

Charterhouse Nuclear History 2025: conference programme v0.4

The conference will bring together academics and other researchers with veterans of Britain's nuclear programmes for presentations and discussions in peaceful and informal surroundings. Subjects will include civil and military nuclear history, architecture and heritage, arms control, nuclear testing, test-ban treaty monitoring and more.

Thursday 3 July

arrive 0945 onwards, registration/rooms/admin, coffee

1100-1230 Jonathan Ayles, Hiding in plain sight: a speculative history of the Capenhurst uranium enrichment plant; Martin Denvir, UK reprocessing history.

1245-1330 lunch

1330-1500 Peter Burt, Trouser legs and *Tireless*: safety and Royal Navy SSNs; Chris Brook, The thorium fuel cycle in the UK.

1500-1530 tea

1530-1700 Bob Kelley, An arms control mystery: the Azgir sphere; John Walker, Chemical Weapons Convention verification: challenge inspection exercises at UK nuclear weapons related facilities 1989-2003.

relax, 1900-2000 informal dinner

2000-2100 multimedia presentation: Michael Mulvihill, The Fylingdales archive.

Friday 4 July

0800-0830 breakfast

0900-1030 Bill Nuttall, UK nuclear reactor exports; Tom Kelsey, 'Picking losers': the political economy of nuclear power in postwar Britain.

1030-1100 coffee

1100-1230 Victoria Marshall, Finds from the Rutherford lab archive; Ele Carpenter, Indigenous knowledge of uranium in the Kakadu National Park, Northern Territory.

1245-1330 lunch

1330-1500 Jan Ruzicka, Lady Kennet and nuclear weapons; Wesley Perriman, exhibition guided tour (see also below).

1500-1530 tea

1530-1700 Wayne Cocroft, Building for the atomic age; Nicola Leveringhaus, Nuclear heritage and commemoration in China.

relax, 1930 drinks in main school, 2000 conference dinner in Hall

Saturday 5 July

0815-0845 check out of rooms, 0830-0900 breakfast

0930-1030 Alan Jackson, Dispersing the Medium Bomber Force.

1030-1100 coffee

1100-1230 Doug Bateman, Farnborough and WE177; Steve Rose, 21st-century nuclear weapons stockpile stewardship.

1245-1330 lunch

1330-1500 Frank Close, Reflections on the deep history of the nuclear age; Gareth Williams, The impossible bomb.

1500 depart

On Thursday and Friday we shall have a small exhibition of photographs and artefacts from Britain's nuclear test programmes, kindly curated for us by Wesley Perriman.