WELCOME

We’re delighted to present our 2019 Spring Events Diary highlighting this season’s events where there will be something for everyone to enjoy over the coming months.

We will be showcasing an exciting variety of lectures, art, music and film events, including a number of University museums and collection events.

For a full overview of what we have in store, see our event highlights at the centre of this diary. You can also find all of our events online at www.reading.ac.uk/events

We look forward to welcoming you to an event very soon.
The University of Reading’s Public Lecture Series is a showcase of research highlights from across the University.

Established over 45 years ago, these popular lectures are given by Reading academics eminent in their field and cover a wide range of topics.

**SPACE BLITZ: DISCOVERING THE HIDDEN IMPACTS OF WWII BOMBING RAIDS**

**Wednesday 27 February**

The bombing of cities during the Second World War is still fiercely contested. To some, the Blitz against British cities and Allied raids over Germany were necessary battles, weakening the ability of an enemy to wage war. For others, the destruction of cultural landmarks and the deaths of around a million civilians worldwide were war crimes.

Coinciding with the anniversary of the British raid on Dresden, historian Patrick Major and space scientist Chris Scott will explore two different impacts of Second World War bombing raids. Using documents and images from the National Archives, Professor Major will describe what it was like to be on the ground during the chaos and destruction of an air raid. Professor Scott will explain how a new analysis of wartime records by scientists at the Radio Research Station near Slough has helped Reading researchers today conduct an ‘experiment in the past’, showing how the blast waves from the bombs shook the edge of space.

**BRITAIN’S HOUSING CRISIS DESIGNING FUTURE HOMES & CITIES**

**Wednesday 20 March**

Britain’s housing system is broken. Sky-high house prices mean buying a home is just a dream for many people, yet it is still considered an essential pursuit. Tenants are pushed into poverty or forced to move by rent rises, pulling families and communities apart. Young people see their life options constrained in a string of shared flats, or stuck at home with their parents.

So what’s the solution? In this lecture, architect Professor Flora Samuel will deliver her manifesto for a better housing future. She will show how designing better homes and cities is crucial to resolving the current crisis. Intelligent design of towns and cities can improve people’s health and happiness. Social homes must be built in growing numbers that are not only affordable, but enviable. The aim must be to improve the physical environment for the next generation, to help them tackle a growing list of social, political and economic challenges.

Flora Samuel is Professor of Architecture in the Built Environment at the University of Reading, and a Co-Investigator at the UK Collaborative Centre for Housing Evidence (CaChe), for which she leads the ‘Place’ theme.
OFFENCES AGAINST THE PERSON?

DISCOVERING HIDDEN LGB HISTORIES IN BERKSHIRE COURT ARCHIVES

Monday 11 February 16:30 – 18:00
Berkshire Record Office, 9 Coley Ave, Reading RG1 6AF

As part of LGBT History Month, join us to hear University of Reading students Amy Hitchings and George Stokes discuss the findings of their summer 2018 UROP research. Learn about some previously forgotten lives, see some of the Victorian and Edwardian documents they used for research and enjoy tea and cake.

Admission is free. Booking required.
To book your place visit: arch@reading.gov.uk

REDSING 2050 PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES (2018–2019)

From Thursday 31 January 18:00–19:00
Room G01, Building LO22, London Road Campus

The continuing Reading 2050 lecture series creates a platform to discuss and debate the vision of moving to a smarter and more sustainable future by 2050. The series is hosted by the Interdisciplinary School of the Built Environment at the University of Reading and includes presentations from leading experts.

Admission free. No booking required.
For more information contact: architecture@reading.ac.uk or visit www.reading.ac.uk/architecture/architecture-public-lectures.aspx
Reading 2050 Vision website: www.reading2050.co.uk

ALUMNI LECTURE SUPPORTING REFUGEES: REAL WORLD EXPERIENCES

31 January
Reading’s Climate Change Strategy
Chris Beales (Reading Climate Change Partnership) and Ben Burfoot (Reading Borough Council)

28 February
Digital Visualisation: Understanding the Past and Revealing the Future (Dr Ian Ewart and Dr Dragana Nikolic, School of the Built Environment)

The University of Reading is proud of its global outlook and impact, and especially proud of our recently launched dedicated scholarships for refugee students. Such support mechanisms continue to be a key focus for the University, and we remain committed to this area of work.

Supporting refugee students and academics, as well as our portfolio of other student scholarships and bursaries, is a major element of IMAGINE, the University’s fundraising and volunteering campaign.

Our next alumni lecture will explore the experiences of refugees beyond the University, and will draw on personal experiences of our alumni working in this field.

More information about the lecture will be available soon – please check our website for updates:
https://sites.reading.ac.uk/imagine/events

Reading 2050 Vision website: www.reading2050.co.uk

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More information about the lecture will be available soon – please check our website for updates:
https://sites.reading.ac.uk/imagine/events

Reading 2050 Vision website: www.reading2050.co.uk

REDSING REGIONAL BRAIN BEE COMPETITION

Wednesday 20 February 12:00–17:00
Palmer Building, Whiteknights Campus

2019 sees the first regional Brain Bee competition being held in Reading. Secondary school children aged 14–19 will have the opportunity to take part in this competition where they will be able to demonstrate their knowledge of the brain, neuroscience and psychology, and have the chance to win fantastic prizes and represent their region at the national competition later on in the year.

All material students will need to know for the event will be provided once registered.

The winner of the National Brain Bee will then represent the UK at the International Brain Bee. The International Brain Bee was founded in 1999 by Dr. Norbert Myslinski. The Brain Bee motivates students to learn about the brain, captures their imaginations, and inspires them to pursue neuroscience careers to help treat and find cures for neurological and psychological disorders.

More than 60 nations are engaged in coordinating Brain Bee programs worldwide, and this number is rapidly increasing. Around 50,000 students participate across all six continents every year, and more than 600 neuroscientists have been involved with organising and judging the events.

For more information contact: http://brainbee-uk.com or email reading@brainbee-uk.com
The Institute of Education holds regular teacher training information events on every first Monday of the month.

These sessions provide an opportunity to meet our subject experts and learn more about our Early Years, Primary and Secondary postgraduate teacher training programmes. Admission free. Booking required.

For dates, booking and further information about all IoE events, visit: reading.ac.uk/education-events

MASTER’S VISIT AFTERNOON

Wednesday 20 February | 11:00–16:00
Meadow Suite, Park House, Whiteknights campus

This event is a great opportunity to see what the University of Reading has to offer at master’s level. Meet with some of our current postgraduate students; have a guided tour of our beautiful, award-winning campus; and meet with academic staff from your department of interest. Admission free. Booking essential.

To book your place visit: reading.ac.uk/postgraduate-events

For more information contact: student.recruitment@reading.ac.uk
**Botanical University Challenge**

Wednesday 20 February
13:00
Madejski Lecture Theatre, Agriculture Building, Whiteknights Campus

Your bonus for ten and no conferring: When and where was the first Botanical University Challenge held? The brainchild of the University of Reading’s very own Dr Jonathan Mitchley and Dr John Warren (Aberystwyth University), it was held at Kew in 2016! It was a great success and this second event celebrates botany, botanists and the beauty and importance of plants in the 21st century. In this fun event, University teams will compete for the coveted trophy by answering questions on plant related topics.

This is the opening event of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of 50 years of masters botany teaching at Reading. For more details of this and other botanical events check our website readingbotany.net

Admission free. Booking is not required.

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**Learning Languages for a Healthy Brain**

Thursday 21 February
20:00–22:00
Room G01, Building L022, London Road campus

Evidence increasingly suggests that speaking more than one language is good for your mind and brain. This is because bilinguals must constantly choose which language they will use each time, and also prevent the non-relevant language from interfering. Inevitably, this “trains” the brain to be more flexible when switching between languages. This process not only causes the structure of the brain to physically change, but it also applies to a variety of other tasks, and might even prove beneficial in older age. In this interactive event, researchers from the Bilingualism in the Brain lab at the Centre for Literacy and Multilingualism will explain what language learning can do for you, and the importance of its effects for children, younger and older adults, as well as patients with neurodegeneration.

Book your place for this lecture via: www.reading.ac.uk/events

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**Annual Edith Mary Gayton Lecture**

Tuesday 26 February
19:00 (doors open 18:15)
Madejski Lecture Theatre, Agriculture Building, Whiteknights Campus

By Jeremy Moody, Secretary and Adviser to the Central Association of Agricultural Valuers (CAAV). His lecture will provide an insight into the recent challenges and opportunities for the agricultural sector and agricultural land management with a focus on the new generation of farming.

Admission free.

To book a place contact: casagri@reading.ac.uk

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**BA Education Studies Annual Lecture Who Sits at the International Top Table?**

Tuesday 5 March
18:00–19:00
Room G01, Building L022, London Road campus

Roy Blatchford CBE, Founding Director of the National Education Trust.

Roy Blatchford is a former school Principal and Her Majesty’s Inspector of Schools. He has spent the past ten years working with education leaders, policy makers and Ministers in the UK and around the world. He is the author of ‘The Restless School’ and ‘Success Is A Journey’.

At this BA Education Studies annual lecture, Roy will discuss what are the ingredients of the best education systems internationally and where the UK sits in comparison with the best. At a time of political change for the UK, what do schools and universities need to focus on to make sure they stay globally competitive? What should teachers and lecturers do to ensure their students ‘Graduate Worldwise’?

Free to attend, but booking is essential via reading.ac.uk/education-events
FIRE, FIRE, BURNING BRIGHT

Saturday 9 March
10:00–13:00
Harris Gardens, (meeting at Archaeology Building), Whiteknights Campus

Of all the ancient human technologies fire is perhaps the most evocative, and a critical part of the human evolutionary journey. It is also one of the hardest to detect! This free event from the Department of Archaeology will showcase ongoing experimental research that is exploring early campfire technologies and testing a variety of methods for detecting fire half a million or more years ago, during the expansion of humans into northern Europe.

Admission free. Booking required.
To book your place visit: reading.ac.uk/events
For more information contact: r.hosfield@reading.ac.uk

WHY ARE PLANTS SMELLY?

Sunday 10 March
11:00–15:00
Harris Garden, Whiteknights Campus

Ever sniffed a plant, whether nice or nasty and wondered: why do plants smell? Well, wonder no more, we have just the thing for you – our “why are plants smelly” British Science Week event. Total immersion in smelly plants, both sweet and stinky, scratching and sniffing them, discussing the chemical basis of the aromas, their roles in plant defence and pollination, and the human dimensions: food, medicines and health. Join us for a botanical aromatic extravaganza for all the family!

Admission free. Booking advisable.
To book your place contact: info@readingbotany.net

READING SCIENCE WEEK 2019

Sunday 10 March
11:00–15:00
Harris Garden, Whiteknights Campus

Reading Science Week (RSW) is our local celebration of British Science Week which runs every March. It is a big celebration of science and technology in the local area and the programme for the week will be packed with science activities and events aimed at all ages.

More details of events can be found on our website: www.scienceinreading.org/reading-science-week

CAFE SCIENTIFIQUE

9 January, 6 February, 13 March, 3 April
19:30–21:00
Smokin’ Billy’s Rib House, St Mary’s Butts

The Reading Branch of the British Science Association is proud to host Reading Cafe Scientifique events in central Reading each month where you can come and discuss anything from antibiotic resistance to particle physics. You don’t need to be a scientist to enjoy the evening – just come with an open and enquiring mind.

Smokin’ Billy’s offer a 20% discount on food ordered before 7pm on Cafe Scientifique nights.

Admission free. No booking required.
For more information contact: scienceinreading@gmail.com or visit www.scienceinreading.org

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Di d you know? Some species of Amorphophallus emit a scent of decaying flesh to attract insects!
JANUARY

Tues 15 20:00  Crazy Rich Asians (12A)
Thurs 17 19:45  The Workshop (L’atelier) (15) #
Tues 22 19:45  First Man (12A)
Thurs 24 20:00  Waru (15) #
Tues 29 20:00  1945 (12A)
Thurs 31 19:45  Widows (15)

FEBRUARY

Tues 5 19:45  Polina (Polina, danser sa vie) (12A) #
Thurs 7 19:45  Sorry To Bother You (15)
Tues 12 19:45  Disobedience (15)
Thurs 14 20:00  Shoplifters (Manbiki kazoku) (15) #
Tues 19 20:00  Three Identical Strangers (12A)
Thurs 21 20:00  Return Of The Hero (Le retour du héros) (12) #
Tues 26  Late Release Film – film to be confirmed
Thurs 28 20:00  The Favourite (15)

MARCH

Tues 5  Members’ Choice – film to be confirmed
Thurs 7  20:00  Stan And Ollie (tbc)
Tues 12  19:45  Green Book (tbc)
Thurs 14  20:00  Beautiful Boy (15)
Tues 19  19:45  Burning (Beoning) (tbc) #
Thurs 21  19:45  Can You Ever Forgive Me? (15)
Tues 26  19:45  Border (Gräns) (tbc) #
Thurs 28  19:45  Colette (15)

# Sub titled

Reading Film Theatre (RFT) is an independent, not-for-profit cinema run by volunteers who are passionate about film.

Situated in the Palmer building on Whiteknights campus, RFT’s top quality digital projection, large screen and Dolby surround sound provide a great cinematic experience. All are welcome.

New and Improved Membership deals for 2018/19 include Premium and Classic options, see website for details:

www.readingfilmtheatre.co.uk

Tickets in advance: £8 general /£7 concessions/£5 students (Please note that a 50p booking fee applies to all online sales.)

Tickets on the door: £9 general /£8 concessions/£5 students

For more information and to book tickets, please visit www.readingfilmtheatre.co.uk or contact rft@reading.ac.uk 0118 378 7151

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Celebrating Global Cultures
Lectures, talks & seminars
University Museums & Collections
Film
Music
Special Event

www.reading.ac.uk/events | 17
PARTNERSHIP FESTIVAL: ANIMAL CRACKERS
Thursday 14 March
19:00–20:00
Great Hall, London Road campus
The Institute of Education presents the Partnership Festival Concert, coordinated by Year 2 Music Education students on the BA in Primary Education (QTS) programme, alongside children from our partnership schools.

Featuring songs from *The Jungle Book*

Tickets available online at reading.ac.uk/music

ANGELS AND DEMONS
Saturday 30 March | 19:00–20:30 | Reading Minster
Does the devil have all the best tunes? The University choirs present a reflection on the theme of Angels and Demons. Drawing on music from the last 800 years, the programme includes music Hildegard of Bingen, Carlotta Ferrari: *Madrigali*; Guesualdo di Venosa: *Sacrae Cantiones*; Isabella Leonarda: *Magnificat*, William Harris: *Faire is the Heaven*, John Tavener: *Song for Athene*, Ēric Ešenvalds: *Amazing Grace*, György Orbán: *Daemon Irrepit Callidus*; Kerry Andrew: *Lux Aeterna*; and Kathryn Rose: *Duo Seraphim*.

Tickets available online at reading.ac.uk/music

VINTAGE VALENTINES

The University hosts a free series of pop up concerts, which feature a wide variety of performers, from solo artists to large ensembles. This term focuses on showcasing talented ensembles from across the University.

Admission free.
No booking required.

CHAMBER CHOIR
Thursday 7 February
13:10–13:50
Palmer Quad, Whiteknights

YEAR 2 BA IN PRIMARY EDUCATION
Thursday 21 March
13:10–13:50
Palmer Quad, Whiteknights

Ensemble performances from second year students on the BA in Primary Education programme.

Saturday 9 February
Matchbox, Friar Street, Reading
Time TBC
Swing the night away with your beloved. The University of Reading Big Band will present an evening of romantic jazz and swing favourites, featuring the work of women in jazz.

For more information, please visit reading.ac.uk/music
JOINT THE COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

Saturday 16 February, Saturday 2 March, Saturday 9 March

Join Festival Voices and Festival Sinfonia to put on a concert performance of Jesus Christ Superstar. This is an ideal performing opportunity for both new and more experienced singers. The instrumental parts feature brass, strings, percussion, keyboard and all woodwind including saxophone.

Experienced singers may audition for the solo items; see the Community Festival page on our website for details.

More information and registration details are online at reading.ac.uk/music

MUSIC FROM THE ICONIC SHOW

Saturday 9 March
19:30–21:00
Great Hall, London Road campus

Festival Voices and Festival Sinfonia in a concert performance of Jesus Christ Superstar.

Featuring the presentation of the Ben Pedley Award for outstanding contribution to the musical community of the University.

Early Bird Tickets: £10/£8 Concessions
Standard Tickets: £12/£10 Concessions

For tickets and more information, visit www.reading.ac.uk/events
UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS & COLLECTIONS

FRONTIERS: EXPLORING THE EDGE

A multi-site exhibition curated by third year Museum Studies students, showcasing the University of Reading’s diverse collections.

Each subject has been selected and curated by our students and is personal to every one of them.

26th Feb – 20th April

The MERL, The Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology, Cole Museum of Zoology, Reading Central Library, and the Archaeology Department.

Find out more information at merl.reading.ac.uk/whats-on

THE CHICKEN AND THE EGG
CELEBRATING POULTRY HERITAGE

9:00 – 17:00 Mon–Fri. 10:00 – 17:00 Sat–Sun.
Staircase Hall, The Museum of English Rural Life, RG1 5EX

Free admission. No booking required.
Visit merl.reading.ac.uk for more information.

9:00 – 17:00 Mon–Fri. 10:00 – 17:00 Sat–Sun.
Staircase Hall, The Museum of English Rural Life, RG1 5EX

Free admission. No booking required.
Visit reading.ac.uk/specialcollections for more information.

‘HI-TIDDLY-HI-TI!’

UNIVERSITY COLLECTIONS DISPLAYS AT THE MERL

THE CHICKEN AND THE EGG
CELEBRATING POULTRY HERITAGE

9:00 – 17:00 Mon–Fri. 10:00 – 17:00 Sat–Sun.
Staircase Hall, The Museum of English Rural Life, RG1 5EX

Free admission. No booking required.
Visit merl.reading.ac.uk for more information.
Thursday 14th March | 7 – 10pm
The MERL, RG1 5EX
Join us for a fun evening of cocktails, live music, activities and talks on the theme of plants, animals, science and machinery.

Advance tickets £4 (£3 students)
£5 on the door (£3.75 students)
Suitable for adults (18+)

BOOK TICKETS AT
merl.reading.ac.uk/whats-on

More Than Human

For more information about this exhibition, and related events, please visit: merl.reading.ac.uk/whats-on/

An exhibition at
The Museum of English Rural Life

Sire.

05/02/2019 – 05/05/2019

For more information about this exhibition, and related events, please visit: merl.reading.ac.uk/whats-on/
Ladybird Books: ‘How it Works’

An exhibition celebrating over 100 years of the nation’s favourite children’s books

Hosted at Reading Museum as part of Museum Partnership Reading, a new cultural initiative funded by Arts Council England, this exhibition presents material from the extensive Ladybird Archive held at the University of Reading.

30 March – 17 August 2019
Reading Museum

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

Ladybird Family Fun Day
10am – 3.30pm • Tuesday 9 April
At The MERL and Reading Museum

LADYBIRD
A MERL Late at Reading Museum
7-10pm • Thursday 16 May

The MERL Seminars: Looking at Ladybird
12–1pm • The MERL, RG1 5EX

Like the countryside, Ladybird books conjure up a world of nostalgia and link firmly to childhood experience. In these seminars, experts from the University of Reading will explore history and meaning in Ladybird, book design, and the latest thinking in children’s literacy.

5 April
Does a special font help children with dyslexia to read more fluently?
Dr Holly Joseph, Associate Professor of Language Education and Literacy Development at the Institute of Education

26 April
Reanimating Ladybird: A pop-up display of Ladybird artwork
Clare Pascow & Dr Naomi Lebens, University Art Collections, and Dr Ollie Douglas, Curator of MERL Collections

10 May
Nursery Vision: Reading the Ladybird Three Blind Mice
Dr Neil Cocks, Associate Professor in the Department of English Literature

17 May
Letterforms and Layout: Designing factual books for children
Professor Sue Walker, Professor of Typography

24 May
Ladybird Landscapes: What to look for in the What to Look For books
Dr Jeremy Burchardt, Associate Professor in the Department of History

Copyright © Ladybird Books Ltd, 1958
EVENING VISITS

Extended Hours Nights take place on the last Thursday of every month. The museum galleries, shop, cafe and reading room are open until 9pm. Visit merl.reading.ac.uk/visit-us/group-visits or call 0118 378 8660 for more information.

ALL ABOARD

Groups are welcome at The MERL during normal opening times, and on our Extended Hours Nights. Booking is essential for groups of 10 or over. Visit merl.reading.ac.uk/visit-us/group-visits or call 0118 378 8660 to book.

WRITING THE RURAL

Selected Thursdays during February and March, 12–1pm

We welcome back our popular collaboration with the Department of English Literature for a third exciting series. This year's talks are chaired jointly by Dr Paddy Bullard and by our current Research Fellow, writer Suzy Joinson. Their guests include the usual inspiring mix of writers and literary thinkers.

For more details visit merl.reading.ac.uk/whats-on or call 0118 378 8660
**HOW TO FIND US**

Detailed information about how to get to the University, including maps of our campuses can be found at: [www.reading.ac.uk/visit-us](http://www.reading.ac.uk/visit-us)

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**READYBIKE – WHY NOT CYCLE TO OUR CAMPUSES WITH READING’S ON STREET BICYCLE HIRE SCHEME?**

We have Readybike docking stations on our Whiteknights and London Road campuses. For more information visit: [www.readybike.co.uk](http://www.readybike.co.uk)

**BUSES RUN FROM READING TOWN CENTRE TO THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES REGULARLY.**

Whiteknights campus
Shinfield Road: Claret routes 21 and 21a (24-hour service) stop on the Whiteknights campus, collecting from outside Reading Station. Leopard route 3, 10 and 9 stop next to the Shinfield Road entrance.

Pepper Lane: Claret routes 21 and 21a stop at the Pepper Lane entrance

Earley Gate: Route 9 and routes 12 & 22 stop by this entrance. The Purple route 17 (24-hour service) stops at Three Tuns on Wokingham Road, which is a short walk from the Earley Gate entrance.

London Road campus
Scarlet route 9 and Claret routes 21 and 21a both travel past the London Road campus and Kendrick Student Village en route to the Whiteknights campus.

For further information visit: [www.reading-buses.co.uk/university](http://www.reading-buses.co.uk/university)

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**THE POSTCODE FOR WHITEKNIGHTS CAMPUS FOR SAT NAV USE IS RG6 6UR. FOR SOME EVENTS YOU MAY BE DIRECTED TO A PARTICULAR CAR PARK.**

Events at Earley Gate
Guests are advised to use the Earley Gate entrance to the University (there is no car access to Earley Gate from the Shinfield Road entrance). Postcode for sat nav use: RG6 7BE.

Events at London Road campus
The London Road campus car park can be accessed from London Road (turn left into Crown Place). The postcode for sat nav use is RG1 5AQ. Visitors attending an event at the Museum of English Rural Life are invited to use the MERL car park or Acacia Road car park (adjacent to the Museum). Postcode for sat nav use: RG1 5EX.

**Parking permits**
If you are attending an event at any campus on a weekday before 5.00 pm and plan on arriving by car, you will need to display a visitor’s permit to park on site, unless otherwise advised. After 5.00 pm, and at weekends, a permit is not required. Please note that a permit does not guarantee a car parking space. If you have any queries regarding specific event parking, please contact the event organiser directly.

For more information, please contact: reception@reading.ac.uk or call 0118 378 7307

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**EVENTS AT THE MERL**

Find details of family events and activities on The MERL website [merl.reading.ac.uk/families](http://merl.reading.ac.uk/families)

@TheMERL #TheMERL

**FAMILY EVENTS AT THE MERL**

Find details of family events and activities on The MERL website [merl.reading.ac.uk/families](http://merl.reading.ac.uk/families)

@TheMERL #TheMERL

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**Event details in this guide are correct at the time of going to press. Please check our website for up to date information:** [www.reading.ac.uk/events](http://www.reading.ac.uk/events)
SPRING 2019
EVENTS DIARY

For more information, please contact:

Events Office
University of Reading
Whiteknights
PO Box 217
Reading RG6 6AH
Postcode for sat nav use: RG6 6UR

events@reading.ac.uk
Tel (0118) 378 6718
www.reading.ac.uk/events