

# Reuben College Termcard

## Hilary Term 2026

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

- President's Collections are also open for all Reuben students in Hilary term. You can book directly on the [President's Collections area on the student hub](#).
- Reuben members are able to bring guests to most evening events: there will be a charge for guest meals.
- For **Reuben Explores** you are asked to register via Microsoft Forms using the links below by 12 noon 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 £18/£20 for guests (students/non-students & alumni).
- For **Formal Halls** (£25) and **Cultural Dinners** (£15) on Thursdays, 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.**

### IN THE DINING HALL

#### 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 & WEDNESDAY DINNERS\*

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

**\*You do not need to book these in advance.**

# WEEK 1

18-24 JANUARY

## Reuben Explores: Values & Society Student Fund

**Monday 19 January**

17:30 - 18:30, Lecture Theatre / Livestreamed (book to access online)

The Values & Society theme is launching a fund to give students the opportunity to apply for £1,000 to support an academic event (e.g. workshop, symposium) which will aim to address questions about values and the societies that we live in. The scheme particularly welcomes applications for interdisciplinary events (including scholarship across different fields *within* the humanities).

Please join [Dr Jonathan Pugh](#) (Theme Lead, Values & Society) to learn more about [this new fund](#) and the application process.

**[Book here](#)**

## Tuesday Talks/DwD: Speak Smart When It's Hard: Leading Conversations About Complex & Controversial Research

**Tuesday 20 January**

18:20 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Over the course of an interactive evening, [Dr JC Niala](#), [Dr Hattie Warburton](#) and [Sophie Brixton](#) will share practical tips for crafting clear, confident messages.

From sharp elevator pitches to speaking on topics you may not fully agree with, participants will build skills step by step. You will first practise one-on-one, then in small groups, and finally with a larger audience. You'll leave armed with ideas ready to take on real-world public speaking challenges.



**[Book here](#)**

# WEEK 2

25-31 JANUARY

## Tuesday Talks/DwD: Can We Advance Healthspan Effectively and Sustainably with AI?

**Tuesday 27 January**

18:20 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Generative AI offers unprecedented tools to reshape health, promising to improve outcomes, access, and efficiency by creating new solutions for both patient self-care and clinical practice (a model known as the co-production of health). AI agents are also accelerating opportunities for start-ups to bring new innovations to market at an unprecedented pace.

Dr Vivian Lee, Visiting Fellow at Reuben College, will explore how these can align with global goals to advance healthspan. However, the massive energy and data infrastructure required to train and run these advanced models create a significant, often overlooked, environmental footprint. We will close with a discussion of a framework for evaluating AI health solutions that prioritize both human and planetary wellbeing.

**[Book here](#)**



## Formal Hall

**Thursday 29 January**

18:45 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Formal Hall offers a chance to get together with friends and colleagues and dress up to enjoy a beautifully prepared meal.

Members can invite up to a max of 5 paying guests.

**[Book here](#)**



# WEEK 3

1-8 FEBRUARY

## Reuben Explores: Public Speaking

**Monday 2 February**

17:30 - 18:30, Lecture Theatre

Join Dr JC Niala for this workshop which will show you how to build confidence in public speaking, step by step.

Drawing on over 25 years' experience in facilitation and public speaking, JC will share practical tips for staying calm and crafting engaging delivery, and simple ways to practise (including in-session exercises). You will leave equipped to speak with clarity, impact and ease.

(Please note, this session will be in-person only.)

**[Book here](#)**

## Tuesday Talks/DwD: A Life of Pain and Pleasure

**Tuesday 3 February**

18:20 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Our University Vice-Chancellor, Professor Irene Tracey, will describe her research as a pain neuroscientist and the broader field of human neuroimaging.

She will also discuss her various leadership roles and the pleasure she derives from supporting the University of Oxford's academic mission.

**[Book here](#)**





# WEEK 3 (CONT'D)

1-8 FEBRUARY

## God and Silicon Valley: The Place of Religion in the Development of Artificial Intelligence

**Thursday 5 February**

17:00 - 18:30, Lecture Theatre



Join us for a wide-ranging discussion on the surprising resurgence of interest in Christianity within Silicon Valley and amongst developers of artificial intelligence. Our panel of experts will explore questions like, "What are the various factors driving the renewed curiosity?" and "What role might religion play in challenging and guiding the development of artificial intelligence?"

Panellists: Andrew Davison (Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford); Louisa Clarence-Smith, (Journalist, *The Times*); Bartek Papież (Governing Body Fellow, AL & ML)

This Values & Society theme event is also supported by the Oxford MedHum Research Hub.

**The event is free and no registration is required.**



## Formal Hall

**Thursday 5 February**

18:45 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Formal Hall offers a chance to get together with friends and colleagues and dress up to enjoy a beautifully prepared meal.

Members can invite up to a max of 5 paying guests.

**[Book here](#)**

# WEEK 4

8-14 FEBRUARY

## Tuesday Talks/DwD:

### Why Your Food Choice Matters – The Super Wicked Problem of Food System Change

**Tuesday 10 February** / 18:20 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Over 800 million people go to bed hungry each night, but obesity is rising worldwide. Agriculture sits at the centre of the climate, water and biodiversity crisis, while also having to adapt to environmental change. [Prof Monika Zurek](#) (ECI's Lead for the Food System Transformation Group) will explore today's key food system challenges and how changing what we eat can help.

**[Book here](#)**

## President's Interdisciplinary Lunch

**Wednesday 11 February** / 12:15 - 13:15, Abbot's Kitchen

Facilitating our commitment to interdisciplinary discussion, the College President is hosting a series of informal lunches. He invites Reuben students and Fellows from all themes to join him for a discussion lunch, paid for by the College. You will collect your meal in the Dining Hall, then take your tray into the Abbot's Kitchen.

No preparation required. Places are limited to 15; register as soon as possible. You may withdraw up to one week before; after this, you will be charged for the lunch.

**[Click here to book via email](#)**

## Cultural Dinner: Lunar New Year

**Thursday 12 February** / 18:45 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Beginning on February 17, the Lunar New Year celebrates the start of the lunisolar year and welcomes a season of renewal, family, and prosperity. Join us for an evening filled with vibrant performances, cultural dishes, and storytelling as we usher in a new year together.

This year is the Year of the Horse. We encourage wearing red and/or traditional attire.

**[Book here](#)**



# WEEK 5

15-21 FEBRUARY

## Reuben Explores: Environmental Change

### Monday 16 February

17:30 - 18:30, Lecture Theatre / Livestreamed (book to access online)

Reuben's Environmental Change Fellows discuss what the future is likely to hold for their specialist areas – including energy, food, nature, water and climate. What trends are driving change? How does our research help us understand these? Where are the key intervention points that could lead to better, fairer outcomes? What future environmental careers might be available to students?

Fellows will give brief presentations and discuss future environmental challenges and opportunities with attendees.



**[Book here](#)**

### Tuesday Talks/DwD: Student Takeover

#### Tuesday 17 February

18:20 - 21:00, Dining Hall

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

Details on the topics and presenters will come during term.

**[Book here](#)**

### Formal Hall

#### Thursday 19 February

18:45 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Formal Hall offers a chance to get together with friends and colleagues and dress up to enjoy a beautifully prepared meal.

Members can invite up to a max of 5 paying guests.

**[Book here](#)**



# WEEK 6

22-28 FEBRUARY

## Tuesday Talks/DwD: The Case for Climate Reparations

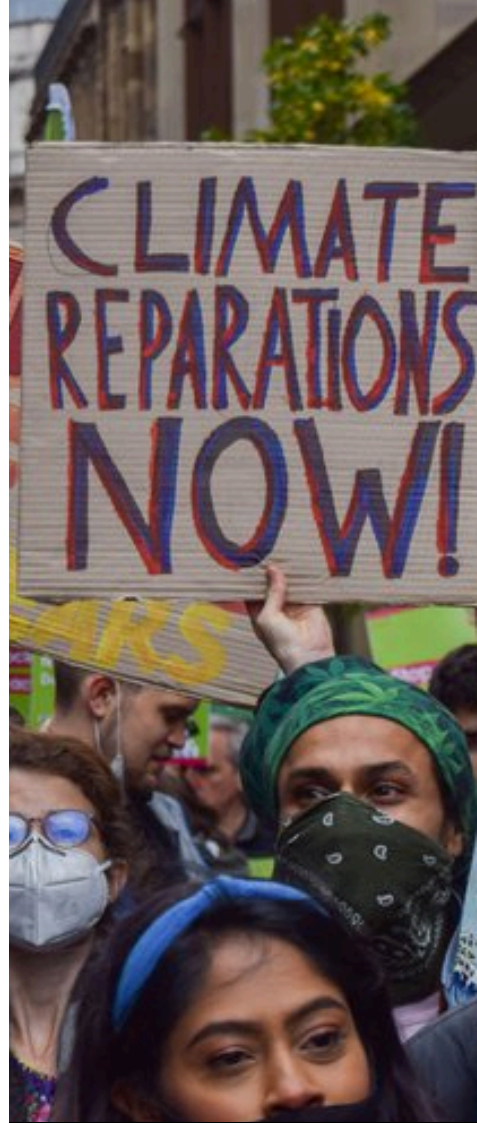
**Tuesday 24 February**

18:20 - 21:00, Dining Hall

In 2025, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) - known as the World Court - issued a landmark decision on climate change in its biggest ever case, making clear that countries need to rapidly cut emissions to reduce warming to 1.5C. The Court also held that if countries fail to act, they could be liable to pay reparations.

In this lecture, Harj Narulla, Visiting Fellow at Reuben College and a leading global expert in climate litigation, will draw on his experience as counsel for Solomon Islands before the ICJ to map out the case for climate reparations.

**[Book here](#)**



Credit: Vuk Valcic/SOPA  
Images via ZUMA Press Wire



## Formal Hall

**Thursday 26 February**

18:45 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Formal Hall offers a chance to get together with friends and colleagues and dress up to enjoy a beautifully prepared meal.

Members can invite up to a max of 5 paying guests.

**[Book here](#)**

# WEEK 7

1-7 MARCH

## Reuben Explores: Preparing for Exams

### Monday 2 March

17:30 - 18:30, Lecture Theatre / Livestreamed (book to access online)

Exam season is upon us. Welfare Dean, Kirren, and Senior Tutor, 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.

**[Book here](#)**

## Tuesday Talks/DwD: Frankenstein's Babies

### Tuesday 3 March

18:20 - 21:00, Dining Hall

The prospect of designing our children using gene editing is getting ever closer. Many pressing ethical questions about these developments are mirrored in dystopian fiction including "Frankenstein" and "Brave New World".

What does our desire for control say about our society? Is fair access to gene editing possible? Can we maximise both happiness and authenticity for future people? Come along to discuss with Reuben Research Fellow, Dr Tess Johnson.



**[Book here](#)**

# WEEK 7 (CONT'D)

1-7 MARCH

## Cultural Dinner: Women's History Month

**Thursday 5 March**

18:45 - 21:00, Dining Hall



Every March, Women's History Month allows us to reflect on the extraordinary achievements and impact of women throughout history.

Through a curated dinner celebrating flavours and stories from around the world, we welcome you to join us in honouring the collective strength, passion, and perseverance of women.

Formal attire encouraged.

**[Book here](#)**

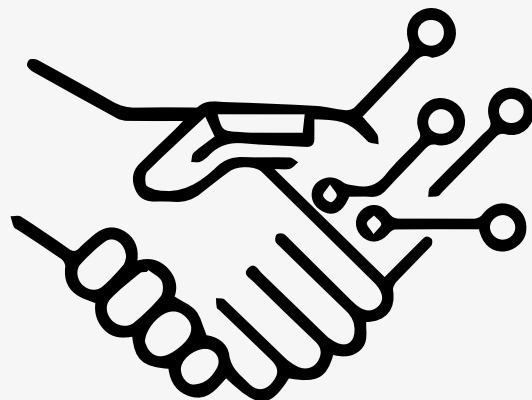
# WEEK 8

8-14 MARCH

## Tuesday Talks/DwD: AI and Human Empowerment

**Tuesday 10 March**

18:20 - 21:00, Dining Hall



Technology makes us wealthier, healthier, and more knowledgeable. But does it help us live richer and more fulfilling lives? [Prof Chris Summerfield](#) argues the dominant trend over the past 200 years has been for technology to strip people of their personal agency. In this talk, he will discuss this contention in the context of the 21st century AI revolution, and ask how we can train models to empower, rather than disempower, people.

**[Book here](#)**



# WEEK 8 (CONT'D)

8-14 MARCH

## Formal Hall

**Thursday 12 March**

18:45 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Formal Hall offers a chance to get together with friends and colleagues and dress up to enjoy a beautifully prepared meal.

Members can invite up to a max of 5 paying guests.

**[Book here](#)**



## BEYOND TERM

## Schmidt Colloquium

**Wednesday 18 March**

11:45 - 16:30, Lecture Theatre



The Reuben-Schmidt Colloquium is a termly event where Oxford's Schmidt AI in Science Fellows tell members of the College about their exciting work.. We strongly encourage members of the college to sign up (for free!) to listen to these exciting talks, plus tea, biscuits and lunch.

This is deliberately held in Week 9 so that any student or Research Fellow with an interest in AI or Science can attend this highly inter-disciplinary event.

**[Book here](#)**

# FURTHER BOOKING INFO

## **Bookings**

Tickets and guest tickets can only be booked by Reuben members using a Reuben email address. 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.

## **Dietary Requirements & Allergies**

If you have any dietary requirements and/or allergies, please ensure these are noted on your booking for every event you book onto. They will not be transferred across between bookings.

## **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?**

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.](#)

## **College Hospitality**

This option 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, please email the events team at:

**[events@reuben.ox.ac.uk](mailto:events@reuben.ox.ac.uk)**



Reuben  
College  
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD