

# BIRMINGHAM POPULAR MATHEMATICS LECTURES

Open to all members of the public and the University. Particularly suitable for those studying mathematics at A-level. We also welcome advanced GCSE students. The lectures are free of charge. There is no need to register for groups of under 10 people.  
**Wednesdays monthly at 7.30pm, Watson Building, University of Birmingham**

3.141592653589793238462643383279		
5028841971693993751058209749445923		
07816406286208998628034825342117067		
9821	48086	5132
823	06647	09384
46	09550	58223
17	25359	4081
	2848	1117
	4502	8410
	2701	9385
	21105	55964
	46229	48954
	9303	81964
	4288	10975
	66593	34461
	284756	48233
	78678	31652
	2019091	456485
	9234603	48610454326648
	2133936	0726024914127
	3724587	00660631558
	817488	152092096
		71
		66

5	3	4	6	7	8	9	1	2
6	7	2	1	9	5	3	4	8
1	9	8	3	4	2	5	6	7
8	5	9	7	6	1	4	2	3
4	2	6	8	5	3	7	9	1
7	1	3	9	2	4	8	5	6
9	6	1	5	3	7	2	8	4
2	8	7	4	1	9	6	3	5
3	4	5	2	8	6	1	7	9



## 18th January 2017 Prof Robin Wilson 'The Story of $\pi$ '

This talk will cover the entire history of  $\pi$ , from the ancient Egyptians and Mesopotamians, via Archimedes, China and the Middle Ages, to the Indiana court case and the advances of the modern computer age.

Robin Wilson is an Emeritus Professor of Pure Mathematics at the Open University and Emeritus Professor of Geometry at Gresham College, London. He has written and edited many books on the history of mathematics, including Lewis Carroll in Numberland, and also on graph theory, including Introduction to Graph Theory and Four Colours Suffice. He has Erdős Number 1.

## 15th February 2017 Dr Allan Lo 'Sudoku - a special Latin square'

A Sudoku is a mathematical puzzle appearing in many newspapers. The objective is to fill a  $9 \times 9$  grid with numbers 1, 2, ..., 9 such that each column, each row, and each of the nine  $3 \times 3$  subgrids contains every number precisely once. While completing these puzzles is fun and challenging, there are many related mathematical results and applications. For instance, a completed Sudoku is an example of a Latin square, which has already been studied back in the 1770s. I will talk about the history of Latin squares as well as their influences in the modern society.

## 15th March 2017 Dr Jonathon Meddaugh 'Origami and Mathematics'

Origami allows for an incredible variety of objects to be constructed from a simple sheet of paper. Traditional origami creations include relatively simple shapes including the familiar origami crane. Modern origami artists have pushed the limits of the medium and through the clever use of geometry have been able to create some truly amazing art. The art of origami is of course significantly informed by the mathematics, but perhaps more surprisingly, mathematics can be informed by origami. We will discuss applications of origami in geometric constructions and the design of airbags and telescope lenses.

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