

EVENT PROGRAMME



This programme provides a summary of each of the activities taking place during the Community Festival. Places at many of the activities will be on a first-come, first-served basis, so please arrive early to avoid disappointment. Please see each listing on the following pages for more information.

Activities are suitable for all age groups unless specifically indicated. Children and young people aged 14 and under must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

Time	Activity	Location
11:00	Festival opens	Whiteknights Campus
11:00–11:30	<i>Whiteknights Morris</i>	Meadow
11:00–17:00	<i>Cole Museum of Zoology open to visitors for dinosaur-themed activities and discovery sessions</i>	Health and Life Sciences Building
11:00–17:00	<i>Family-friendly activities in the Research Zone</i>	Reading Students' Union
11:00–15:30	<i>Reading Guild of Artists Painting Session</i>	Meeting Point: At the front of Park House
11:15–11:45	<i>Children's talk: Do baby cows like toys?</i>	Mondial, Reading Students' Union
11:30–16:30	<i>SportsPark open for visitors to view facilities as well as drop in and play sessions</i>	SportsPark
11:30–11:50	<i>Ukrainian Choir</i>	Stage, Meadow
11:50–12:10	<i>Balamuty dance group</i>	Stage, Meadow
12:00–13:00	<i>Kidical Mass - campus bike ride</i>	Car Park 4
12:00–12:30	<i>Children's talk: Microplastics: A bigger problem than you think!</i>	Mondial, Reading Students' Union
12:10–12:15	Welcome from Professor Robert Van de Noort, Vice-Chancellor, University of Reading	Stage, Meadow

Time	Activity	Location
12:15–12:55	<i>One Eyed Man</i>	Stage, Meadow
13:00–13:20	<i>South Gloucestershire Chinese Association</i>	Stage, Meadow
12:45–13:15	<i>Children's talk: Ghostly poetry</i>	Mondial, Reading Students' Union
13:30–14:10	<i>Dream Sellers</i>	Stage, Meadow
13:30–14:00	<i>Research talk: Book Society: The first celebrity book club in the UK</i>	Mondial, Reading Students' Union
14:15–14:35	<i>Reading Knights Dance Society</i>	Stage, Meadow
14:15–14:45	<i>Children's Talk: Moving through time: 200 years of studying dinosaurs</i>	Health and Life Sciences Building
14:15–14:45	<i>Research talk: Understanding biological purpose</i>	Mondial, Reading Students' Union
14:40–15:20	<i>Limpopo Groove</i>	Stage, Meadow
15:25–16:05	<i>University of Reading Big Band & Vocal Networking Collaboration</i>	Stage, Meadow
15:00–15:30	<i>Research talk: Music fandom, emotions and anti-racism in twentieth century Britain</i>	Mondial, Reading Students' Union
15:45–16:15	<i>Research talk: The World of Stonehenge</i>	Mondial, Reading Students' Union
16:10–16:50	<i>The Stretch</i>	Stage, Meadow
17:00	Festival closes	Whiteknights Campus



STAGE



Head down to the Meadow and enjoy a packed line-up of live music, dance and performances from some of Reading's finest on the Main Stage.



Whiteknights Morris

🕒 11:00 – 11:30

Whiteknights Morris are a group of former Reading students who learnt the noble art of ritual dance as undergraduates during the 1970s. This performance is a 50th anniversary reunion of the team.



Ukrainian Choir

🕒 11:30 – 11:50

An unmissable live performance from the Ukrainian Choir, as they share their love of the music, songs and culture from life in the Ukraine.



One Eyed Man

🕒 12:15 – 12:55

One Eyed Man is a Berkshire-born indie-folk songwriter, inspired by the spirit of travel and adventure, while supporting environmental causes. His unique rhythmic style and raw vocals emulate the likes of Ben Howard, Bob Dylan, Noah Kahan, Bon Iver and more...



South Gloucestershire Chinese Association

🕒 13:00 – 13:20

Check out the incredible performers from the South Gloucestershire Chinese Association, a group of dance lovers from Bristol who are a regular at community festivals across the region.

Dream Sellers

🕒 13:30 – 14:10

Dream Sellers are one of Reading's finest folk-rock bands, playing a mixture of original and well known folky songs with a definite kick up the backside!



Reading Knights Dance Society 🕒 14:15 – 14:45

RKDS is one of Reading's dance societies, offering 7 styles including Ballet and Tap. The society is student led offering classes to everyone, and a friendly atmosphere to enjoy a shared passion together!



Limpopo Groove

🕒 14:40 – 15:20

An original, 6-piece, upbeat, afro-fusion group for all ages and walks of life, blending jazz with Zimbabwean tribal beats and European influences to create catchy rhythms that crowds just can't help dancing to!



University of Reading Big Band & Vocal Networking Collaboration

🕒 15:25 – 16:05

University of Reading Music and Vocal Networking present a debut cross-genre collaboration of influences from contemporary RnB, soul & hip-hop and traditional jazz, arranged and performed especially for Community Festival 2024! Come and enjoy an exciting blend of brand-new and reimagined music from artists Modeste, Priya & Jaymaker and the University's very own Big Band.



The Stretch

🕒 16:10 – 16:50

One of Reading Uni's own, The Stretch has been hitting the Berkshire music scene hard since 2022. Combining explosive melodies with rapid pace and grooves that will make you want to get up on your feet - this is a set you won't want to miss.



B Radio

Our friends at B Radio will be MCing and playing the hits on the Main Stage throughout the day. Tune in weekday mornings with Robin Banks and Jonny Borrows on the B Radio Morning Show on 95.6 FM or on the B Radio app to discover local bands, chats with local organisations and information about events in your community and across Berkshire, Hampshire and Surrey.



WORKSHOPS

There will be a selection of free hands-on workshops and activities taking place across the festival. Don't miss out on this opportunity to join in on some fun activities that all the family can enjoy. **Workshop spaces will be on a first come first served basis***. Please see each listing for more information on times and locations.



Reading Guild of Artists Painting Session

🕒 Meet at 11:00 and 15:00

📍 Outside the front of Park House

Informal Painting and Sketching – Drop-in session

Join the Reading Guild of Artists for an informal painting and sketching session on Whiteknights campus. Bring your own painting and drawing equipment and meet the group at 11:00 outside the front of Park House. You will then head off separately to find a view that inspires you nearby, before coming back together at 15:00 outside Park House for a painting 'throwdown'.



African Drumming Workshop

🕒 11:15–12:15

📍 Meadow Suite

[Book online now](#)

African drumming workshop for all age groups, with beginners, elderly and children all welcome..... A fun and interactive workshop where you will learn about African drum and culture.



Beayogini Yoga

🕒 11:30–12:00

📍 SportsPark Studio

[Book online now](#)

Yoga: Breathe. Move. Nourish. Connect.



Improvisation Workshop (Adult Activity)

🕒 12:45–13:45

📍 Meadow Suite

[Book online now](#)

Play fun games using words and movement that explore key improvisation skills. You don't need any experience to attend this workshop, improv is about working together as a team!



Clubbercise with Liz

🕒 13:00–13:30 and 13:45–14:15

📍 SportsPark Studio

[Book online now](#)

Turn down the lights and grab a glow stick for this exercise in a club!



Reading Bhangra Dance Group Workshop

🕒 14:15–15:15

📍 Meadow Suite

[Book online now](#)

Discover the vibrant world of Bhangra with our one-hour Bhangra Dance workshop! Immerse yourself in the rich tradition of South Asian folk dance and music. Join Reading Bhangra Group as we delve into the origins and moves of this energetic art form.



The ART of Healing

🕒 14:45–15:15 and 15:30–16:00

📍 SportsPark Studio

[Book online now](#)

Amanda at The ART of Healing provides meditation sessions to calm, relax and restore balance and harmony.



Kala Dance with Kala the Arts

🕒 15:45–16:45

📍 Meadow Suite

[Book online now](#)

Join this exciting workshop and learn the techniques of Odissi, a wonderful South Asian dance form.

*All workshops have limited spaces – if you're unable to book online, please visit the information point upon arrival to book

SPORTS AND WELLBEING

There will be a selection of free sports and wellbeing activities taking place during the festival, so make sure you head over to the SportsPark between 11:30 and 16:30 and try out something new!



SportsPark Open House

🕒 11:00–17:00 📍 SportsPark

Drop in to the SportsPark anytime during the Festival to view the facilities available for use by local community members.

RBH vs UoR Tournament

Teams from the Royal Berkshire Hospital and University of Reading are going head-to-head in a charity tournament raising funds for the hospital. Organised by the Royal Berks Charity, RAG Charity of the Year and Reading Students' Union. Drop by and support the teams, including:

- Badminton 11:00-12:00 Sports Hall
- Volleyball 12.30-17:00 Sports Hall
- Netball 11:00-12:00 Outdoor Courts
- Football 11:00-16:00 Astro Turf

Kidical Mass – campus bike ride

🕒 12:00–13:00 📍 Car Park 4



Join Kidical Mass in a family-friendly group bike ride around campus, with Dr Bike on hand to provide bike safety checks and basic repairs. We get kids and adults excited about cycling, improve confidence on roads, campaign for better infrastructure and help everyone to have fun and stay safe on bikes. Supported by Avanti Cycling, Reading Cycle Campaign and Reading Bicycle Kitchen.

Lone Wolf Martial Arts

🕒 12:00–16:00 📍 Sports Hall

Empower your family through the martial arts at Lone Wolf Martial Arts Academy. Experience our family-focused approach through various activities such as pad-work, demonstrations and speaking to members.



Whiteknights Football Club

🕒 12:00–16:00 📍 3G Pitch 1 & 2

Football fun with your local children's club Whiteknights FC. Try out your skills, score goals and win prizes.

Berks and Bucks FA

🕒 12:00–16:00 📍 3G Pitch 3

Berks and Bucks FA are running an inclusive 5-a-side football tournament with prizes for the winners! We will also share grassroots football opportunities with people across Reading and Berkshire.



Berkshire Brigands Mixed Ability Rugby

🕒 12:00–16:30 📍 Sports Fields

Berkshire Brigands are an adult rugby union community team welcoming players with learning disabilities, autism, other barriers and those without. Join the team to find out more and to take part in family-friendly activities suitable for all.



Reading University Boat Club

🕒 12:00–16:30 📍 Sports Fields

Join Reading University Boat Club to experience the rowing machines and gain some technical coaching.

Bubble Football

🕒 11:30–16:30 📍 Sports Fields

Strap yourselves into your giant inflatable bubble football suits and step onto the pitch, then barge, bounce and bump your way through a thrilling five-a-side match.



COMMUNITY

Make sure you visit our Community Zone where you can get involved in a variety of free family-friendly activities run by local organisations and the University of Reading, including:

The Meadow

- Freely Fruity – free seed sowing workshops and growing advice.
- Climate & Sustainability – learn more about how our climate is changing and how we can work together to address it, featuring informative exhibits and fun activities.

SportsPark

- Royal Berks Charity – interactive have-a-go fun activities.
- Sport in Mind – improving the lives of people experiencing mental health problems through sport and physical activity.

The Lounge

- Time Trap – join us as we host a range of table-top strategy and puzzle games, all themed around pivotal moments in Reading history.
- Oasis Church Reading – a range of creative activities around wellbeing and celebrating who you are.

Reading Students' Union

- Art Beyond Belief – learn about community arts projects addressing mental health, wellbeing, resilience, education and inclusion in Slough.
- Imogen Matthews – block paint printing using bohemian wooden patterns.

- Smart Works Reading – find out more about how Smart Works Reading supports unemployed women into the workplace.
- The Abbey Senior School – fun art activities looking at storytelling, creativity and sharing ideas alongside demonstrations of 3D scanning and printing. theabbey.co.uk
- Daisy's Dream – support for children and young people who have been affected by bereavement.
- Whitley Community Development Association – supports and encourages local people to get involved and make the changes they want in their local community.
- Alliance for Cohesion and Racial Equality – promotes equality, community empowerment and community cohesion in Greater Reading.

University of Reading Alumni

- We have an alumni 'meet and greet' point all day in Blandfords in Park House. Please come by to say hello to the alumni team, to find out more about our active alumni community, and to access University merchandise at a special discount.

University of Reading initiatives

- Charity of the Year – our new scheme aims to deliver positive impacts for both the chosen charity and the University, while also benefitting the wider local community.



- Work at Reading – find out about what it is like to work at the University, how to apply and the types of roles we have available.
- Newcomers Group – friendship, support and help with English – for dependents of students and staff.
- Study at Reading – find out everything you need to join our University community as an undergraduate or postgraduate student.
- University of Reading Short Online Courses – come and add your handprint to our 'Tree of Learning'!
- University of Reading Staff Networks – meet our diversity and inclusion networks at the University.
- University of Reading Technical Services – find out more as we bring our work to life.
- Till Death Face Painting – free, fun and friendly face painting!
- Time 4 Kindness – come and share your kindness story with us in words or pictures and add it to our wall of kindness.
- University of Reading Outreach – solve air pollution the historical way!

There will also be a selection of local market stalls based in Car Park 4, including:

Discover more in Car Park 4

- Cycling for All – free Dr Bike repairs, family friendly ride and Avanti Cycling.
- Funsa – be a nature detective!
- Henna Tattoo – visit us for a free Henna Tattoo!
- Home-Start Reading – activities and games for families and young children to raise funds for our local charity.
- Launchpad – interactive quiz and fun games.
- PACT – fun and games alongside information about our award winning charity.
- The Abbey Junior School – Staff from the Abbey Junior School have lots of creative activities for you to try. theabbey.co.uk
- Aditri Accessories
- Cath Baldwin Makes Stuff
- Deborah Fox Design
- James Taylor Photo Art
- Janine Tonkin Art
- Lisa Davies
- Louise's Patchwork Patch
- Nimble Thimble Fabric & Felt
- Odd Bindings
- Primeroselady Natural Skincare
- Satanicute Soaps and Crafts
- Serenity Scents
- Sheabutter Cottage
- Thimble Embroidery
- Two Rivers Press

Stop by for a browse and support small local businesses selling art prints, beauty products, books, arts & crafts and more!

RESEARCH TALKS

CHILDREN'S TALKS

Our programme of children's talks offers fun and interactive learning for children aged 8 to 14. Some of our top academics will bring their subjects to life, helping children to learn something new and amazing.

Dr Kate Johnson - Do baby cows like toys?

🕒 11:15 – 11:45

📍 Mondial, Reading Students' Union

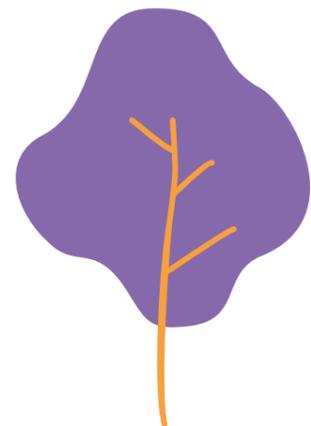
How do you know if an animal is happy if it can't talk? This talk will explore how we can improve animal welfare by giving baby cows toys to play with, and how we know this makes them happier.

Ely Jewett - Microplastics: A bigger problem than you think!

🕒 12:00 – 12:30

📍 Mondial, Reading Students' Union

You might think you know what microplastics are, but did you know that they can affect your mood? Find out more about recycling and microplastics in this talk.



Dr Neil Cocks - Ghostly poetry

🕒 12:45 – 13:15

📍 Mondial, Reading Students' Union

Explore a ghostly tale in this interactive reading of Walter de la Mare's haunting poem 'The Listeners'.

Dr Jacob Gardner - Moving through time: 200 years of studying dinosaurs

🕒 14:15 – 14:45

📍 Health & Life Sciences seminar room, Cole Museum

Embark on an expedition spanning 200 years through our ever-evolving understanding of dinosaurs.



RESEARCH TALKS

Our programme of research talks showcase research highlights from across the University. These talks will be given by Reading academics renowned in their field and cover a wide range of topics at an accessible level for those aged 14+.

Dr Nicola Wilson - Book Society: The first celebrity book club in the UK

🕒 13:30 – 14:00

📍 Mondial, Reading Students' Union

Before Richard and Judy, there was the Book Society (1926–69). Discover the first celebrity book club and its famous judges who changed how we read.

Professor Ingo Bojak - Understanding biological purpose

🕒 14:15 – 14:45

📍 Mondial, Reading Students' Union

Why do animals and plants behave as they do, and how can this question help us do better science? Professor Ingo Bojak explores.



Dr Benjamin Bland - Music fandom, emotions and anti-racism in Twentieth Century Britain

🕒 15:00 – 15:30

📍 Mondial, Reading Students' Union

Dr Benjamin Bland will reveal how the powerful emotional connections of music fans helped shape opposition to racial prejudice in twentieth century Britain.

Professor Duncan Garrow - The World of Stonehenge

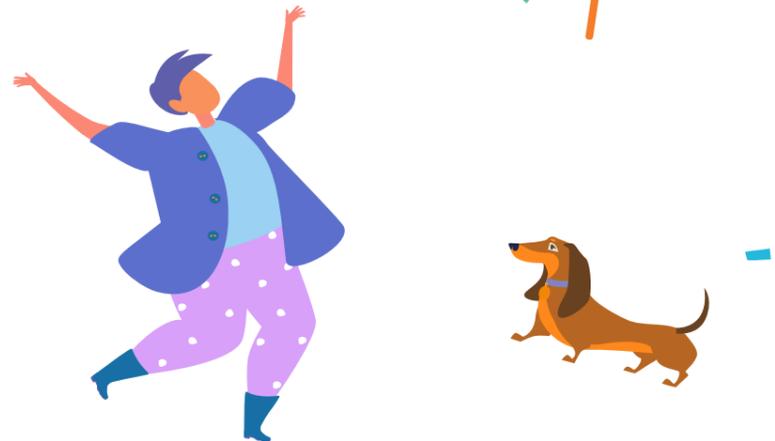
🕒 15:45 – 16:15

📍 Mondial, Reading Students' Union

Discover the human stories behind the famous stones in this talk about The World of Stonehenge exhibition at the British Museum.

RESEARCH ZONE

Check out the latest fascinating research in the Research Zone with lots of family friendly, hands-on activities bringing research to life!



- **Blood is thicker than water: a platelet conundrum** – Dr Alice Pollitt, Biomedical Sciences
- **Book Society: the first celebrity book club in the UK** – Dr Nicola Wilson, English Literature
- **Busting myths about feeding animals** – Dr Stuart Black, Geography & Environmental Science
- **Check your brain health** – Dr Samrah Ahmed, Reiwyn Ferrer, Psychology & Clinical Language Sciences
- **Exploring antibodies from llamas and cows** – Professor Gary Stephens, Pharmacy
- **Exploring the sensory world around us** – Child Development Group, Psychology & Clinical Language Sciences
- **Fibre4Life: making fibre FUN** – Dr Stella Lignou, Dr Vic Norton, Food & Nutritional Sciences
- **From farm to plate: where does our seafood come from?** – Jorge Campos Gonzalez, Agri-Food Economics & Marketing
- **Fungi friends: what is under your feet?** – Dr Rodica Pena, Sustainable Land Management, Agriculture
- **How beans on toast could revolutionise UK diets** – Raising the Pulse team, Institute for Food Nutrition & Health
- **Is that a Deepfake? How to spot deceptive online videos** – Dr Dominic Lees, Film, Theatre & Television
- **Little does not mean simple: the power of a microscopic worm** – Dr Susanna Cogo, Biomedical Sciences
- **Museum on Wheels** – Museum of English Rural Life
- **Pop-up geology museum** – Dr Hazel McGoff, Geography & Environmental Science
- **See & Eat: Learn to love your veg** – Professor Carmel Houston-Price, Natalie Ellison, Psychology & Clinical Language Sciences
- **Slugs, worms and snails: Using invertebrates for new medicines** – Professor Vitaliy Khutoryanskiy and team, Pharmacy
- **The Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology** – Victoria Stevens, Classics with the Friends of the University
- **Using venom to cure disease** – Professor Sakthi Vaiyapuri and team, Pharmacy
- **Visit the ancient Roman schoolroom** – Nadin Marsovszki, Classics
- **Why do we need pain?** – Dr Maria Maiaru, Pharmacy
- **The Cole Museum of Zoology will be open to visitors for dinosaur-themed activities and discovery sessions** – Health & Life Sciences Building



The University of Reading and Reading Students' Union recognises and values the contributions of all those who participated in making the Community Festival event. Special thanks is extended to our supporters.



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