

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 "Introduction to Astronomy"

Mily Riley

What is an astronomer and what do they study? In this talk we will explore current areas of interest in astronomy research as well as useful concepts which will begin you on your journey to becoming an astronomer!

19:30 "Dissecting dots with JWST: remote sensing alien atmospheres."

Dr Ben Burningham

The last decade has brought an explosion in the number of worlds beyond the solar system that are known to science. Data from JWST is giving spectacular new views of the incredible diversity of alien atmospheres and planetary systems which are surprising and intriguing scientists. Dr Ben Burningham will talk you through some of the highlights from JWST so far, and take a look forwards to what we can expect to learn in the coming years.

20:30 "Mapping Our Galaxy"

Dr Michael Kuhn

We have exquisite images of spiral galaxies taken by facilities like Hubble or the James Webb Space Telescope. But knowledge of the structure of our own spiral galaxy, the Milky Way, is much less complete due to our perspective viewing it from the inside. I will take you on a tour of the modern picture of the Galaxy, including its warped disk, its central bar, and a Solar neighborhood full of star-forming gaseous filaments.

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.