



▲ **THEORY** Rev Thomas Bayes

## What are the odds on that?

AN 18TH-CENTURY minister whose mathematical genius has helped gamblers pick winners for 300 years is to be celebrated at the university where he studied.

The Rev Thomas Bayes devised the "Bayesian theory" that helps take some of the guesswork out of betting.

The theory is still widely used. It is built into software that forecasts events from changes in financial markets to weather patterns.

Now Bayes, who studied logic and theology at Edinburgh University, is to be commemorated in a workshop and a public talk to mark 250 years since his death in 1761.

