is the evidence that human ingenuity will be able to produce sufficiently radical new technologies to ensure our survival?

Professor Roberts studied at University College London and the University of Exeter, and worked subsequently at the Universities of Exeter, Gloucestershire and Oxford. Alongside research into water and environmental management, for thirty years she has run her own consultancy. Since 2009 she has worked with and for Innovate UK, supporting business-university collaborations for technology development. She has held roles as Chair of the Institution of Environmental Sciences, Chair of Society for the Environment (both professional bodies), Director of the Environmental Sustainability Knowledge Transfer Network in Oxford University, and Director of the Centre for Active Learning at the University of Gloucestershire. She receives frequent invitations to speak internationally, and has appeared on 'The Life Scientific' (BBC Radio 4), and as an advisor to the TV series 'Silent Witness'. She occasionally assists the police in tracking the movement of murder victims in rivers and canals.