

Bayfordbury Open Evening

(Due to limited parking, please limit your visit to 2 hours)

Research Talks

Talks are located in the Café space on the right from the main entrance. 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 "Star, planet, or plane? An interactive guide to star gazing"

Dr Sam Rolfe

In this interactive quiz gain confidence in your ability to distinguish stars from planets from planes and pick up a few other hints and tips for enjoying star gazing, no previous knowledge or equipment required!

19:30 "JWST: The first year of science and the search for the earliest galaxies"

Dr Ben Burningham

The incredible Webb space telescope has had an incredible first year and a bit of science operations! I will take you through some science highlights from the 4 main science goals before telling you about the most exciting discoveries at the earliest stages of the Universe (well, I might be biased). We've confirmed galaxies further away than Hubble could see (and re-observing them at the minute of writing to learn more!) and finding black holes everywhere.

20:30 "The Wonderful World of Galaxy Mergers"

Dr Jonny Pierce

Stars are big, but galaxies are huge: on average, they are built up of a population of stars comparable to the total number of humans that has ever existed. Throughout cosmic history, galaxy mergers have played a fundamental role in shaping the Universe that we know today. But what actually happens when these monstrous structures collide? In this talk, I will take you on a tour through a galaxy merger and outline the drastic consequences it has on its two participants.

Planetarium Shows

Shows will be taking place throughout the evening in our two domes. You can book your spot at reception. One is located in our lab to the right of reception 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.

Please do not take food or drink into the indoor planetarium or telescope domes.

Telescopes

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.



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

JWST Zone: Learn all about the wonders of the most ambitious space telescope humanity has ever built and do some fun activities!

Make a Straw Ariane 5 Rocket: Do you have what it takes to be an aerospace engineer and design, build and launch a rocket with the JWST inside?

...and much more!

Toilets

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