

Lichfield Science & Engineering Society



PATRON
Mr Ian Dudson CBE
HM Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire

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

8:00 pm on Tuesday, 11th February 2020 in the Studio Theatre of the Lichfield Garrick

SHARP KNIVES: THE BLUNT TRUTH

Professor Sarah Hainsworth OBE, FREng University of Aston

Knife crime continues to be a significant issue in the UK and other countries where guns are not readily available. The number of offences committed with a knife or sharp instrument is continuing to rise. Despite this, the number of murders in the UK dropped in the last year.

This talk will discuss knife crime in the UK and in particular, the factors affecting the injury potential of knives and sharp instruments. It will also show how knives and spikes can penetrate stab resistant clothing. Ways of modifying knife tips to reduce injury potential will also be discussed.

Professor Hainsworth is Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Executive Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science at Aston University. Prevously she was at the University of Leicester for almost 20 years, where she was Professor of Materials and Forensic Engineering and also the University's Head of Engineering. Sarah's forensic engineering research has two main focus areas; forces involved in stabbing and characterising tool marks in injury and dismemberment.

Sarah was part of the team which investigated the injuries to the skeleton of Richard III after it was discovered in Grey Friars in Leicester in August 2012. Working in collaboration with colleagues from the University of Leicester's Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, her expertise helped establish the manner of King Richard III's death through analysing wound marks found on his skeleton.