



*Astronomy, and the musical family
that did so much to pioneer it.*

HERSCHEL SOCIETY AND OTHER PLANS FOR CELEBRATING WILLIAM'S ACHIEVEMENTS ON THE 200th ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH IN 1822

This is the July 2022 version. See latest here: <http://herschelsociety.org.uk/herschel-200-plans/>

<p>MAIN HERSCHEL SOCIETY CONFERENCE, CONCERT, and PRELIMINARY EVENING.</p> <p>Friday Evening 23 Sept at BRLSI, Bath – Preliminary evening showing (in person and online) of “William Herschel and the Universe” film, introduced by the maker, George Sibley, plus discussion. Intended as an optional introduction to the Herschel story. In person and online. Tickets now on sale here: https://www.brlsi.org/whatson/william-herschel-the-universe-a-film-by-george-sibley/ See trailer here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x56PKwsuEmQ</p> <p>Friday Evening 30 September at St Swithin’s Church, Bath. Concert of Herschel’s music along similar lines to that organised by Dr Matthew Spring for the RAS in 2021. See attached flyer. Tickets now on sale here: https://bathboxoffice.org.uk/whats-on/wm-herschel-music-celebration/about Recording of earlier concert here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uxVgbVNaL8E</p> <p>Saturday October 1 at BRLSI, Bath. Major conference on William’s Astronomy aimed at interested non-professionals. In person and online. Tickets now on sale: https://www.brlsi.org/whatson/a-celebration-of-the-astronomy-of-william-herschel/</p>
<p>ASSOCIATED EVENTS</p> <p>Friday 30 September- The British Institute for Organ Studies are organising a one- day meeting in Bath focusing on William as an organist with a lunchtime organ recital. Timed to avoid clash with HS evening concert.</p> <p>Sunday Morning October 2 - Tour of Herschel related Bath led by Professor Mike Edmunds.</p>
<p>OTHER HERSCHEL CONFERENCES AND EVENTS IN PROGRESS OR STILL TO COME in 2022</p> <p>The Herschel Museum of Astronomy’s programme of events in summarised at Annex A, and the range of events at Slough, including St Lawrence Church, at Annex B.</p> <p>The Orkney International Science Festival will put on a concert – The Music of the Stars – of Herschel’s Music at 7.30 pm on 6 September at St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall. Details here: https://oisf.org/fest-event/concert-the-music-of-the-stars/</p> <p>Devon Baroque Orchestra have an Astronomical Concert at 3pm on 11 September at Dartington with music by Herschel and contemporaries, including a talk by Matthew Spring. Details and tickets here: https://www.dartington.org/event/devon-baroque-orchestra/</p> <p>The Royal Observatory of Madrid, which houses a reconstructed replica of their Herschel 25 foot telescope, is producing a range of short films and other material in Spanish about Herschel, and plans a conference in November. Details here: https://astronomia.ign.es/web/guest/william-herschel/inicio</p>
<p>OTHER HERSCHEL CONFERENCES AND EVENTS NOW FINISHED</p> <p>The American Astronomical Society held a Webinar on 5 March titled “New Views of William Herschel”. It is now available online here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f7D8jWU2Nww</p> <p>The University of York hosted Cosmic Harmonies: A Symposium Celebrating the Life, Science, Music, and Legacy of William Herschel on 19 June 2022. It explored new aspects of Herschel’s work in the intellectual, creative, and cultural contexts of his time, including a concert of his music.</p> <p>The SHA (Society of History of Astronomy) held their summer picnic on Saturday 25 June in Bath for about 30 of their members with Herschel Museum visits and historical walks led by Mike Edmunds.</p>



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MEDIA
R4 – An “In Our Time” piece on William and Caroline was broadcast on November 11 2021, with Dr Jim Bennett, Professor Monica Grady, and Dr Carolin Crawford as panellists.
R3 – Radio 3 put on a space-themed concert including some of William’s music on the same afternoon.
TELESCOPE MODELS etc
A virtual 3D model of William’s main 20 ft telescope is being made for electronic display and manipulation at the Museum and elsewhere. This is being undertaken as a project by undergraduate students at the Creative Computing School at Bath Spa University working with Charles Draper and Herschel Museum staff. A prototype was shown in May, and a more developed version should be demonstrated at the 1 October Conference.
The RAS are planning a suitable lecture in November 2022.
ANNIVERSARY RELATED BOOKS and Publications
Wolfgang Steinicke’s comprehensive book: William Herschel – Discoverer of the Deep Sky, was published for the Anniversary and is now available on Amazon
Alex Voice has been producing high quality edited editions of William’s music on- line here: https://herschelpress.co.uk/ to encourage more performance of it.

ANNEX A – HERSCHEL MUSEUM OF ASTRONOMY PLANS (by Claire Dixon, Director of Museums and Deputy Chief Executive, Bath Preservation Trust).

This is an important year for the museum, as we commemorate the 200th anniversary of the death of William Herschel and also take this opportunity to highlight the important role of his sister Caroline, not just as a contributor to William’s work, but as an astronomer in her own right.

Throughout the year we are delivering a wide programme of events. During the family holidays there will be a variety of craft activities. We are running planetarium shows at various locations including the Percy Community Centre and local libraries. Two new trails are being launched, one for children and another for adults, to showcase the ‘Top 10’ items in the collection linked to William, as voted for by the public. On the 16th July our exhibition opens, celebrating the achievements of William in relation to both science and music, as well as conveying more about his life in Bath. We are borrowing important artefacts from the Herschel family as well as Royal Astronomical Society, including his notebook that details his observations on the night that he discovered the planet Uranus, and other items, some of which have never been on public display before. We are running solar gazing and astronomy sessions throughout the year with the support of Bath Astronomers and on the 25 August, a new stone carving will be laid in the garden, to commemorate the anniversary and serve as a platform for telescopes. On this day we will also launch the new art installation by Lynda Laird, a lightbox celebrating Caroline and William Herschel. In the autumn we will launch a downloadable map that will highlight areas across the UK that relate to William’s life, and places you can visit to find out more.

We are delighted to be running this programme with many partners, including the Herschel Society, Bath Astronomers, Percy Community Centre, Slough Museum, local artist maker Iain Cotton and the University of Bath. It has been made possible thanks to a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

You can see more detail at the website here: <https://herschelmuseum.org.uk/herschel-200/>



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ANNEX B – SLOUGH EVENTS

Herschel 200

Discover a free programme of Slough based events, activities and exhibitions to mark the bicentenary of William Herschel's death and the astronomical heritage of our town.



Slough Museum - in partnership with The Herschel Museum of Astronomy in Bath, The Royal Astronomical Society and artist in residence Lynda Laird, The Curve, The Herschel Arms and St Laurence's Church, Slough – are marking the 200th anniversary of the death of William Herschel – who lived, built telescopes, explored the cosmos, discovered infrared, married, raised his family and is buried in Slough.

Herschel Make with the Museum at Curve Club

The Curve

Astronomical themed family activities.

Saturdays, 11am – 12pm
28 May, 25 June, 30 July,
27 August, 24 September,
29 October, 26 November

Innovation and Discovery Pod Herschel exhibition

The Curve

Slough Museum and The Herschel Museum of Astronomy joint exhibition in one of our Pods.

From Tuesday 21 June

Summer Solstice Special

The Herschel Arms

Astronomical themed spoken word, poetry, music and quiz evening with special Stargazer Pilsner.

Tuesday 21 June, 7.30pm

Bicentenary of William Herschel's Death

St Laurence's Church

Exhibition launch, music performances and afternoon tea.

Thursday 25 August,
3pm – 5pm

An Imperfect Account of a Comet

St Laurence's Church

Light installation of 560 stars Caroline Herschel discovered, created by Lynda Laird using The Royal Astronomical Society archive.

Thursday 25 August –
Sunday 2 October

8 Comets

St Laurence's Church

Immersive sound and video performance celebrating the astronomical discoveries of Caroline Herschel to accompany An Imperfect Account of a Comet.

Friday 2 & 3 Saturday
September, 7.30pm

Create a Cyanotype

The Curve

Sun prints using a Herschel family technique.

Saturday 3 September,
12 – 2pm

Stardust Concerts

St Laurence's Church

Original composition featuring the Herschel Stars Choir and local artists.

Friday 16 & 30 September,
7.30pm

William Herschel and the Universe screening

St Laurence's Church

Friday 7 October, 7.30pm

William Herschel's birthday celebration

The Curve

Finale event with the Herschel Stars Choir and local artists to mark William's 284th birthday.

Tuesday 15 November, 7.30pm

For more information visit
www.sloughmuseum.co.uk
or find @SloughMuseum
on social media



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