



CHAIRMAN

Mike Beeson

Lichfield Science & Engineering Society

PATRON

Mr Ian Dudson CBE, KStJ
HM Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire

LICHFIELD **GARRICK**
Theatre & Studio

PRESIDENT

Professor Rik Bryan
MBChB PhD MRCS FAcadTM

WHY MENDEL MATTERS

Gregory Radick
Professor of History and Philosophy of Science
University of Leeds

8:00 pm on Thursday, 1st December 2022
In the Main House of the Lichfield Garrick

Even in 2022, two hundred years after the birth of Gregor Mendel (1822-1884), students learning about inheritance start with Mendel's famous experiments crossing varieties of the garden pea. But should they? Does it really make sense, in the age of genomics and epigenetics, to teach students to think of Mendel's peas as exemplary of how inheritance works? This talk will suggest that an old debate about Mendel's experiments casts new light on Mendel's legacies, including his legacies for the classroom.

Gregory Radick is a historian of science concentrating on Darwinism, genetics and the sciences of animal behaviour. Born in New Jersey he was awarded his BA and MPhil. by Rutgers University NJ and his PhD by Cambridge. His book *The Simian Tongue* (Chicago, 2007) was awarded the 2010 Levinson Prize of the History of Science Society for best book in the history of the life sciences. *Disputed Inheritance: The Battle over Mendel and the Future of Biology* will be published with the University of Chicago Press early next year.

Since the meeting will be in the Main House there will be plenty of room. Bring your friends. Not to be missed by biology students and teachers, who will be particularly welcome.

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

Visitors £7.00. Tickets are not issued in advance, please pay at the door.

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.