

22 July 2019

## TEDxBanbury Speaker Announcement

### ***From Waterways to the Stars – Matthew Armitage – Tooley’s & Astromount - Banbury***

Director of Tooley’s Boatyard, and Astromount, Matthew Armitage is announced as the fifth speaker at TEDxBanbury taking place on 29 February next year.

Following a career in archaeology, supervising excavations; designer engineer and director of Banbury’s historic dry dock – Tooley’s Boatyard, Matthew, brings innovative ideas to the TEDxBanbury stage.

A fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, Matthew is also the designer and manufacturer of a new heavy duty, observatory based British telescope mount: ‘Astromount’, combining his passion for astronomy and engineering.

TEDxBanbury curator Hilary Beaton, said ‘To have Matthew joining us at TEDxBanbury is testimony to the design and innovation championing our town, not just locally, but nationally and internationally. Design engineering has now become recognised as one of the most crucial areas for a sustainable economy, and Banbury lies in close proximity to some of the top universities which offer studies in Engineering, including Oxford and Warwick.’

Matthew leads courses not only in RYA boat handling, but also astrophotography. There is an observatory based at Tooley’s Boatyard, and at his home in Oxfordshire. He has recently published his book ‘Forging Ahead’ - the sale of which supports Tooley’s Boatyard.

Photograph to follow

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<https://banburyobservatory.wordpress.com>

<http://www.astromount.co.uk/design/>

#### **About TEDx, x = independently organised event.**

In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TEDx is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. At a TEDx event, TEDTalks video and live speakers combine to spark deep discussion and connection in a small group. These local, self-organized events are branded TEDx, where x = independently organized TED event. The TED Conference provides general guidance for the TEDx program, but individual TEDx events are self-organized. (Subject to certain rules and regulations.)

#### **About TED**

TED is a nonprofit organization devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading, often in the form of short talks delivered by leading thinkers and doers. Many of these talks are given at TED conferences, including our annual gathering in Vancouver, as well as TEDWomen, intimate TED Salons and thousands of independently organized TEDx events around the world. Videos of these talks are made available, free, on [TED.com](http://TED.com) and other platforms. Audio versions of the talks from TED2019 will also be published to TED's podcast [TED Talks Daily](http://TED Talks Daily), available on Apple Podcasts and all other podcast platforms.

TED's open and free initiatives for spreading ideas include TED.com, where new TED Talk videos are posted daily; [TEDx](http://TEDx), which licenses thousands of individuals and groups to host local, self-organized TED-style events around the world; the [TED Fellows](http://TED Fellows) program, which selects innovators from around the globe to amplify the impact of their remarkable projects and activities; the [Audacious Project](http://Audacious Project), which surfaces and funds critical ideas that have the potential to impact millions of lives; [TEDSummit](http://TEDSummit), which gathers the most engaged members of the global TED community for brainstorming, discussions, performances, workshops and an eclectic program of mainstage talks; and the educational initiative [TED-Ed](http://TED-Ed). TED also has a library of original podcasts, including [The TED Interview](http://The TED Interview) with Chris Anderson, [Sincerely, X](http://Sincerely, X), and one of Apple Podcasts' most downloaded new shows of 2018, [WorkLife with Adam Grant](http://WorkLife with Adam Grant).

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