

Frank James's main research concentrates on the physical sciences in the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and how they relate to other areas of society and culture, for example art, business, media, religion, technology and the military. He edited the *Correspondence of Michael Faraday*, published in six volumes between 1991 and 2012, and a number of essay collections including *'The Common Purposes of Life'* – a set of essays on the Royal Institution. His *Michael Faraday: A Very Short Introduction* was published in 2010 by OUP who the following year also published his sesquicentenary edition of Faraday's *Chemical History of a Candle*. His current research is on the practical work of Humphry Davy, including his work on nitrous oxide, agricultural chemistry, mineralogy, the miners' safety lamp, analysis of ancient Roman pigments and his attempts to unroll chemically the papyri excavated from Herculaneum.