

Travel Wise

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New electric hybrid powered buses

Reading Buses launched their new electric hybrid buses at the University on Monday 19 September. The event was attended by Tony Downes, Acting Vice-Chancellor, and one of the buses has been named Gordon Marshall in honour of the University's previous Vice-Chancellor.

The new buses improve environmental credentials by replacing the old diesel buses on the routes that come onto the Whiteknights campus. The hybrid buses have a cleaner, greener engine that use less fuel and emit up to 40% less CO₂ emissions.

The buses run up to every 7-8 minutes between the campus and central Reading, making it the perfect route for staff and students to get into town. Reading Buses have also extended their SimplyUni fares, as well as the £99 per term ticket, they have

introduced a 39-week season ticket for £297. This covers the period 3 October 2011 to 29 June 2012. Both tickets can be used on their entire network.

A new bus stop has been erected on the London Road between the campus and Kendrick Road, a further stop will be installed in Kendrick Road to serve the London Road campus. The fare from the stop in Kendrick Road to Whiteknights campus is £1.

Further details can be found at www.simplyuni.co.uk.

Sustainable travel coordinator

Campus Services is pleased to welcome Dr Karen Stanbridge as the University's Sustainable Travel Coordinator. Karen will be looking at our existing travel management measures and incorporating them into a sustainable travel planning strategy. She will also be looking to develop travel planning initiatives which promote sustainable travel for staff and students.

If you wish to contact Karen with any ideas or suggestions, please email her at travel@reading.ac.uk.

Cycling

Following a request from the occupants of Old Whiteknights House, a new cycle shelter will shortly be constructed on the northern side of the building. Requests are also coming in for additional facilities on the Earley Gate side of the Whiteknights campus, these are currently being assessed and will hopefully come to fruition in due course.





University of Reading Car Club

Fancy taking a Fiat 500 out for a spin for less than it costs to buy lunch? Do you need a car for a quick trip to the shops, or to pick up a friend? If so, the University of Reading's on-campus car hire scheme, in partnership with Hertz, is just what you're looking for.

How it works

Membership is completely free for life across the world (simply quote promotion code 1137). Once you're a member, just book a car, either on the web or over the phone. There are two Fiat 500s available to hire on campus in bays outside Whiteknights House. You can pick up your car at any time of the day or night, 365 days a year. You can even reserve a vehicle just minutes before you need it.

Rates

Once you're a member, you will be sent a Hertz On Demand RFID Membership Card which will give you access to the vehicle and allow you to make bookings. You can then hire a car for only £5.50 an hour. (For drivers under 21, there is a £2 per hour surcharge on each vehicle's hire rate).

Rates include insurance, maintenance, roadside assistance, 24/7 in-car member care, 20 miles of fuel per day and the London congestion charge. We only charge for 10 hours in each 24-hour period.

Longer term promotional rates

If you want the car for longer periods, Hertz On Demand offer discounted rates to members for a Fiat 500:

Overnight rate

Monday – Thursday, 6.00 pm – 8.30 am

£20.00

Daily rate

Monday – Thursday, 8.30 am – 6.00 pm

£30.00

Five-day weekly rate

Monday 8.30 am – Friday 6.00 pm

£140.00

Three-day weekend rate

Friday 6.00 pm – Monday 8.30 am

£110.00

More information

For full details on the scheme and to book a car, visit the Hertz On Demand website at www.hertzondemand.com/london or call the Member Care Centre number on **0870 845 4545**. Please quote promotion code 1137 when signing up.

Car Sharing

The University has set up a car sharing scheme in a bid to cut traffic congestion on Reading's roads. If you would also like to save money travelling to and from the University, have someone to travel with, and reduce your carbon footprint then join the University's car sharing scheme. Register your route on the website and the system will search for a match. The more people who register, the greater the chance of finding a match. If you would like to offer a lift or are looking to obtain a lift, register now at www.rucarsharing.com