

Lichfield Science & Engineering Society



PATRON

Mr Ian Dudson CBE

HM Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire

PRESIDENT

Professor Carolyn Roberts FRGS, FIEnvSc, FCIWEM, CEnv, CWEM

8:00 pm on Thursday, 9th January 2020 in the Studio Theatre of the Lichfield Garrick

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY FOR HS2 Dr John Halsted, HS2 Ltd.

HS2 Phase One, from London to the Midlands, is the largest ever single linear infrastructure project undertaken in the UK, extending to approximately 200km. Before the engineering works can start in earnest, a programme of archaeological works is being undertaken across the route.

The works are guided by the Historic Environment Research and Delivery Strategy, which has been designed to provide focus to the investigations and place them into a broader academic context through a series of specific objectives. The strategy has considered existing regional and national research agendas, resulting in a series of objectives which include both scheme-wide and locally specific themes. These include all archaeological and historical periods and range from identifying settlement patterns in prehistory, regional distinctiveness in the Roman period, through to the examination of railway technology and industrial heritage. Both traditional excavation and survey techniques are being employed, along with more innovative approaches.

The talk will discuss the strategy for the historic environment works, the methods of investigation that have been employed, preliminary results and their broader context.

John is the Historic Environment Research and Delivery Strategy Manager for HS2 Phase One and has been involved in excavating and managing a variety of archaeological excavations in Britain over a period of c. 25 years. His PhD research at the University of Birmingham examined Neolithic and Bronze Age settlement patterns on the border of England and Wales.