

## TASC Talk - Gene Genie – by Marius Stuart

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2018

This talk is intended partly as a genetics primer for next month's talk by Professor Simon Waddington, but also to introduce the audience to some of the latest developments in genetics. I looked at some early ideas about heredity and evolution and their consequences and then outlined Gregor Mendel's theories and how they have been fundamental to our modern day understanding of genetics. From here I introduced the subject of Epigenetics and ended with a discussion about the CRISPR/Cas9 technology, which is already leading to cures for a number of inheritable diseases but is also opening up the field to the genetic modification of human beings.