

Exhibitions

14 October - 10 November

Understanding Islam: Challenging Islamophobia

Opening hours: Tues-Sun: 10am- 6pm

Exhibition challenges misconceptions about Islam and Muslims. It explores the history and contributions of Muslims in Britain. Refill Shop, RISC, 35-39 London St, RG1 4PS ☎ free Dave 📧 dave@risc.org.uk



Opens 26 October

The Art of Dance from the Indian Subcontinent

Opening hours: Tues-Fri 10am-4pm; Sat 10am-5pm

Drawing together artefacts collected by the people of Reading with the Museum's own historic objects, this small display explores how the local Indian community express themselves through dance. Discover the symbolism of these dances and their importance for religious festivals and occasions. In partnership with Kala the Arts and generously funded by the Arts Council. Welcome Gallery, Reading Museum, RG1 1QH ☎ free



Reading International Development Forum

The Forum aims to celebrate Reading's diverse communities and action groups. The programme highlights the many international activities, twinning links and solidarity in Reading. The theme highlighted this year is:

Hungry For Peace

Let us act together to:

- Build a world where we live in peace, without divisions and violence.
- Prevent the displacement of people caused by land theft, war, environmental injustice and climate change.
- Create a food system that respects food sovereignty and biodiversity.
- Protect all human rights.
- Create an economic system that serves the needs of people and planet.

The Festival includes **Black History Month**.



If your organisation is planning an event with an international perspective, contact: 📧 volunteers@risc.org.uk about criteria and dates. All participating groups are included **free** and all help to distribute the leaflets throughout Reading.



“Peace is not simply the absence of conflict, but the existence of justice for all people.”

Martin Luther King Junior

Reading International Festival 2024

12 Oct–10 Nov



 ReadingInForum

 @ReadingInForum

info ☎ 0118 958 6692

Event details are correct at time of printing – contact organisations to confirm.

Saturday 12 October

Meet Mixy Fandino @ The World Shop

4pm Hear about fair trade and sustainable Colombian Jewellery from **Mixy Fandino** who is promoting and supporting Colombian artisans to preserve their cultural legacy. Products are made from natural material like totumo and tagua. World Shop, 35-39 London St, RG1 4PS & **Silvia** ☎0118 956 9800

Monday 14 October

film *Wilding Followed by Q&A*

7.30pm A young couple battles entrenched tradition, daring to place the fate of their farm in the hands of nature. Thus begins one of the most significant rewilding experiments in Europe - on the Knepp Estate in Sussex. Transition Town Reading/ Reading Biscuit Factory. RBF, 1 Queens Walk, RG1 7QE & **£6.50 Booking** ☎www.readingbiscuitfactory.co.uk/checkout/showing/wilding-qa/202088 Mat/James ☎info@readingbiscuitfactory.co.uk



Thursday 17 October

Invest 4 Change - Investing in a Fairer World

6pm Since 1990 **Shared Interest** has enabled millions of people across the world to grow their businesses, creating thriving communities, supporting fair trade. Learn more about how money can make a tangible difference. World Shop, 35-39 London St, RG1 4P & **Silvia** ☎0118 956 9800

Saturday 19 October

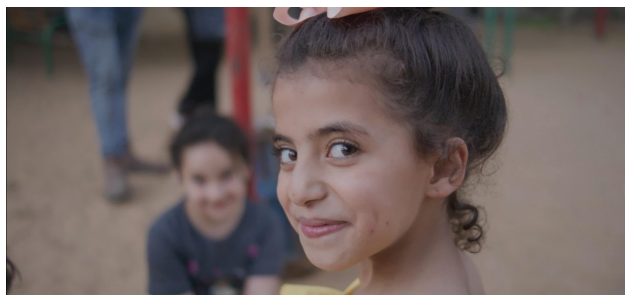
Book launch and readings with **Kim Whysall-Hammond**

7pm *Messages from the Road*: poems that travel via motorways, our own lives, climate change, refugee camps. A voyage into what it means to be alive, to hope in uncertain times. Kim Whysall-Hammond & Palewell Press. RISC, 35-39 London St, RG1 4PS & **free Kim Whysall-Hammond** ☎07787 127798

Wednesday 23 October

Stop Arming Israel

7pm Despite political inaction on Gaza, a global movement for justice has emerged. Join us to discuss how to pressure the new government to end arms sales to Israel. Global Justice Now. RISC, 35-39 London St, RG1 4PS & **free** ☎020 7820 4900 ☎offleyroad@globaljustice.org.uk



Friday 25 October

film *Where Olive Trees Weep*

7.30pm Award-winning documentary that gives a searing picture of the struggles and resilience of the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation. It explores themes of loss, inter-generational trauma and the quest for justice. British Islamic Gardens & Food4families. RISC, 35-39 London St, RG1 4PS & **donations Abid** ☎abid@bigardens.org

Thursday 24 October

Human Rights in Hong Kong

7.30pm An Evening Without Chow Hang-tung and Jimmy Lai. Panel discussion including **Sacha Deshmukh**, CEO of Amnesty International UK, **Michael Mo**, HK campaigner and a member of our local HK community. Reading Amnesty International Group. Reading Quaker Meeting House, 2 Church St, RG1 2SB & **donations Helen Ball** ☎07900 886306

Saturday 26 October

St Vincent & Grenadines Independence Day Celebration

6pm Saint Vincent and the Grenadines was the last Windward Island to gain its independence from the UK on October 27, 1979. Join the celebration of formal dinner, dance and entertainment. St. Vincent and Grenadines Association (Reading). The Hilton Hotel, Drake Way, RG2 0GQ **£70/£75** ☎info@svgareading.org.uk

Monday 28 October

East Berkshire Palestine Solidarity Campaign presents **Rabbi Beck**

7pm **Rabbi Beck** from Neturei Karta International will share his story about being born in Palestine, perspectives on the genocide in Gaza and answer questions. East Berkshire PSC. 35-39 London St, RG1 4PS & **donations** ☎eastberkshirespc@gmail.com

Tuesday 29 October

Our Little Hour

8pm The inspirational story of the legendary pioneering hero **Walter Tull** is brought to the stage in a new musical drama by award winning playwright **Dougie Blaxland** and celebrated composer **Chris Anthony**. Commissioned by **Show Racism the Red Card** and produced in association with **Live Wire Theatre**, this profoundly moving new work explores how Walter Tull, grandson of a Barbadian slave orphaned at 8 years old, rose to prominence against all odds. 21 South Street, RG1 4QU **£17.50/£15.50concs** South Street Box office ☎0118 960 6060

Thursday 31 October

World Book Club

7.30pm *A Concise Chinese-English Dictionary for Lovers* by **Xiaolu Guo**. The story of a young Chinese woman who moves to London - an original journey of self-discovery through languages and cultures. RISC, 35-39 London St, RG1 4PS & **free Marianna** ☎worldbookclubreading@gmail.com

Saturday 2 November

What is Green Spirituality?

3pm Green Spirituality is about our vital connection to the Earth. **Ian Mowll**, coordinator of Greenspirit, will inspire us to live sustainably with care for all life. Followed by questions and refreshments. Green Spirit Reading. RISC, 35-39 London St, RG1 4PS & **free Debbie** ☎0118 935 2169

Wednesday 6 November

Viva Reading - San Francisco Libre

7pm Celebrating 30 years of Reading's town twinning link with San Francisco Libre in Nicaragua. Hear about the history of the link, the many projects we have funded and the achievements of the partnership. Exhibition showcasing San Francisco Libre and its people, as well as music and refreshments. All welcome. Reading San Francisco Libre Association. RISC, 35-39 London St, RG1 4PS & **free Martin** ☎0118 958 6642



Saturday 9 November

What Peace Requires of Us

10.30am-12.30pm Please join us in reflecting on what values and action peace require of us as individuals and as community and what we can learn from our own experience on how to bring peace in our continent and our lives facilitated by Manuela of Reading Peace Works. Quaker Meeting House, 2 Church St, RG1 2SB & **donations Manuela** ☎readingpeaceworks@yahoo.co.uk

Gaza, Yemen and Beyond

7.30pm A night of performances, poetry and music in solidarity with Palestine and the oppressed peoples in the wider region. We'll have a group discussion exploring broader issues facing the SWANA (South West Asia & North Africa) region and how we, as individuals in the West, can contribute to positive change. Authentic food and a general spirit of inclusion in which all are welcome! RISC, 35-39 London St, RG1 4PS & **£10 Sara** ☎shnugba@yahoo.com