

Science in the Quad

AUTUMN PROGRAMME 2016

All events are in the Wood Foundation Centre for Science and Technology, Robert Gordon's College, Schoolhill, Aberdeen at 7:00 pm on the dates listed and are FREE to attend.

September
Wed 7th

Dr Melanie Windridge

Aurora: in search of the Northern Lights

Interweaving the science with a background of their history, folklore and changing landscape, Aurora brings together space, place and science in magnificent style. This inspiring lecture, based on the book of the same name, describes our connection to the Sun, the scientific processes behind the Northern Lights, and some of the unwanted technological effects of Space Weather - with beautiful images and adventure stories!



October
Mon 3rd

**Teodora Oniga,
University of Aberdeen**

General Relativity: tests and applications

General relativity is one of Einstein's most famous theories. But have you ever wondered how we can put it to the test? We will discuss some of the most important experimental tests of general relativity and the role it plays in exploring new physics, such as the discovery of gravitational waves.



November
Mon 7th

**Dr Helen Mason,
University of Cambridge**

Our Dynamic Sun

Several solar spacecraft have been observing the Sun over the past few years and we now have detailed images and movies of the Sun, which show that it is very complex and dynamic. This talk will review what we have learnt about our Sun from these space observations, in particular what we know about solar activity and solar flares, together with the impact that the Sun can have on the Earth's environment.



December
Mon 5th

Laura Thomas

The Moon: our next step in the journey to Mars

As we move towards the final phase of the ISS (likely to close in the 2020s) space agencies have turned their attention to a return to the Moon. This will be the next base as we continue to prepare for our journey to Mars. This talk will look at the plans space agencies have for humankind's return to the Moon and compares this with imaginings of the early sci-fi authors such as Jules Verne and H.G. Wells.



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Where and When

All sessions begin at 7:00pm at Robert Gordon's College in the centre of Aberdeen.

How it Works

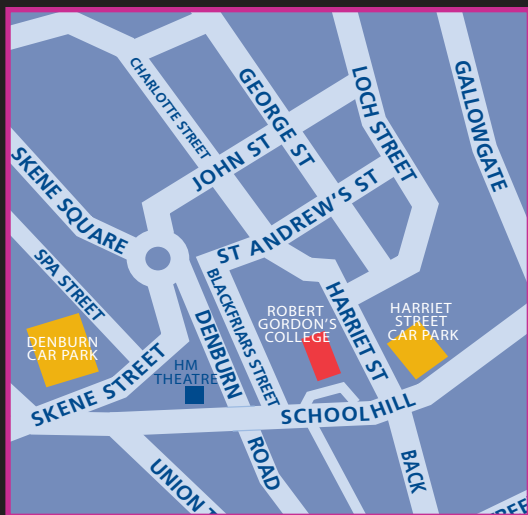
- 7.00pm We begin with a short presentation from the speaker
Chaired, open discussion involving the speaker and audience
- 8.20pm Close and thanks

What's the Cost?

All sessions are **FREE** and open to everyone. Refreshments will be available. Speakers usually give up their time for free.

This programme is supported by the Institute of Physics in Scotland and Robert Gordon's College. For further information go to www.rgc.aberdeen.sch.uk/celebration.

Science in the Quad acknowledge the support of the University of Aberdeen in launching the series. Details of café discussion series and other events organised by the University of Aberdeen can be found at www.engagingaberdeen.co.uk



For further information please contact Stuart Farmer:
S.Farmer@rgc.aberdeen.sch.uk

Public parking is available surrounding the venue.

Robert Gordon's College is a charity registered in Scotland, NO SC000123