



c/o Scientific Generics Limited  
Harston Mill  
Harston  
Cambridge CB2 5GG  
Telephone: +44 (0) 1223 875200  
Facsimile: +44 (0) 1223 875201  
(Organising Secretary's Home Number: 01799 525 948)  
email: [richard.freeman@genericsgroup.com](mailto:richard.freeman@genericsgroup.com)  
CAMBRIDGE SOCIETY FOR THE APPLICATION and  
APPRECIATION of RESEARCH

## HUMAN GENOME

### The Untold Legacy of the Genetic Revolution

Professor Brian J Ford, Member of Council, CSAR

7.30 p.m., Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2006  
The Wolfson Lecture Theatre, Churchill College, Storey's Way, Cambridge

#### About the lecture:

The CSAR prides itself on unusual and unexpected lectures, and this one is made all the more significant by the fact that it is a complete surprise, not only to the audience, but also to the lecturer. Over the years, Brian has observed the unravelling of the new science of genetics and has watched how the field has been misinterpreted, exaggerated, and widely misunderstood. In the heat of debate, he believes that we have lost sight of the progressive nature of the unravelling of this fascinating new discipline. Sex-determined gene loci were plotted before World War One; gene maps (with thousands of precise locations carefully recorded) were available prior to World War Two. Some of the key discoveries were made in unexpected quarters, and by unlikely people. This evening's lecture will cover the untold story of the genetic revolution and may well be the most unrehearsed and spontaneous presentation any of us have ever experienced.

#### About the Speaker

Tonight's speaker is well known as a biologist, author and broadcaster. He is a Fellow of Cardiff University, a member of the University Court and was recently elected President of the Past Students. He is Former Vice-Chairman of Nutrition at the Royal Society of Health, was the first British President of the European Union of Science Journalists' Associations, Brussels, and Chairman of Science Writers, Society of Authors, London.

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He is former Zoological Secretary and Member of Council, Linnean Society of London; Chairman of the History Committee and Former Member of Council, Institute of Biology; and formerly a Director of British Mensa. He is a Life Fellow of Cambridge Philosophical Society and a Member of Council of CSAR. His BBC programmes include 'Science Now and Where Are You Taking Us?' and he hosted Science Hour on LBC.

Brian has appeared on Any Questions, the Today programme and Newsnight and has contributed to Nature, New Scientist, the British Medical Journal and to newspapers including the Times, Guardian and many others. Over 100 editions of his books have been published world-wide. Brian has won many awards for his research including the inaugural August Köhler medal, awarded in Chicago. He was a Fellow at the Open University 2000-2003 and in 2004 was awarded a NESTA Fellowship.

In 2004 he was elected an associate of Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge University and in 2005 was appointed Visiting Professor at Leicester University.

### **The Organising Secretary adds.....**

The speaker billed for tonight – Dr Alison Coffey, of the Sanger Institute – cannot attend due to bereavement over the weekend. So instead we have a talk, once more, by the redoubtable Brian Ford; on a subject not a million miles away from Alison's.

Well done Brian for stepping in at such short notice (and you being off to foreign climes at crack of dawn tomorrow, too!)

**Coffee and biscuits available**, as usual, in the foyer outside the lecture theatre from ~7.00 p.m.

**As is now our custom, we shall charge non-members a nominal sum for entry.** These provide a valuable contribution to CSAR funds.

Richard Freeman  
CSAR Organising Secretary