The role of blow flies in forensic investigations
Dr Martin Hall
Natural History Museum

Blowfly & Murder
James Hines QC

Blow flies are usually the first insects to arrive on dead bodies, human or animal, but they can even infest live mammals. Therefore they can be very useful as forensic evidence, informing criminal investigations of death or neglect. The most frequent objective of an examination of blow fly evidence is to estimate a minimum post-mortem interval or the time of colonisation of a living victim. The science of forensic entomology is constantly refined by advances in numerous fields of study, from basic morphology to micro-computed tomography. Martin’s talk will briefly introduce the role of blow flies in forensic investigations.

James will discuss the importance of blowfly from the legal perspective, with reference to the evidence of Professor Zakaria Erzinclioglu (Dr Zak) and the murder case of Michael Kyte in Winchester Crown Court in 1991.
Dr Martin Hall

Martin graduated with a Zoology BSc in 1975 from the University of North Wales, Bangor, and a PhD in 1978 from Imperial College, London. He was awarded the Thomas Henry Huxley Award of the Zoological Society of London for his thesis on blowfly feeding behaviour. Following seven years studying tsetse flies in Africa, Martin returned to the UK and joined the Natural History Museum, London, in 1989 as a research entomologist, studying forensic and veterinary entomology. Martin is currently Head of the Parasites and Vectors Division in the Department of Life Sciences, focusing his research on fly species that develop as larvae on carrion and/or on live animals, on the latter causing the neglected disease known as myiasis.

Martin has worked as a forensic entomologist on some 200 criminal cases during the past 25 years. He is author or co-author of more than 140 peer-reviewed scientific publications, many on the biology of blowflies, the insects of primary evidential importance in forensic entomology. His most recent research focuses on the use of micro-CT scanning techniques to age developing blow flies within their puparia. Martin was the founding President of the European Association for Forensic Entomology (2002-2006) and he is on the Editorial Boards of Medical and Veterinary Entomology and Forensic Science International.

James Hines QC

James Hines was called to the Bar at Gray’s Inn, London in July 1982. He was appointed Queen’s Counsel in 2015. He practises in crime, commercial fraud and extradition, principally defending. He specialises in cases which have both criminal and commercial/civil aspects particularly those with an international element. He regularly provides strategic advice to clients during the investigation stage.

James has conducted numerous Serious Fraud Office (SFO) trials. He led for the Prosecution in the LIBOR trial of Barclays employees and recently defended a case involving international bribery and corruption in the procurement of very large oil and gas construction contracts in Russia. James prosecutes and defends in Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) matters particularly involving insider dealing and is also instructed by the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) on cartel matters.

In crime, he has acted in all areas including international money laundering, corruption and serious general crime. James represented Silvio Berlusconi by live television link from London to his trial in Milan.

He also specialises in acting for third parties in respect of internal investigations, witness summons, SFO s.2 notices and International cooperation (MLA). He has experience of private prosecutions. For some years he acted as outside criminal counsel for Microsoft.

The directories describe him as “A wonderful advocate with a warmth that endears him to clients” and “A fine legal mind and extremely impressive”.

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In accordance with article 12 (1) of the Constitution, nominations for Officers (other than President) and Members of Executive Council should be received no later than 1st October 2017. All Members of the Academy are eligible to serve as Officers and Members of Council and nominations are invited. At the AGM there will be vacancies for council. Nominations should be sent in writing (or e-mail) with a short CV, proposed and seconded by members of the academy. Please send to Dr Denise Syndercombe Court (Secretary General), King’s College London, 150 Stamford Street, London SE1 9NH; email Denise.syndercombe-court@kcl.ac.uk.
VENUE
The Museum of the Order of St John, St John’s Gate, St John’s Lane, Clerkenwell London, EC1M 4DA
020 7324 4005 | museum@sja.org.uk

ACCESS
Click here for information about access to the venue

TIMINGS
5.30pm AGM in Council Chamber
6.00pm Guests arrive – drinks reception in Museum Galleries
7.00pm Guests proceed to Chapter Hall to dine
8.30pm Comfort break followed by guest speaker presentations
9.00pm Q&A, Chatham House Rules
10.00pm Carriages

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