

# School Lecture at the University of Greenwich at Medway:

## Polio Eradication: A 6,000-Year-Old Emergency

Wednesday 29 July, 6.30pm

Presented by Dr Giulia Getti

- Is eradication of polio feasible?
- Is polio a risk in the UK?
- Could I catch polio overseas?



*Free event by ticket only.*

**This lecture explores the battle against polio, its history and the challenge to eradicate it.**

Poliomyelitis is a highly infectious disease that can cause total paralysis in a matter of hours. There is no cure for polio; it can only be prevented through immunisation. In 1988, the World Health Organization launched a global polio eradication programme with the target of a polio-free world by the year 2000. Today there is still an endemic in four countries and poliovirus is present in a total of 18 countries worldwide.

“Eradicating polio will be one of the most significant public health accomplishments in history, and we are committed to helping reach that goal.”

**Bill Gates, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**

## **Dr Giulia Getti**

Giulia graduated from the University of Perugia, Italy, with a degree in biological science specialising in microbiology and molecular biology. She worked as a research assistant at the University of Perugia before moving to London to undertake a PhD on interaction between *Leishmania* parasites and mammalian macrophages. She furthered her career at the University of East London as a research fellow developing standard protocols in proteomics and MALDI-TOF-based analytical techniques for the analysis of microbial protein expression. In 2008 she joined the University of Greenwich as a senior lecturer in microbiology.



The lecture will be held in Pembroke Building on the university's Medway Campus at Chatham Maritime. It will begin at 6.30pm. Directions to the campus can be found below.

**Admission will be by ticket only.** Tickets are free of charge and are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Telephone:** 020 8331 9800

**E-mail:** science-queries@gre.ac.uk

## How to get to Medway Campus

### Road

From London/the M25 take the A2 towards Dover. Just before the A2 becomes the M2 move into the left-hand lane to join the A289 to Gillingham. Follow signs to Gillingham. Just as you leave the Medway Tunnel, branch left to bring you out at Chatham Maritime. Then follow signs for the campus.

From east Kent take the A2/M2 towards London. Exit at Junction 4 and take the A278 towards Gillingham. Follow signs to Chatham Maritime/the Medway Tunnel (or follow anchor signs). Then follow signs for the campus.

### Train

There are frequent services to Chatham and Gillingham from Charing Cross, London Bridge, Cannon Street and Victoria. There are also services from Ramsgate and Dover.

### Buses

A number of bus companies serve Medway. For details, visit [www.medway.gov.uk/index/environment/publictransport/buses](http://www.medway.gov.uk/index/environment/publictransport/buses).





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