

Bayfordbury Open Evening

31st January 2020

5.30pm-9.30pm

Talks

Talks are located in the lecture theatre at the top of the stairs. There is no need to book a place; just turn up and take a seat 5 minutes before the talk is due to start. Each talk will last approximately 40 minutes.

18:30 Space Quiz from the Hertford Astronomy Group

A fun quiz suitable for all ages.

19:30 "A Star is Born - But how?"

Dr Sarah Jaffa

In a journey that took thousands of years from staring at the sky to the world's biggest supercomputers, Dr Jaffa will explain what we know so far about how to make a star, and how we figured this out, as well as some of the things we don't understand and how we are trying to learn more.

20:30 "How we spotted a potential new planet around the Sun's neighbouring star"

Prof Hugh Jones

Prof Jones will give you the inside story from the international team responsible for the discovery of a possible second planet orbiting the Sun's nearest neighbour, Proxima Centauri.

Planetarium Shows

Shows will be taking place throughout the evening in our two domes. You can book your spot at the booking desk in the Cafe. The outdoor inflatable is in the car park outside (it's hard to miss!) and the indoor planetarium is upstairs at the end of the corridor. Please arrive a few minutes early for your show and queue outside. If you miss your show, we cannot guarantee you a place in another.

Refreshments and toilets

Refreshments will be available in the downstairs cafe by the main reception. Cash only. Please do not take food or drink into the indoor planetarium or telescope domes.

The disabled and men's toilets are on the ground floor and the women's are at the top of the stairs. There is a disabled toilet at the telescopes.

Telescopes & radio show

The telescopes are a short walk from the main building on a paved & level path. Exit the doors at main reception, turn left and follow the lit path. Please stay on the path.

Once you are at the telescopes, you may enter any dome that has its door open to view and, weather permitting, look through our telescopes.

There will also be short (15 minute) talks about radio astronomy every 5 to 10 minutes throughout the evening in the circular brick building near the telescopes.



Activities & demonstrations

Follow the upstairs corridor to find a selection of activities and demonstrations lead by astrophysics students and members of the Hertford Astronomy Group. Including:

Make-a-comet: See how we can build comets here on Earth

Classify Galaxies: There are billions of galaxies in the universe but are any of them similar? This lab will teach you how to classify galaxies depending on their features!

Moon demonstration: Ever wondered why the Moon always looks different? Or why there are so many craters on the Moon? Then this is the lab for you!

Pillar sundial: Learn how to make your own sundial from a paper towel tube!

...and much more!