

Bristol Scientific Club: Meetings 2010-2011

(1) Friday, 22 October 2010

Roger Holman: "Disaster management: Changing the Culture"

"The following is a paper intended to stimulate thought on how to improve response to Natural Disasters which are apparently happening with increased frequency. It touches on some very recent theories arising from new data from Spacecraft and Observatories which are by no means proven as accepted Science. Nevertheless, we need to respond with **improved management** based on our best evaluation of perceived risk as it arises. This study reveals that millions of people are at risk and dying at this moment....and the environmental and political prognosis is not good..."

(2) Saturday, 27 November 2010

Ian Donaldson: "Bristol Blue and Bristol Red"

"Though Bristol Blue is famous, few know that Bristol Red, the colour of the Red Maids, was an equally important export. It depended crucially on Alum, which was made in Bristol until the 1960s. From this, and the related Green Vitriol, many valuable substances for The Arts were made, including Venetian Red, Jewellers' Rouge, Vitriol, gunpowder, ink, dyes and tanning agents. The importance of Copperas and Alum from the 16th Century to the 19th Century will be discussed, including the breaking of a Papal monopoly."

(3) Friday, 18 February 2011

Derek Dominey: "Alzheimers-The Modern Plague?"

"The incidence of Alzheimer's Disease is increasing sharply worldwide. Advances in medical science and social conditions have led to longer life expectancy and with it a greater risk of contracting dementias. The increasing cost to society is already about 1% of GDP and the effect on family life can be devastating. Yet research into the causes and cure of dementia is underfunded compared with the amount spent on research into other diseases. Current promising lines of research into Alzheimer's will be summarised and members are invited to discuss whether there are lessons to be learned from the approach to the solution of other problems, medical and non-medical, to the way forward in tackling the problems raised by this disease."

(4) Saturday, 12 March 2011

Gordon Bannister: The human response to injury.

Last year Gordon interested and informed us with his talk on the development of hip replacement therapies. He returns with a further topic, again of direct relevance to many of our members, with a talk that includes common injuries such as whiplash and the fractured tibia and clavicle. He will cover the range of available treatments, including "alternative" therapies. Be ready for a lively discussion.