



Lichfield Science & Engineering Society



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FIRE INVESTIGATION: GRENFELL TOWER

**Daniel Matthews BSc Hons PGCert (HE) MRSC MCSFS FHEA
University of Lincoln**

**8:00 pm on Tuesday 8th September 2026
In the Studio Theatre of the Lichfield Garrick**

The fire at Grenfell Tower on 14th June 2017 claimed the lives of 72 people and was the deadliest structural fire in the UK since the Blitz of World War II. The investigation into the fire at Grenfell tower comprised a comprehensive examination of physical evidence at the scene as well as subsequent detailed analysis of various items recovered from the incident location. The initial scene examination provided a clear indication as to the primary cause of the fire. Under intense scrutiny, this hypothesis was tested through the examination of numerous exhibits. The results of these examinations were used to support the subsequent public enquiry and inform further litigations, still ongoing nearly 10 years later.

Dan Matthews is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Lincoln and is the Programme Leader for the Forensic Science BSc course. He teaches at undergraduate and postgraduate levels across several different areas within Forensic Science and Analytical Chemistry.

Dan studied Chemistry at the University of Wales, Bangor and was a court-going forensic expert for over 20 years, mainly at the Forensic Science Service and Key Forensic Services. His areas of expertise include glass, paint, DNA, body fluids analysis, blood pattern analysis and fire scene investigation. He was involved as an expert in numerous cases, including high profile incidents such as the Grenfell Tower Fire.

He entered higher education in 2018 at Coventry University and moved to the University of Lincoln in 2021. Dan's areas of interest include authentic assessment design for students, accelerants analysis, developing new methods for trace evidence analysis and investigating the potential of everyday items as useful forensic evidence.

Alongside his research interests, Dan continues to be active in casework and within international working groups.

For further information, please see our website at www.LSES.org.uk
Students and Members Free.

Visitors £8.00. Tickets are not issued in advance, please pay at the door. (Cash only please.)
Members must sign in. Those signing in before 7:50 pm will have precedence over all visitors.
This lecture is expected to finish by 9.30 pm.