

100  **1926**
YEARS **2026**
UNIVERSITY OF READING



Centenary Heritage Tours 2026

Discover the
University of Reading's
rich history and heritage

In partnership with:
The Friends of the University
and
Terry's Reading Walkabouts

Welcome

Welcome to the Centenary Heritage Tours 2026

On 17 March 2026 it will be 100 years since the University of Reading was granted a Royal Charter and became a University.

To mark our special anniversary, we invite you to step into our shared story and discover our past together through a series of guided walks. Join us to uncover fascinating moments from our history, explore architectural gems, absorb the beauty of our green spaces and cherish the generations of voices who have studied, worked, lived and helped to inspire the university we know today.

Whether you are a long-standing member of our community or joining us for the first time in this milestone year, we invite you to walk with us, reflect on our journey and celebrate the heritage that has shaped our identity.

Our history is an investment in our future. Together, we will continue to shape a better world for the next hundred years and beyond.

We are so excited to welcome you to our campuses to join our celebrations.



Our walks

In this programme, you will find full details of all the walks that are being held across 2026.

For each walk, you will find when the walk is taking place, a description of what you will explore, your walk leader, the start point, how to get there and the approximate length in kilometres and duration time in hours.



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Our partners

The Centenary Heritage Tours have been carefully curated in partnership with The Friends of the University and Terry's Reading Walkabouts. Both partners share the most incredible historical knowledge about the University and Reading town, holding an infectious passion and desire to share this with our communities.

While both offer walks throughout the year, we have worked together to create some new walks that further bring to life the history of the University and its connections with Reading.

Some of the tours will be delivered by our students, who have been recruited as Centenary Tour Guides and trained by The Friends and Terry, passing their knowledge down to the next generation.

A huge thank you to The Friends and Terry for their generosity, expertise and time, these tours would not be possible without them.

The Friends of the University

The Friends of the University of Reading was formed as a charitable association in 1927 and in 2017 was registered as an independent charity. In July 2017 The Friends was inducted into the University's College of Benefactors in recognition of 90 years continuous support of the University.

The Association thrives with a membership of around 250 drawn from the neighbourhood and the wider community, alongside former and present members of the University. They provide a companionable means of cultivating contacts between the University and those interested in its educational goals, history, current activities and future development. Membership of The Friends, open to anyone with an interest in supporting the University, gives access to an array of social and cultural events. The subscription income they generate is applied to grants, financing various amenities and activities throughout the University.

Terry's Reading Walkabouts

Terry Dixon is a true local legend of Reading. Since 2016, Terry has run guided walks of his home town, now offering an amazingly diverse 22 different themed walks for our local community to explore Reading's history, culture and its people.

Anyone who has joined one of Terry's walks will know he runs them in a fun and entertaining way, while using them as an opportunity to raise money for local charities. In 9 years, Terry has raised over £29,000 through his walks.

Guests who join walks being run by Terry are invited to make a donation of £5-£10 (adults) or £1-£2 (children over 5) to his three charities, Dingley's Promise and Green Health Thames Valley. Over the course of November, to mark Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day, Terry will raise money for the Military Charity, SSAFA.

In 2023, Terry was awarded the Pride of Reading Cultural Heritage Award and has been presented with a Reading Ukrainian Community Centre, Angel of Hope. Terry is also a member of Reading Civic Society the University of Reading's Community Engagement Steering Group.



Centenary tour guides



Syed Noor Fatima

Part 1, BSc Psychology



Ishita Ghatge

*Part 2, BSc Economics
and Finance*



Yusuf Gungor

*Part 2, BSc Business
and Management*



Angel Leung

*Part 1, BSc Business
and Management*



Anjali Musti

*Part 2, BSc Data Analytics
and Digital Business*



Emily Price

*PhD, Food
and Nutritional Sciences*

List of walks



A Celebration of University RAG Parades

[Click for full details](#)



Central Whiteknights Campus: From Parkland to University

[Click for full details](#)



Earley Gate: From History to Wilderness

[Click for full details](#)



Exploring Foxhill House

[Click for full details](#)



Kendrick Conservation Area, including London Road Campus

[Click for full details](#)



London Road Campus: The Heart of Reading's Academic Heritage

[Click for full details](#)



Northern Whiteknights Campus: Layers of Change

[Click for full details](#)



Reading and the University at times of War

[Click for full details](#)

Booking and FAQs



| Booking

You must make sure you book onto a walk to secure your space, we are not able to accept people who turn up on the day. Please use the link above to take you to the booking site to secure your chosen walk(s), or contact **Molli Cleaver**, *University Community Engagement Manager* memories@reading.ac.uk or **0118 378 3577**.



| Accessibility

All of our walks are family friendly and have been assessed whether they are wheelchair accessible, by which we mean the walk features smooth pathways with ramps and wide entrances. We recommend that you get in touch with us if you have any accessibility queries about a specific walk as we know that access requirements differ from person to person. We have designed the walks to help ensure there should be something for every ability.



| Chance to donate

All of our walks are free of charge. For walks led by Terry's Reading Walkabouts, Terry kindly asks that you make a donation to his chosen local charities, Dingley's Promise, Green Health Thames Valley and SSAFA, the Armed Forces Charity.



| Travel

Environmental sustainability is really important to us so every walk has been designed to be accessed by public transport. Please help us make the tours as sustainable as we can by avoiding using a car if possible.

If you need to travel by car, free parking permits will be available to park on our campuses.



| Dogs

Dogs are not permitted to join any of walks unless it is a guide dog or assistance dog as you may be taken inside buildings.



| Further Information

If you have any questions or need help booking a walk please contact

Molli Cleaver,
*University Community
Engagement Manager*
memories@reading.ac.uk or
0118 378 3577.



The Walks



Click icon to view walks by:

A Celebration of University RAG Parades

Dates/times



List of walks



Wheelchair access



3.5km | 2hrs 15 mins |

Walk leader:
Terry's Reading Walkabouts



Join us for a nostalgic walk as we retrace the 1984 RAG Float Parade route – a vibrant celebration of creativity, community and charity. 'Raising and Giving' (RAG) has long been at the heart of Reading Students' Union's fundraising spirit. On this walk, we'll pause at key points along the parade route to revisit the energy and excitement of past RAG parades through photographs, stories and memories from the era.

Start and end: The Museum of English Rural Life, RG1 5EX

what3words: *///launch.tigers.worker*

Getting there: Bus 21 from the town centre, Kendrick Student Village stop then a short walk.

Dates/times

Thursday 19 February | 10.00-12.15

Saturday 7 March | 10.30-12.45

Tuesday 21 April | 11.00-13.15

Saturday 9 May | 10.10-12.25*

Sunday 17 May | 10.30-12.45*

Thursday 4 June | 10.30-12.45

Thursday 22 October | 10.00-12.15

**Part of Reading Walks Festival*

The Walks



Central Whiteknights Campus: From Parkland to University

2km | 1hr 30 mins

Walk leader:
Centenary Tour Guides/
The Friends of the University



Take a journey through the very heart of the Whiteknights campus, tracing its story from past to present. This walk begins 'at the site of one of the University's oldest buildings and leads you to some of its newest additions, revealing how the landscape and architecture have evolved over time. Along the way, discover the fascinating history of the park – from its origins in the early 1700s as a grand country estate to its transformation into the University of Reading's main campus after its acquisition in 1947.

The walk taking place on 17 March will be extra special as it takes place exactly 100 years to the day when the University received its Royal Charter.

Start: Park House, Whiteknights Campus, RG6 6UA

what3words: *///blues.round.retire*

Getting there: Bus 21 or 20 from the town centre.

Dates/times

Tuesday 17 March | 12.00-13.30

Saturday 9 May | 11.00-12.30*

Saturday 31 October | 11.00-12.30

**Part of Reading Walks Festival*

Click icon
to view
walks by:

Dates/times



List of walks



Wheelchair
access



The Walks



Click icon
to view
walks by:

Earley Gate: From History to Wilderness

Dates/times



List of walks



Wheelchair
access



2.5km | 2hrs

Walk leader:
Centenary Tour Guides



Explore the fascinating eastern edge of the University's Whiteknights campus on this guided walk through the Earley Gate area. The route winds through the campus buildings to the scenic Friends Bridge overlooking the lake, before leading into the tranquil beauty of the Wilderness and towards the Harris Garden entrance. Along the way, we'll pause at the site of Wilderness House – now lost to time – and uncover its story. The walk concludes at *The Citadel*, a remarkable 1950s purpose-built war room once designed as a regional government outpost during the Cold War.

Start: University of Reading Earley Gate entrance, RG6 7BE

what3words: [///answer.live.bags](https://www.what3words.com/answer.live.bags)

Getting there: Bus 19 or 19A from the town centre.

Dates/times

Saturday 2 May | 12.30–14.30

Tuesday 15 September | 12.30–14.30

The Walks



Click icon to view walks by:

Dates/times



List of walks



Wheelchair access



Exploring Foxhill House

Building tour | 1hr 15 mins

Walk leader:

The Friends of the University.



Foxhill House is a fine example of mid-Victorian architecture, designed by Alfred Waterhouse. Situated on raised ground near the northern corner of the University's Whiteknights campus, it overlooks the meadows and the lake. You will explore the hall and some rooms in the house as well as the former stable block, the stylish external design and the garden.

Start: Foxhill House, Whiteknights Campus, RG6 7BA

what3words: *///tinsel.into.large*

Getting there: Bus 21 or 20 from the town centre.

Dates/times

Saturday 12 September | 11.00-12.15

Saturday 12 September | 12.30-13.45

The Walks



Kendrick Conservation Area, including London Road Campus

Click icon
to view
walks by:

Dates/times



List of walks



Wheelchair
access



3km | 2hrs 15 mins |

Walk leader:

Terry's Reading Walkabouts



Step back more than 150 years and explore a very different Reading from then to now, on this guided walk through the historic Kendrick Conservation Area. You'll discover lost swimming baths, Kendrick Court, a historic pub, two important schools, the original University campus, impressive houses, listed buildings and beautiful mature trees. Hear the fascinating stories of the people that lived here and so much more.

Start: Corner of South Street and East Street, RG1 4GP

what3words: *///faces.fleet.tones*

End: The Museum of English Rural Life, RG1 5EX

Getting there: Bus 21 from the town centre, London Street stop then a short walk.

Dates/times

Thursday 12 March | 10.00–12.15

Saturday 11 April | 10.15–12.30

Thursday 19 November | 10.00–12.15

Thursday 3 December | 10.00–12.15

The Walks



London Road Campus: The Heart of Reading's Academic Heritage

Click icon to view walks by:

Dates/times



List of walks



Wheelchair access



1.5km | 1hr 30 mins

Walk leader:

Centenary Tour Guides/
The Friends of the University.



Discover the story of the University of Reading's historic London Road Campus – the place where the University truly began its journey in the early 1900s. This walk takes you through the beautiful grounds and architecture that shaped the University's early identity. Explore buildings generously gifted by the Palmer family, whose legacy helped establish Reading as a centre of learning and innovation. Wander through the elegant quadrangle, purpose-built to echo the collegiate charm of Oxford, and uncover the stories behind the people, places and vision that made this campus the heart of the University's heritage.

Start: University of Reading, London Road Campus, RG1 5AQ – campus entrance off Redlands Road.

what3words: /// *lace.relax.mirrors*

Getting there: Bus 21 from the town centre, Kendrick Student Village stop then a short walk.

Dates/times

Sunday 10 May | 11.00–12.30*

Saturday 6 June | 11.00–12.30

Wednesday 7 October | 12.30–14.00

*Part of Reading Walks Festival

The Walks



Northern Whiteknights Campus: Layers of Change

2km | 1hr 30 mins

Walk leader:
Centenary Tour Guides



Join us for a fascinating walk around the University's northern campus, where past and present meet at every turn. This tour traces the northern perimeter of Whiteknights, exploring a mix of old and new architecture – and even a few places where buildings once stood but are now lost to time. Discover the sites of the University's original student halls of residence, learn how the campus evolved over decades. Visit historic landmarks such as Foxhill House and the site of a once grand house now demolished. A walk through history that reveals how the University's landscape has continually adapted, reflecting generations of change and growth.

Start: Wantage Hall,
Upper Redlands Road, RG1 5JG

what3words: *///love.fell.rift*

Getting there: Bus 21 or 20 from Reading town centre.

Dates/times

Saturday 28 March | 11.00–12.30

Saturday 18 April | 11.00–12.30

Saturday 13 June | 11.00–12.30

Saturday 5 September | 11.00–12.30

Click icon to view walks by:

Dates/times



List of walks



Wheelchair access



The Walks



Click icon to view walks by:

Reading and the University at times of War

Dates/times



List of walks



Wheelchair access



3.8km | 2hrs 15 mins | 

Walk leader:

[Terry's Reading Walkabouts](#)



Step back in time and explore the powerful connections between Reading and the University during WW1, WW2 and later conflicts. Learn about the Berkshire regiments and how the University helped, while discovering little-known facts and poignant stories of courage, sacrifice and resilience of the people who are commemorated on campus. The route includes the iconic Memorial Clock Tower and historic University buildings that were transformed for wartime use before being restored to their peacetime roles.

Start: Outside main entrance to Reading Minster Church, RG1 2LG

what3words: [///begin.candle.sizes](#)

End: The Museum of English Rural Life, RG1 5EX

Getting there: Many bus stops in the town centre and 15 mins walk from Reading Station.

Dates/times

Sunday 20 September | 10.30–12.45

Saturday 17 October | 10.00–12.15

Thursday 5 November | 10.00–12.15

Tuesday 10 November | 10.30–12.45

Walks by dates/times



February



19

A Celebration of University RAG Parades

10.00
-12.15

[Click for full details](#)

Click icon to view walks by:

Dates/times



March



7

A Celebration of University RAG Parades

10.30
-12.45

[Click for full details](#)

List of walks



12

Kendrick Conservation Area, including London Road Campus

10.00
-12.15

[Click for full details](#)

Wheelchair access



17

Central Whiteknights Campus: From Parkland to University

12.00
-13.30

[Click for full details](#)

28

Northern Whiteknights Campus: Layers of Change

11.00
-12.30

[Click for full details](#)

April



11

Kendrick Conservation Area, including London Road Campus

10.15
-12.30

[Click for full details](#)

18

Northern Whiteknights Campus: Layers of Change

11.00
-12.30

[Click for full details](#)

21

A Celebration of University RAG Parades

11.00
-13.15

[Click for full details](#)

Walks by dates/times



Click icon to view walks by:

Dates/times



List of walks



Wheelchair access



May



2

Earley Gate: From History to Wilderness

12.30
-14.30

[Click for full details](#)

9

A Celebration of University RAG Parades

10.10
-12.25

[Click for full details](#)

9

Central Whiteknights Campus: From Parkland to University

11.00
-12.30

[Click for full details](#)

10

London Road Campus: The Heart of Reading's Academic Heritage

11.00
-12.30

[Click for full details](#)

17

A Celebration of University RAG Parades

10.30
-12.45

[Click for full details](#)

June



4

A Celebration of University RAG Parades

10.30
-12.45

[Click for full details](#)

6

London Road Campus: The Heart of Reading's Academic Heritage

11.00
-12.30

[Click for full details](#)

13

Northern Whiteknights Campus: Layers of Change

11.00
-12.30

[Click for full details](#)

Walks by dates/times



Click icon to view walks by:

Dates/times



List of walks



Wheelchair access



September



5

Northern Whiteknights Campus: Layers of Change

11.00
-12.30

[Click for full details](#)

12

Exploring Foxhill House

11.00
-12.15

[Click for full details](#)

12.30
-13.45

Exploring Foxhill House

[Click for full details](#)

15

Earley Gate: From History to Wilderness

12.30
-14.30

[Click for full details](#)

20

Reading and the University at times of War

10.30
-12.45

[Click for full details](#)

October



7

London Road Campus: The Heart of Reading's Academic Heritage

12.30
-14.00

[Click for full details](#)

17

Reading and the University at times of War

10.00
-12.15

[Click for full details](#)

22

A Celebration of University RAG Parades

10.00
-12.15

[Click for full details](#)

31

Central Whiteknights Campus: From Parkland to University

11.00
-12.30

[Click for full details](#)

Walks by dates/times



November



5

Reading and the University at times of War

10.00
-12.15

[Click for full details](#)

10

Reading and the University at times of War

10.30
-12.45

[Click for full details](#)

19

Kendrick Conservation Area, including London Road Campus

10.00
-12.15

[Click for full details](#)

December



3

Kendrick Conservation Area, including London Road Campus

10.00
-12.15

[Click for full details](#)

Click icon to view walks by:

Dates/times



List of walks



Wheelchair access



Accessible walks



A Celebration of University RAG Parades



3.5km | 2hrs 15 mins |

19 Feb Thursday | 10.00-12.15

21 Apr Tuesday | 11.00-13.15

9 May Saturday | 10.10-12.25*

17 May Sunday | 10.30-11.45*

4 Jun Thursday | 10.30-12.45

22 Sep Thursday | 10.00-12.15

[Click for full details](#)

Click icon to view walks by:

Dates/times



List of walks



Wheelchair access



Kendrick Conservation Area, including London Road Campus



3km | 2hrs 15 mins |

12 Mar Thursday | 10.00-12.15

11 Apr Saturday | 10.15-12.30

19 Nov Thursday | 10.00-12.30

3 Dec Thursday | 10.00-12.30

[Click for full details](#)

Reading and the University at times of War



3.8km | 2hrs 15 mins |

20 Sep Thursday | 10.30-12.45

17 Oct Saturday | 10.00-12.15

5 Nov Thursday | 10.00-12.15

10 Nov Tuesday | 10.30-12.45

[Click for full details](#)

Let's stay connected!



- ✓ **Find out more about our Centenary**
- ✓ **Sign up to our community newsletter**
- ✓ **Join our events mailing list**
- ✓ **Discover your Alumni Community**
- ✓ **Join The Friends of the University of Reading**
- ✓ **Follow Terry's Reading Walkabouts**
- ✓ **Follow our socials**

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