

VISITING SPEAKERS

Lent Term 2020 All talks begin at 7.30pm



MON
20
JAN



Christina Astin, Young Scientist Journal: 'How to win a Nobel Prize before your 30th birthday' – Foxcroft Lecture Theatre

Christina is passionate about science outreach and developing student opportunities. In 2006 she co-founded Young Scientists Journal (www.yjournal.com) which is written, edited and produced by students aged 12 to 20 across the globe. She is an active STEM ambassador and has led science activities with thousands of pupils at primary and secondary schools and festivals, as well as being in demand as a speaker at conferences.

MON
20
JAN



Temple Society: John Casson, CMG, 'Having Faith in the Corridors of Power' – Temple Reading Room

John was foreign policy adviser to the Prime Minister 2010-2014 and British Ambassador in Cairo 2014-2018, having worked previously in Kenya, Washington DC, Brussels, HM Treasury and the House of Commons. He now helps lead organisations and partnerships that are developing new ways to liberate people's potential in international education, leadership formation and reconciliation across political and religious divides. He is an Associate Fellow at Chatham House.

MON
27
JAN



Arnold Society: Claire le Hur: 'Conflict and Conquest in the Classical World' – Upper Bench

Claire started her teaching career at Rugby School and then was Head of Classics for seven years. In 2014 she moved to London and continues to teach classics at Colfe's School where she is also Director of Schools' Partnerships and Oxbridge Coordinator. Claire spoke about Ovid's Metamorphoses at 'Meeting the Challenge' conference in Venice and has run several courses for classics teachers, including on how to run a good Classics Department. She did take a rather late 'gap year' during which she cycled through Africa and Asia all the way to China with her (now) husband. She has written two children's books based on their adventures and she often visits schools to do talks about this as well as speaking to classics societies.

THU
30
JAN



An evening with Carol Ann Duffy – Temple Speech Room

Originally from Glasgow, Carol grew up in Stafford and then attended the University of Liverpool where she studied Philosophy. Carol has written for both children and adults and her poetry has received many awards, including the Signal Prize for Children's Verse, the Whitbread and Forward Prizes, as well as the Lannan Award and the E. M. Forster Prize in America. In 2012 she was awarded the PEN Pinter Prize and was Poet Laureate 2009 – 2019.

TUE
11
FEB



Head Master's Lecture: Jennifer Scott (Dulwich Picture Gallery): 'Rembrandt's Light' – Foxcroft Lecture Theatre

Jennifer studied at the Courtauld Institute of Art before joining the curatorial team at the Royal Collection Trust. She then moved to Bath to become director of the Holburne Museum. In 2016 she was appointed Sackler Director of Dulwich Picture Gallery in South London, the first woman to hold this position. Her talk relates to the major exhibition of Rembrandt's works held at the gallery from October 2019 to February 2020.

MON
24
FEB



Dr Matthew Hegarty, Aberystwyth University: 'Plant breeding in Wales' – Foxcroft Lecture Theatre

Originally from Rugby, Matt studied Genetics at Aberystwyth University before going on to obtain a PhD in Plant Genomics at Bristol. Following a period of postdoctoral research into plant hybrids, he returned to Aberystwyth in 2009 and is now a Senior Lecturer at the Institute of Biological, Environmental & Rural Sciences (IBERS). His teaching and research focus on the use of genomics to understand diversity in natural and human-managed populations of plants and animals. In particular, this has recently led him away from his original background in plant genetics to the study of rare breeds in animals. In addition to his lecturing role, he is also Director of Student Employability for IBERS and Academic Champion for Enterprise, involving him routinely with industrial partners.

TUE
25
FEB



History Society: Dr Michell Chresfield: 'Gender War: Civil Rights in the USA' – Macready Theatre

Dr Chresfield is a 20th century US historian at the University of Birmingham. Her research interests include cultural and intellectual history, the history of science and medicine, and the history of racial formation and identity making in 20th century America. Her current research examines how Americans of Native, Black, and White descent have used social science, medicine, and the law to negotiate multiracial identities during the regime of Jim Crow. She is currently working on a book based on this research titled 'What Lies Between: Social Science, Medicine, and the Prehistory of Multiracial America.'

MON
02
MAR



Annual Foxcroft Essay Final – Foxcroft Lecture Theatre from 4.30

This annual competition is open to all lower sixth formers from Warwickshire, Northamptonshire and Leicestershire.

This year the essay title is: 'A 2020 View of Climate Change'. Essays can be written from the perspective of a biologist, a chemist or a physicist. Essay areas include: 'a more climate friendly diet', 'alternatives to palm oil' and 'the role of nuclear power'.

MON
02
MAR



Temple Society: Valentin Gerlier: 'Love of Wisdom, Care for Life: Practising Ancient Philosophy in the Digital Age' – Temple Reading Room

Scholar, writer and musician, Valentin is also tutor and lecturer at the Temenos Academy, the Institute of Continuing Education at the University of Cambridge, The Prince's Foundation School of Traditional Arts and numerous other educational settings. His interests include poetics and metaphysics, the Platonic tradition, and mystical currents in world religions. He is also currently a PhD candidate at the Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge, writing on Shakespeare, Nicholas of Cusa and theology.

MON
09
MAR



Professor Averil Macdonald OBE and Professor Alun S. Vaughan: 'Electric Cars – are they really the future?' – Foxcroft Lecture Theatre

Averil is Professor Emerita of Science Engagement at the University of Reading and holds both Diversity Lead and Impact lead roles in the South East Physics Network. She is Chair of UKOOG, the representative body for UK onshore oil and gas, and was awarded an OBE in 2015 for contributions to women in science and engaging the public with science. An outstanding woman in her field, she has received many other awards.



Alun has a BSc in chemical physics and a PhD in polymer physics. After working at the UK's Central Electricity Research Laboratories, and spending a period as an academic at the University of Reading, he was, until taking semi-retirement, Head of the Electronics and Electrical Engineering research group at the University of Southampton. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Physics and a Fellow of the IET.