

SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES



STEPHEN GRAY LECTURE:
**Dr. David H. Clark / "Stephen Gray -
Canterbury's Forgotten Hero of Science"**

At 3pm on Thursday 30th March, 2017,
Jennison Lecture Theatre, University of Kent, Canterbury.

The lecture will be followed by informal discussions over free
refreshments in the Jennison café.

Everybody welcome!



About the speaker / Dr. David H. Clark has had a remarkably wide-ranging career spanning the practice, administration, and history of science and engineering. After working on satellite communications in the New Zealand Post Office, he moved to the UK in 1974 to join first the Mullard Space Science Laboratory and then the Royal Greenwich Observatory and the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, where he was Head of Space Astronomy. In 1985 he became Director of Programmes at the Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC). With the formation of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) in 1994, he was appointed Director of Planning and Communications, and subsequently Director of Research and Innovation. Since 2003 he is a Principal Fellow and advisor to the Chairman and Board at WMG, University of Warwick. David is the co-author, with his son Stephen, of "Newton's Tyranny: the Suppressed Scientific Discoveries of Stephen Gray and John Flamsteed" (W H Freeman, 2000).



**About the Stephen Gray
Lectures /**

Stephen Gray (1666-1736) was a dyer and amateur scientist from Canterbury. He made contributions to various fields including astronomy, palaeontology, biology and optics but is best known for his discovery, in the 1720's, that some materials can conduct electricity while others act as insulators. In 1729 he managed for the first time to transmit electricity over long distances (at Otterden Place, near Lenham). He is also credited with the discovery of electrostatic induction. In spite of his great contribution to Science, Gray's recognition came late in his life: he was the first recipient of the Copley Medal in 1731 and became a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1733. The Stephen Gray Lectures have been instituted by the School of Physical Sciences on the University Kent's main campus, in Canterbury to celebrate one of the region's most prominent Physical Scientists.