

# FRIENDS OF READING ABBEY SPRING LECTURE

*Friday 22 March 2019 7.30 pm*

ST LAURENCE'S CHURCH, READING

## The Impact of the Dissolution of 1539 on the Town of Reading

*Speaker:*

Joe Chick

University of Warwick



**Joe Chick** gained an interest in the history of Reading when he took the masters in Medieval Studies at the University of Reading in 2014-16. He is now working on a PhD thesis about Reading in the years 1350-1600 at the University of Warwick.

The dissolution of the monasteries was a major event in English history, but in Reading it had particular significance since Reading Abbey was lord of the whole town. Here it was a political, economic and social event as well as a religious one. The talk looks at how town society adapted to the removal of the Abbey during the turbulent years that followed.

We are holding the lecture in St Laurence's again this year to provide an opportunity to enjoy the beautiful interior of this late medieval church, which is part of the Abbey precinct and was founded by the Abbey as a place of worship for townspeople.



**The church will be open from 7.00pm.**

**Entry will be free**, with a voluntary retiring collection to help cover the costs of hire.