



Reuben
College
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Reuben College Termcard

Hilary Term 2025

This is your handbook for events organised by the staff and Fellows of Reuben College. A number of theme events may also be arranged throughout the term and will be advertised in the weekly College newsletter. The graduate community organises additional social events which are advertised separately. Please note:

- Reuben members are able to bring guests to each evening event: there will be a charge for guest meals.
- For **Reuben Explores** you are asked to register via Microsoft Forms using the links below by 9:00 on the Friday prior to each event. You are welcome to invite non-Reuben friends - we just ask that you register them in advance. This event is free of charge.
- For **Tuesday Talks/Dining with Dinosaurs (DwD)**, you'll need to book (and pay for guests) via University Online Stores by 9:00 on the Friday prior to each event. See [Terms & Conditions for Tuesday Talks here](#). This event is free for Reuben members, and £15 for guests.
- For **Formal Halls** (£25) and **Cultural Dinners** (£15) you will need to book and pay via University Online Stores by 9:00 on the Friday prior to each event. See [Terms & Conditions for Thursday Night Dinners here](#).

Events are subject to change: these will be communicated in the College's weekly newsletter wherever possible.

WEEKLY LUNCHES

Lunch is normally served Monday - Friday between 12:00 - 13:00 for Reuben members (and guests) only. Lunch is open to all University members from 13:00 - 14:00.

MONDAY DINNERS

In term time, dinner is available on Monday evenings from 17:30 - 18:45 for Reuben members and guests.

***Lunch and Monday dinners do not need to be booked in advance.**

WEEK 1

19-25 JANUARY

Reuben Explores: Academic Writing

Monday 20 January

17:30 - 18:30, College Bar

This bespoke academic writing workshop, with Andrew Mitchell from the Language Centre, will cover grammar and structure, style, flow, citing, referencing, how to write a good discussion, and how to write abstracts vs summaries.

This event will finish at 18:30 to allow attendees to have dinner in the Dining Hall.



[Book here](#)

Tuesday Talks/DwD: Net Zero in a Populist World

Tuesday 21 January

18:20 - 21:00

Dining Hall

Climate policy is very much a creature of the "End of History". Over the past 8 years, national and international politics appear to be moving in a different direction, yet the climate issue hasn't gone away.

Professor Myles Allen, asks us what it is about our current climate policies that makes them so repugnant to populist voters, and how to come up with more effective alternatives.

[Book here](#)

Formal Hall

Thursday 23 January

19:00 - 21:00

Dining Hall

Formal Hall (sometimes known as 'Guest Night' at other colleges) offers a chance to get together with friends and colleagues to enjoy a beautifully prepared meal and get dressed up. Members are welcome to invite up to a max of 5 paying guests.

[Book here](#)



WEEK 2

26 JANUARY – 1 FEBRUARY

Tuesday Talks/DwD:

The Mother of Invention – How Equity Drives Innovation

Tuesday 28 January

18:20 – 21:00, Dining Hall

Equity has become a loaded term. But lost in the politicised discourse on “woke” is the very real power of equity to drive innovation and creative collaboration. An outgoing Reuben I&E Fellow and former Director of the Skoll Centre for Social Entrepreneurship, Dr Peter Drobac, is the founding CEO of the education start-up, Crucible Advisors. Peter will draw on his experience transforming global health and education systems to argue that leading with equity can be the “mother of invention.”

[Book here](#)

Formal Hall

Thursday 30 January

19:00 – 21:00

Dining Hall

Formal Hall (sometimes known as 'Guest Night' at other colleges) offers a chance to get together with friends and colleagues to enjoy a beautifully prepared meal and get dressed up. Members are welcome to invite up to a max of 5 paying guests.

[Book here](#)



WEEK 3

2-8 FEBRUARY

Reuben Explores: Unlocking AI for More Productive Study - Key AI Tools & Strategies

Monday 3 February

17:30 - 18:30, College Bar

This session is designed to introduce you to the “big four” AI chatbots— Claude and ChatGPT, Elicit for literature reviews, and Google’s NotebookLM for AI-assisted notetaking. Each of these tools has their unique strengths and limitations; they will be explored in this session.

This event will finish at 18:30 to allow attendees to have dinner in the Dining Hall.

[Book here](#)

Tuesday Talks/DwD: Science in Life, Life in Science - Lives that Shaped Oxford’s Legacy

Tuesday 4 February

18:20 - 21:00

Dining Hall

Science is deeply entwined with the lives and relationships of those who practice it. Drawing on collections from the History of Science Museum, Reuben Fellow [JC Niala](#) will uncover the human stories that fuel scientific progress. It delves into the profound interplay between personal connections, collaboration, and the act of ‘doing science.’ From patriotic physicists to lab-grown love affairs, it reveals what else shapes the journey as scientists work to change—and even save—the world.

[Book here](#)

Cultural Dinner: Lunar New Year

Thursday 6 February

19:00 - 21:00

Dining Hall

The Lunar New Year, celebrated around the world, marks the beginning of the agricultural calendar, and is a time for family, traditions, and new beginnings. This year, it begins on 29 January and welcomes the Chinese Year of the Snake.

Reuben warmly invites you to an evening of delightful food and engaging festive activities. We encourage wearing red and/or traditional attire.

[Book here](#)



WEEK 4

9-15 FEBRUARY

Tuesday Talks/DwD: Wellcome, Outbreaks and the Interface Between Research and Policy

Tuesday 11 February

18:20 - 21:00

Dining Hall

The COVID pandemic has shone a light on the need for preparedness and the critical role that science and research plays in effectively responding to infectious disease outbreaks, and pandemics. However, innovative science alone is not sufficient. The connection with policy and practice is arguably where scientific research can have the greatest impact on people's lives. Dr [Charlie Weller](#), Head of Prevention of Infectious Disease at Wellcome, will share her experiences in responding to outbreaks and pandemics, including the founding of CEPI and raising the profile of research to control cholera, and her journey from lab scientist, through industry to funder at the interface between research and policy.

[Book here](#)

Bonus Tuesday Talks/DwD: Past and Future of International Climate Change Negotiations

Thursday 13 February

17:00-21:00

Dining Hall

Are you curious what COP summits are all about, what they can and cannot achieve, and why? [Lord Alok Sharma](#) (former UK Cabinet Minister and the chair of COP26, the 2021 UN climate summit in Glasgow) will give us the inside story, including his assessment of the last COP in Azerbaijan and the next COP in Brazil.

This is a joint event with Oxford Net Zero and the Oxford Climate Research Network.

Please note that this events begins earlier than usual, with a pre-talk drinks reception in Abbot's Kitchen.

[Book here](#)



WEEK 5

16-22 FEBRUARY

Reuben Explores: Improve your Public Speaking Skills



Monday 17 February

17:30 - 18:30, College Bar

Ready to enhance your public speaking skills? Whether you're a seasoned presenter or just starting out, this interactive session, given by new Public Engagement with Research, Culture and Heritage (PERCH) Fellow, [Michaela Livingstone-Banks](#), will feature a mix of expert advice, hands-on activities, and gentle peer feedback, providing you with the skills and confidence for any public speaking scenario. You'll learn the key elements of effective presentations, develop strategies to boost your confidence, and walk away feeling empowered to deliver impactful speeches.

This event will finish at 18:30 to allow attendees to have dinner in the Dining Hall.

[Book here](#)

Tuesday Talks/DwD: Student Take-over

Tuesday 18 February

18:20 - 21:00

Dining Hall

Join us for presentations from Reuben students on their own research projects.

Details on the fantastic topics covered coming soon.

[Book here](#)

Formal Hall

Thursday 20 February

19:00 - 21:00

Dining Hall

Formal Hall (sometimes known as 'Guest Night' at other colleges) offers a chance to get together with friends and colleagues to enjoy a beautifully prepared meal and get dressed up. Members are welcome to invite up to a max of 5 paying guests.

[Book here](#)

WEEK 6

23 FEBRUARY – 1 MARCH

Tuesday Talks/DwD: From SF to AI - A Postcolonial Encounter

Tuesday 25 February

18:20 – 21:00, Dining Hall

Conventionally, artificial intelligence research and technology is thought to have had its Big Bang moment at Dartmouth College in 1956. Path-breaking research followed, confirming the relationship between reason, logic, intelligence, language and cognition in the grand European philosophical tradition. Yet, a different story could be told, grounded in developments of literature, arts, science and philosophy inspired by the mid-century independence movements in Asia and Africa.

In this seminar, Pablo Mukherjee, Professor of Anglophone World-Literature, draws on the science fiction work of Indian writer, film maker, musician and designer Satyajit Ray to propose a different account of artificial intelligence and our understanding of it.

[**Book here**](#)

Cultural Dinner: LGBTQ+ Celebration

Thursday 27 February

19:00 – 21:00

Dining Hall

February is LGBT+ History Month in the UK. Join us in celebrating Oxford's queer history with a fun quiz (with prizes!), a buffet-style dinner, and plenty of colours and glitter. This event is open to everyone – LGBTQ+ individuals and allies alike!



[**Book here**](#)

WEEK 7

2-8 MARCH

Reuben Explores: Preparing for Exams

Monday 3 March

17:30 - 18:30, College Bar

Exam season is upon us. Kirren and Caroline invite you to join them for some practical tips and strategies for revising effectively, improving your exam preparation, and managing nerves and stress. You will find out more about how to improve your study skills; time management; self-care and routine. This session will give you a better understanding of how to perform well under pressure whilst looking after yourself and maintaining your wellbeing. This event will finish at 18:30 to allow attendees to have dinner in the Dining Hall.

[Book here](#)

Tuesday Talks/DwD: Cyber Security - Why it Should Concern Us All

Tuesday 4 March

18:20-21:00

Dining Hall

Professor Sadie Creese is Professor of Cyber Security in the Department of Computer Science here in Oxford and the founding Director of the Global Cyber Security Capacity Centre at the Oxford Martin School. She conducts research into what constitutes national cybersecurity capacity, working with countries and international organisations around the world. In her talk, she will explain how cyber threats may be identified, how we can understand cyber harm and how it emerges for users, all the way from single organisations to whole nations. Finally, she will outline how resilience strategies may best be developed.

[Book here](#)

Formal Hall

Thursday 6 March

19:00-21:00

Dining Hall

Formal Hall (sometimes known as 'Guest Night' at other colleges) offers a chance to get together with friends and colleagues to enjoy a beautifully prepared meal and get dressed up. Members are welcome to invite up to a max of 5 paying guests.

[Book here](#)



WEEK 8

9-15 MARCH

Tuesday Talks/DwD: How to Build Your Digital Twin

Tuesday 11 March

18:20 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Digital twins will usher in a new era of truly personalized medicine, one in which they can help predict your risk of disease, participate in virtual drug trials, shed light on the diet and lifestyle changes that are best for you, and help identify therapies to enhance your well-being and extend your lifespan—but thorny challenges remain. Join computational scientist Professor Peter Coveney (UCL) and museum executive, author and journalist Dr Roger Highfield for an evening discussing the promise and challenges of digital twins.

[Book here](#)

Formal Hall

Thursday 13 March

19:00-21:00

Dining Hall

Formal Hall (sometimes known as 'Guest Night' at other colleges) offers a chance to get together with friends and colleagues to enjoy a beautifully prepared meal and get dressed up. Members are welcome to invite up to a max of 5 paying guests.

[Book here](#)

WEEK 9

16-22 MARCH

Schmidt Colloquium

Friday 21 March

9:00-17:00, Lecture Theatre

At the end of each term, we hold the Schmidt AI in Science colloquium, where our Associate Research Fellows (many of whom are Schmidt Fellows) present their research on using AI to boost scientific knowledge.

More details and booking information to follow.



FURTHER BOOKING INFORMATION

Tickets and guest tickets can only be booked by Reuben members using a Reuben email address, and all guests must attend the event with a Reuben member. Anyone found to have booked guest tickets without being present themselves will have these places cancelled.

Pronouns

You may have noticed that we are asking, when booking onto events, whether you would like to include your pronouns on your place cards. **But why are we doing this?**

Pronouns are words we use in everyday language to refer to ourselves or others. They can be an important way to express your gender identity. 'I', 'me', 'she/her', 'he/him' and 'they/them' are some examples of pronouns. Some trans and gender non-conforming people may use 'they', 'them' and 'theirs' as personal pronouns. 'They' is considered a gender-neutral pronoun, compared to pronouns like 'he/him' or 'she/her' which are generally perceived as gendered terms.

Pronouns can be used to role model trans allyship, allowing others to see that inclusion is a key component of our College culture. For more information on why you might like to introduce yourself with your pronouns, and how to be inclusive of others doing so, please see here: [A beginner's guide to pronouns and using pronouns in the workplace | Stonewall](#)

College Hospitality

You may have noticed a new 'College Hospitality' option when booking onto events. This is only to be used by those that have specific allowances from the College, and have been emailed to confirm that they can use this option. We reserve the right to cancel bookings that are not eligible.

Should you have any questions about the Termcard or upcoming events in Hilary Term 2024, please email the events team at:

events@reuben.ox.ac.uk



Reuben
College
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD