

ISSN



# Historical Group

## NEWSLETTER and SUMMARY OF PAPERS

**Editor: Dr Anna Simmons**

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**Chairman:**

### **COMMITTEE**

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**ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY HISTORICAL  
GROUP NEWS**

**From the Chair**

**Six New Committee Members Elected in Our First Ever Ballot**



**Chemistry, History and Medicine - Wednesday 16 October 2024**

*Senna alexandrina*

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**TRIBUTE TO JOHN GIBSON OBE (1938-2022)**



*Pharmaceutical Historian*

**Special Issue: Gold and Mercury: Amalgamated Histories  
in Chemistry, Culture and Environment**

***Ambix*, May 2023, volume 70, issue 2**

Barry Sturman and David Garrioch, “Amateur Science and Innovation in Fireworks in Nineteenth Century Europe”.

Peter Reed, “George E. Davis: Editing the Chemical Trade Journal, 1887–1906”.

Megan Piorko, Sarah Lang and Richard Bean, “Deciphering the *Hermeticae Philosophiae Medulla*: Textual Cultures of Alchemical Secrecy”.

*A Cultural History of Chemistry*

**Article Collection: Centres and Peripheries of  
Chymical Knowledge: Tracing Traditions of Alchemy and  
Chemistry in Eastern Europe**

*Ambix*

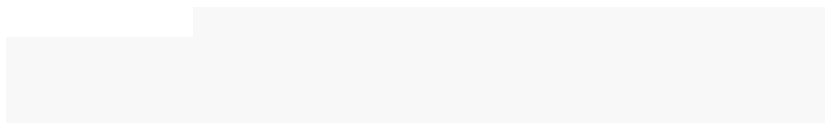




*Newsletter.*

**Marco Beretta and Paolo Brenni,**

**(Leiden: Brill, 2022)**











With oils it seems to enter into peculiar combination which confer on them the property of drying rapidly on exposure to air.

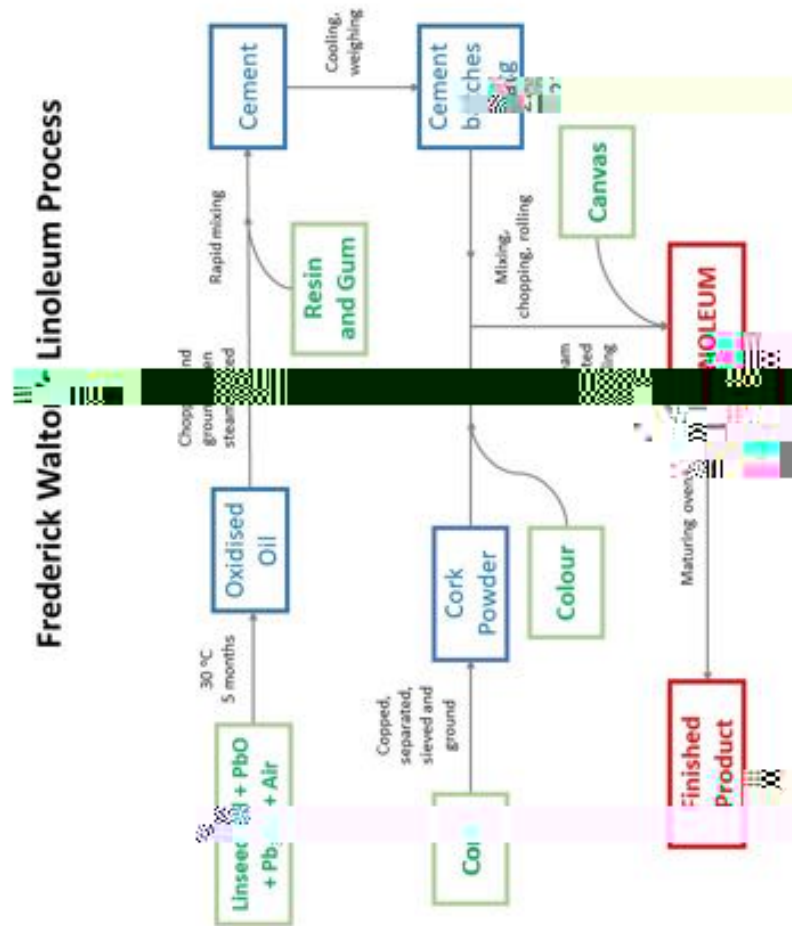


Figure 2: Schematic Summary of Frederick Walton's Linoleum Process.  
Compiled by author from the handwritten notes.

*drossing in the semi-metallic state, or in that of suboxide, may be wholly converted into litharge. When completely oxidised it forms a layer 2 ! to 3 in thick on the bed of the furnace. The powder is raked out into iron*





2. Spelthorne Museum accession SMXSP 2015.257.14, part of a legacy collection (SM297) absorbed into the museum collection on its formation in 1980.

*From Floor to Ceiling: How One Man's Inventions  
Brought Fame to Staines and Sunbury*

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Brought Fame to Staines and Sunbury*

*Journal of the Society of Arts,*

*Chiswick Local History J(t) Bre* *Brentford &*











*Research between Science, Society and Politics.  
The History and Scientific Development of Green Chemistry*

The development of green chemistry has acquired a considerable body of scholarship over many years, often under the heading of related terms, sustainable chemistry, environmental chemistry, clean technology, and “benign by design chemistry”. Linthorst’s book builds on his earlier research and addresses the research question: “how did environmental concerns and the public image of chemistry shape the emergence and (scientific) development of green chemistry in the USA, the UK and the Netherlands?” [1] The three countries were chosen because of the origin of green chemistry in the USA in the mid-1990s (from Linthorst’s earlier work), the major interest in green chemistry in the UK, while the Netherlands is a continental European country that showed a growing interest. In advancing his analysis, Linthorst looks through the lens of the country’s chemical societies, the American Chemical Society (ACS), the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) and the Royal Netherlands Chemical Society (Koninklijke Nederlandse Chemische Vereniging) (KNCV).

The narrative is divided into six chapters. Chapter 1: Introduction – the Emergence of Green Chemistry; Chapter 2: Chemistry, Politics and Society - the Rise of Green Chemistry in the USA; Chapter 3: Recognition and Institutionalization of Green Chemistry in the UK; Chapter 4: T( ) -108 (i)1 (n) -3 ( ) -2 (r ) - o in (p) 2 (t) -7 (3) -0108 (4) -3(o) 2 (c) 3 (i) 5 (e) 3 iSoci108 (i)1 (n) 2 ond o -3(l(e) o8m BT 02



*Chemistry*

*A Cultural History of*

*A Cultural History of Chemistry*



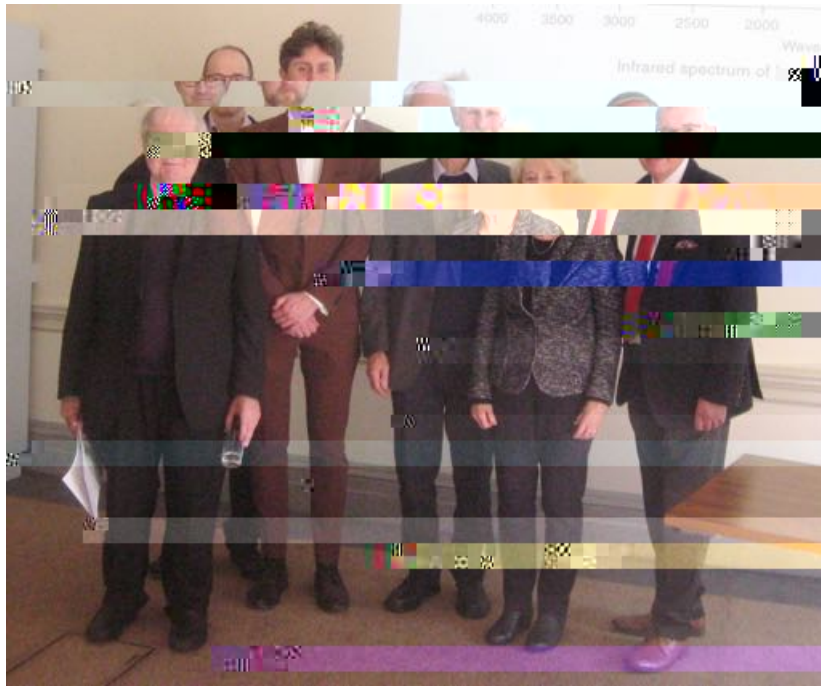
**Putting the Chemistry Back into the History and Philosophy of  
Chemistry –**











**The Discovery of Sodium Cromoglycate (Intal)**

*Robert Slinn*



