

Bristol **AERO TALKS**

The Hubble Space Telescope at 35 years Old



The Hubble Space Telescope (HST) is one of the most iconic spacecraft in history being associated with many spectacular images of the cosmos.

Hubble was a joint endeavour between NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA). In return for providing the Solar Array system and the Faint Object Camera, ESA secured 15% of the viewing time for its scientists. The Solar Array system was provided by a team led by engineers at British Aerospace (BAe) in Bristol.

In his talk **Dr Nigel Wright** will look back at the history of the project, its complex organisation and its impact, the design constraints driving the unique solar array design, the impacts arising from the explosion of the Space Shuttle Challenger, the problems encountered in orbit after the launch and how these were subsequently recovered from.

7:15 pm on Tuesday January 27th 2026

The John James Theatre

Aerospace Bristol Hayes Way Patchway BS34 5BZ

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Latest Car Parking Arrangement for Talk Attendees with Mobility Issues

It has been recognised that the walking distance from the Aerospace Bristol car park to the John James Lecture Theatre can be challenging for audience members experiencing mobility problems.

Unfortunately, the previous scheme has caused difficulties for the Aerospace Bristol staff and security. We have therefore been asked to limit the numbers of people and vehicles entering the secure area close to the Concorde building. Hence, if possible, use the main car park and walk through the secure pedestrian gate. If this is not feasible, please notify the museum in advance of name/s of car occupants and the registration number of the vehicle concerned. The contact e-mail for the museum staff is operations@aerospacebristol.org.

When doing so, exercise great care avoiding audience members accessing the Concorde building on foot.

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