



**International Society of Hymenopterists 24 hour Virtual
Conference [#Hymathon2026](#)
(19-20 November 2026 from 17:00 UTC)**

Keynote Speaker, [Session #1](#) – 19 November 17:00 UTC



Lars Chittka
Queen Mary College of the University of London, London (UK)

The Mind of a Bee

Lars Chittka FRS HonFRES MAE is the author of the book *The Mind of a Bee* and Professor of Sensory and Behavioural Ecology at Queen Mary College of the University of London. He is also the founder of the Research Centre for Psychology at Queen Mary. He is known for his work on the evolution of sensory systems and cognition using insect-flower interactions as a model system. Chittka has made fundamental contributions to our understanding of animal cognition and its impact on evolutionary fitness studying bumblebees and honeybees. He is the recipient of the 2026 International Society of Hymenopterists Distinguished Research Medal.