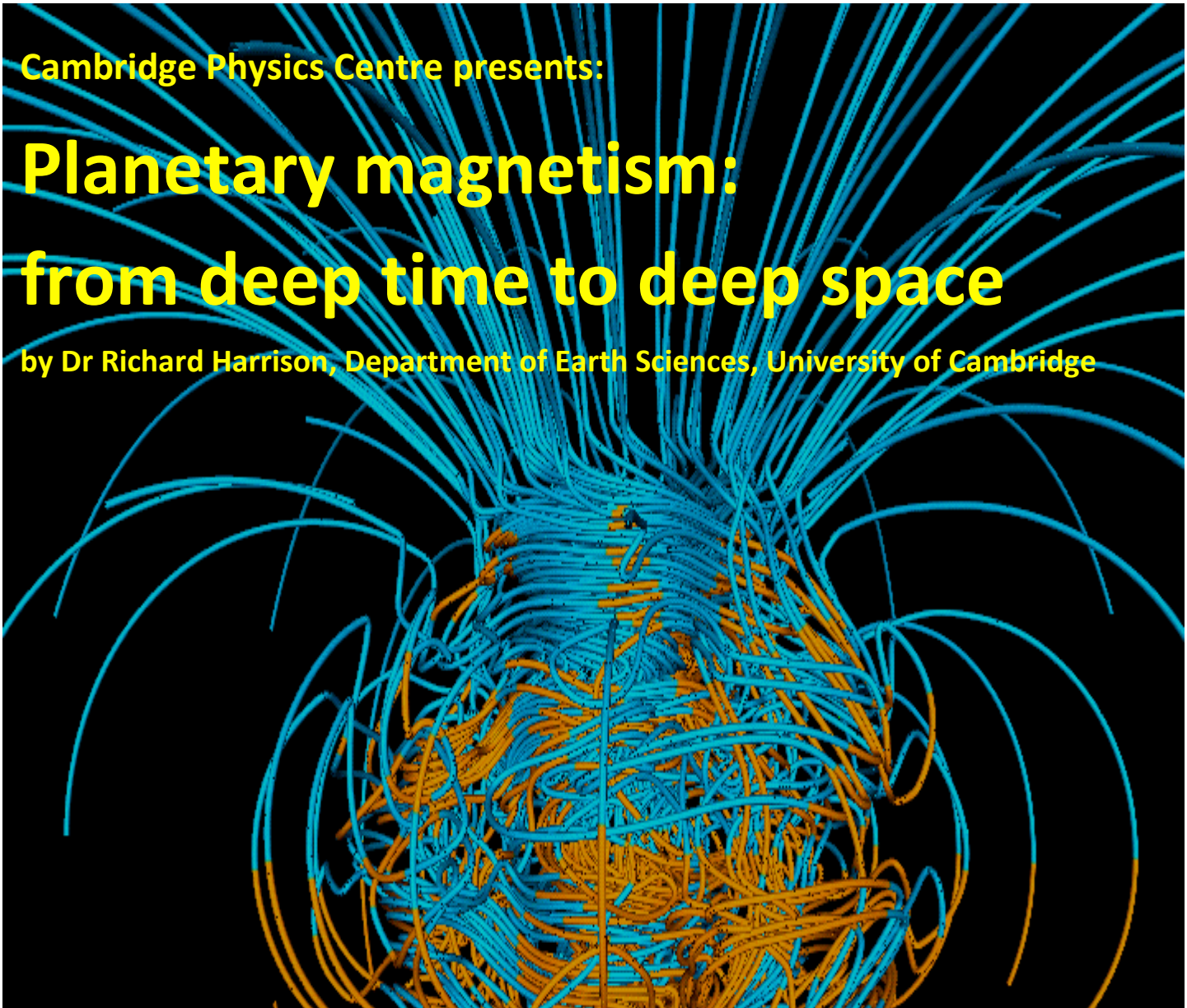
Cambridge Physics Centre presents:

Planetary magnetism: from deep time to deep space

by Dr Richard Harrison, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge



The Earth's magnetic field is generated by the constant churning of liquid iron in its outer core. This "geodynamo" is crucial to life: without it our atmosphere would be stripped away by the solar wind and we would be exposed to lethal doses of high-energy cosmic rays. But has the Earth always had a magnetic field? How has it changed throughout the last 4.5 billion years? Using the physics of "nanopaleomagnetism" we can turn tiny mineral grains into sensitive magnetic recording devices, with memories long enough to detect the magnetic fields that were present not only at the birth of our planet, but at the birth of the solar system

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6pm on Thursday 25th January 2018

Pippard Lecture Theatre, Cavendish Laboratory,
J J Thomson Avenue, Cambridge
Directions at
http://outreach.phy.cam.ac.uk/programme/cpc/cpcdirections

No need to book, just turn up