

January 29th 2014 - Speaker Professor Carl Murray "The View from Saturn: Images from the Cassini Spacecraft"

February 21st 2014 Trip to Bayfordbury Observatory

February 26th 2014 Speaker Giles Davison "The Tiepolo fresco in Wuerzburg with emphasis on the Transits of Mercury 1631 - 1743 & 6th May 1753, the date for the Tiepolo fresco"

March 26th 2014 Speaker Mark Jacobs "Pursuing Astronomy using old and new technology"

April 30th 2014 Speaker Paul Cass "Siding Spring Observatory - a brief history"

May 28th 2014 Speaker Roger O'Brien "The Gaia Mission"

June 25th 2014 Speaker Dr. Patricia Fara "Newton and Newtonianism"

There is only one thing that everybody knows about Isaac Newton: that he watched an apple fall from a tree – or at least, he said that he did. As if he were a secular saint, his apple has become an iconic attribute, a symbol both of scientific breakthrough and of individual genius. By making gravity follow a simple mathematical relationship – the inverse square law – Newton emphasised that natural phenomena can, at least in principle, be explained quantitatively, a fundamental shift in approach that was crucial for the foundation of modern science. His importance may seem obvious now, but during the eighteenth century, his supporters had to persuade the world not only that he was right, but also that scientific knowledge was valuable. Newton's reputation has continually altered over the centuries, reflecting shifts in how science and its practitioners are perceived – and today's Newtonianism is very different from the God-driven cosmos that he envisaged.

September 24th 2014 Speaker Dr. Rebekah Higgitt " " Not to be found by clockwork alone" :the essential role of astronomy in the quest for longitude "

October 29th 2014 Speaker . Dr. Aurelien Benoit Levy "Dark Energy Survey"

November 26th 2014 Speaker Dr. Simon Bennett "Setting up the ultimate private observatory"
PLEASE NOTE ...THIS MEETING HAS NOW BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL WEDNESDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2014