962-01-281   **Harold M. Edwards*** (`edwards@cims.nyu.edu`), Courant Institute, 251 Mercer Street, New York, NY 10012. *On the Discovery of Wallis's Formula.*

The talk will give a brief account of the route John Wallis (1616-1703) took to his famous formula for π as an infinite product. He had no proof, but his plausibility arguments were ingenious, elegant, and convincing. Moreover, they are known to have inspired some of Newton's early work on calculus. (Received September 07, 2000)