

International Year of Planet Earth Northern Ireland

WHAT IS INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PLANET EARTH?

2008 has been proclaimed by the UN General Assembly as the International Year of Planet Earth.

The year aims to raise global environmental awareness, and will demonstrate the role Earth Scientists play in ensuring a safer, healthier and wealthier society.

See www.yearofplanetearth.org for more information.

EXHIBITS

Geological Survey of Northern Ireland and Quarry Products Association of Northern Ireland Geology Exhibit at W5
Geology and virtual quarry open to the public through admission to W5 at the Odyssey Belfast.

Environment and Heritage Service Geological Garden, Crawfordsburn Country Park

The garden, which will be developed during 2008, will represent the geodiversity and associated biodiversity of Northern Ireland and explore the relationship of stone with society.

Environment and Heritage Service and Irish Wildlife Trust Exhibition - Our limestone heritage at the Marble Arch Cave visitor centre.

Highlighting the importance of limestone to biodiversity, geodiversity and people. Open throughout May and June.

EVENTS

Free Public Lecture

A History of Life on Earth

21st February at W5 at 7pm

Renowned geologist and writer Dr Richard Fortey will talk on the history of life on earth.

Go get Geoscience!

Date TBC at W5

A family event co-run by GSNI and W5. An opportunity to learn about geology through making fossils, fossil rubbings, gold panning, visiting a virtual quarry, touching and seeing wonderful rock specimens. Participants are invited to bring their own specimens for identification by an expert.

Poetry Landscape

Date and venue TBC

Poetry landscape combines readings by poets and folklorists with a multimedia backdrop. The event aims to raise environmental awareness and demonstrate the close links between people, nature and the landscape.

Guided Walks

The Environment and Heritage Service and National Trust have arranged 20 excursions led by experts to highlight the geodiversity of Northern Ireland.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For a schedule of events and updates please visit the following websites:

www.planetearth.ie
www.bgs.ac.uk/gsni/iype
www.ehsni.gov.uk
www.nationaltrust.org.uk
www.habitas.org.uk/es2k

