



# The British Astronomical Association

## Milton Keynes Meeting

### Saturday 2014 April 26



## ‘Stars! Eclipses and Explosions’

**The Open University, Berrill Lecture Theatre, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA**

This is an opportunity to find out more about stars and their effects on the surrounding neighbourhood as studied by amateurs and professionals, on the basis of both practical observation and cosmological theory.

The cost for the day will be £15.00 for BAA members and £17.50 for non-BAA members. Accompanied Children under 16 £5.00. This cost includes a buffet lunch and tea/coffee during registration and in the afternoon.

### Getting to this BAA Event

The Open University Campus is located in Milton Keynes. The Berrill Lecture Theatre is the first large building you see on the right as you enter the campus.

#### Car

Postcode MK7 6AA should be used for sat-navs. Both the A5 and the M1 are ideal routes to get to the site.

Milton Keynes has a grid system and all roundabouts (of which there are hundreds!) have the road coordinates marked. Head for the roundabout H9/V10, travel north for 200 metres and turn left into the campus.

#### Train

Milton Keynes Central Station is 5 km from the campus and a taxi will be needed to get to the OU. Bow Brickhill station (from Bedford) is 2.5km south of the campus

#### Parking

There is ample free car parking all around the Berrill Theatre.

Full details and maps can be found on the BAA web site [www.britastro.org/miltonkeynes2014](http://www.britastro.org/miltonkeynes2014)

### Our Hosts

#### The Open University Astronomy Club

Astronomy is part of the Department of Physical Sciences, and its research covers the environment in the Galaxy and star forming regions, and the subsequent populations of stars; exoplanetary astrophysics; observational cosmology; laboratory studies in astrochemistry. They have leading roles in many major international projects and facilities, including SuperWASP, JCMT Legacy Surveys, LOFAR, and Herschel. They use many international facilities, from ground-based observatories (e.g. ALMA, South African Large Telescope, ESO) to space telescopes (e.g. AKARI, Herschel, HST, Spitzer, STEREO), and are involved in the planning and preparation for future international missions (e.g. SPICA, FIRI, PLATO, EChO, Athena, Euclid).

The department also teaches more astronomy undergraduates than the rest of the UK higher education sector put together, with over 40 years' experience specialising in distance education, taking students from no previous knowledge to undergraduate degrees and beyond. *(Information taken from their web site)*

<http://www.open.ac.uk/science/physical-science/astronomy>

The Club has access to the George Abell observatory, which houses the Alan Cooper telescope - a 16inch Meade with a plethora of accessories. The club also has access to the PIRATE robotic telescope located at the Observatorio Astronómico de Mallorca (OAM): <http://pirate.open.ac.uk/>

They meet on the first Tuesday of the month (except July and August), membership is open to anyone.

**Please use the booking form overleaf to reserve your place(s).**

Today's retailers are: - BAA Sales

Please complete this form and send it to:  
The British Astronomical Association, Burlington House, Piccadilly,  
London W1J 0DU by the closing date of **2014 April 14** (Telephone: 020 7734 4145).

## Booking Form

Name:	
Address:	
Post Code:	
E-mail Address:	
Telephone No.	Day / Evening / Mobile
Accompanying Persons (if any):	BAA Member? YES / NO
Please indicate any dietary requirements:	
TOTAL AMOUNT £	

**Lunch:** Vegetarian option. Yes/No. Special Dietary Needs .....

<b>PAYMENT METHOD</b> Please <input type="checkbox"/> I enclose cheque or postal order made payable to: <b>THE BRITISH ASTRONOMICAL ASSOCIATION</b> OR Please charge my <b>Visa / Mastercard / Switch / Delta / Maestro / Amex</b> account		
<b>CARD NUMBER</b> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <div>VALID FROM</div> <div>EXPIRES</div> <div>SECURITY</div> <div>SWITCH ISSUE No.</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <div><b>NAME ON CARD</b></div> <div><b>CARDHOLDER'S SIGNATURE</b></div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> </div>		

**PAYMENT METHOD** (Please tick appropriate box):

### Programme

10:30	Registration – Tea / Coffee & time to visit our retailers
10:50	Official welcome – BAA President, Mrs Hazel McGee
11:00	Prof Andrew Norton – ‘Gamma ray bursts – an astronomical detective story’
12:00	Dr Cosimo Inserra – ‘Supernovae: how to blow up a star!’
13:00	Lunch & time to visit the observatory and our retailers
14:30	Sheridan Williams – ‘The past, present and future of the Open University Astronomy Club’
15:00	Dr Colin Forsyth – ‘Our volatile Sun: Explosions, Ejections and Space Weather’
16:00	Tea & time to visit our retailers
16:30	Sheridan Williams – ‘Solar eclipses (including the 2015 total eclipse)’
17:30	Raffle & close

Programme correct at time of printing

Event Organiser: Mrs Hazel Collett, e-mail [meetings@britastro.org](mailto:meetings@britastro.org) Tel: 07944 751277  
Local Co-ordinator: Mr Sheridan Williams, e-mail [sheridan@clock-tower.com](mailto:sheridan@clock-tower.com) Tel: 07767 788146

Details can be found on the BAA website at [www.britastro.org/miltonkeynes2014](http://www.britastro.org/miltonkeynes2014)