

**The physics of thunderstorms**  
*by*  
**Paul Hardaker**

**Lindop Building**  
**College Lane Campus, Hatfield**

**Wednesday 31 January 2018 at 7.00pm**

Thunderstorms are ever-present across the globe and for centuries have had a strong cultural influence. Our knowledge about thunderstorms has been largely driven by our need to protect ourselves from their impact on local communities and infrastructure. This talk will explore what we know about the physics of thunderstorms and how this has helped us to understand how and where they occur, both on the earth and on other planets.



We shall explore the important role they play in balancing the earth's energy budget, how to mitigate the weather hazards they create and how we can use this knowledge to make predictions and give warnings.

**Prof Paul Hardaker** is currently Chief Executive of the Institute of Physics, the UK's Professional and Learned Society for Physics. He is also Chairman of Sense about Science, a charity that campaigns for better reporting of science in the media, and a Visiting Professor in the School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences at the University of Reading.

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This event is free but places may need to be reserved.