**Philosophy**  *The Mystery of Music*  We do not experience music as meaningless. For many it is the most deeply meaningful of all the arts. And yet, in the majority of cases, when we are asked exactly what a piece of music means, we are unable to answer. Professor Monk will discuss this issue in connection with the ideas on learning advanced by Ludwig Wittgenstein.  
**Prof Ray Monk**

**Thu 3**  
**BRLSI with Bath Geological Society**  *William Smith: Geological investigations in Somerset & the reconstruction of his country map*  
Smith’s geological achievements in Somerset will be evaluated using his original maps and cross-sections compared with modern data. His early Meams colliery survey and later work on the Somerset Coal Canal culminated in the world’s first geological map of the Bath area in 1799. A version of his geological map of Somerset, with faintly engraved geological boundaries was used to reconstruct a geological map of the county. Smith recognized the importance of fossils in the characterization of strata, examples of these from his ground-breaking publication, ‘Strata Identified by Organized Fossils’ will be presented.  
**Peter Wigley** Editor of *William Smith’s Fossils Reunited*

**Fri 4**  
**Herschel/Astronomy** with British Interplanetary Society  *William Herschel & the Rings of Uranus*  
It is generally believed that the rings around the planet Uranus were discovered during an occultation experiment in 1777. Remarkably however, the first possible observations of a ring around Uranus may have been made by William Herschel some 180 years earlier. This talk discusses the evidence, and then considers the factors that might have changed to prevent further observations of the rings.  
**Dr Stuart Eves FAS FRS** Satellite Systems Engineer

**Mon 7**  
**Arts Society Bath Evening**  *A Royal Reception: Dumfries House a forgotten Georgian gem saved & revealed*  
Matthew Williams  
**ASBE members £5 /visitors £8**  refreshments from 6.30pm talk 7.10pm

**Tue 8**  
**Business & Economics**  *Expansion of Chinese Firms Overseas: Consequences for workers*  
Chinese investments in Europe have increased and diversified, both in terms of location and industrial sectors. This has raised fears that Chinese foreign direct investments represent a beachhead from which China will spread its own labour model into Europe. ‘Are anxieties justified that Chinese firms will transplant to Europe the Chinese labour model typified by short-term contract employment, low wages and lack of trade union representation?’  
**Dr Rutvica Andrijasevic** University of Bristol

**Thu 10**  
**BACAS**  *Tofts, Crofts & Platforms: How field systems evolved*  
Chris Paul  
**BACAS member**

**Fri 11**  
**The Poet’s Voice**  *Lucky*  
(USA 2017) Director John Carroll Lynch  
**plus AGM**  7.45pm

**Sat 12**  
**Arts Society Bath Evening**  *POETRY WORKSHOP*  
All welcome  
Duncan McGibbon, Organiser  
10am

**Mon 14**  
**History & Culture**  *Rags to Riches: The Peruvian Exploits of a Dorset Adventurer*  
Thomas Shute was 14 when his father died in the workhouse. Shute sailed to the sinking Chinchina Islands off the Peruvian Coast to farm guano. He survived the Spanish Invasion of Peru 1864 and the capture of the Chinchina Islands. In 1866, Shute moved to Callao, and diversified into ship ownership. When he died in Liverpool in 1908, he was a leading ship-owner and worth millions.  
**Michael Davis MBE**, BRLSI Trustee

**Tue 15**  
**World Affairs**  *Terrorism & Counter-Terrorism Today*  
Terrorism today has become unhinged and unaccountable to any moral or political constituency. But an inability to articulate our own values ensures its continuation.  
**Prof Bill Durodie** University of Bath

**Thu 17**  
**German Language & Culture**  *Erhard von Büren: Swiss author*  
Helen Wallimann illustrates translation problems by comparing the passages with her rendering in *A Long Blue Monday*.  
**Helen Wallimann** Translator (Reading in German, talk in English.)

**Thu 22**  
**Engineering & Technology**  *The Rubber Industry of Bradford-on-Avon*  
In 1838, one of the most significant discoveries of the 19th century – the vulcanization of rubber, was made in Massachusetts, USA. In 1842 Stephen Moulton brought this invention to England and established a rubber factory in Bradford on Avon that supplied the world with rubber springs, seals, gaskets and hoses – and founded Wiltshire’s ‘Rubber Valley’. Dan Farrell will talk about the history of this remarkable industrial story.

**Fri 25**  
**BACAS**  *Wajib*  
(Palestine 2017) Director Annemarie Jacir  
7.45pm

**Sat 26**  
**Literature & Humanities**  *SYMPOSIUM*  
*Decadence & Creativity: VIENNA in the time of FREUD, KLIMT, MAHLER & WITTMENGEN*  
9.35am  
**Decadence & Creativity: VIENNA in the time of Freud, Klimt, Mahler & Wittgenstein**  
Prof Matthew Rampley  
10.25am  
**Sigmund Freud: Themes, ideas & influence**  
Emilia Raczkowska  
11.05am  
**Painting & Design in Vienna**  
Dr Bernard Vere  
2.15pm  
**Architectures & Architects in late Habsburg Vienna**  
Dr Charlotte Ashby  
3.30pm  
**Young Wittgenstein & the Tractatus Logico Philosophicus**  
Prof Genia Schoenbaumsfeld  
4.40pm  
**Theatre & Drama in Vienna**  
Dr Judith Benison

**Mon 28**  
**The Patrick O’Brian Society**  *C S Forester’s ‘The Commodore’*  
Fighting in the savage Baltic weather, Hornblower must impede Napoleon from conquering Sweden & Russia.  
**Book discussion**  
All welcome

**Wed 30**  
**Institution Lecture**  *Two Hundred Years: Theatre Royal, Bath*  
An illustrated history of the Theatre Royal Bath  
Jane Tapley  
Special Events Organiser & Official Lecturer, Theatre Royal Bath

BRLSI events cost £5 or £2 members/students at the door, & start at 7.30pm (unless listed otherwise). Please arrive early to avoid disappointment.  
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**phone 01225 463362 or www.bathboxoffice.org.uk**  
**Seats unreserved.**  
**Start times & entry costs to Visiting Societies** (which are listed in italics) may vary.