

■ Poetry Landscape

May 08- Belfast
Oct/Nov 08- Dublin

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 landscape, now and through time.

■ Geoscience Exhibitions

TBC

The National Museum of Ireland will mount a geoscience exhibition at Collins Barracks. TCD Geology Museum will maintain its "Ask a Geologist" service.

■ Ship Visits

The Marine Institute and the Irish Naval Service will host IYPE open days on board key vessels.

■ Arts Events

TBC

Art, Poetry Exhibition, Dublin. To be confirmed – watch the website.

PUBLICATIONS/RESOURCES

■ IYPE Website

Ongoing since February 2007

The IYPE dedicated website www.planeteearth.ie will be the primary source of information and news about IYPE. In particular it will carry a constantly updating Calendar of Events, as well as previews and reviews of the main activities.

■ IYPE Newsletter

Quarterly in 2008

Issues 1 and 2 in 2007 (Jan and Dec). Articles and news items are welcome. E-mail/website distribution and limited hard copy supplies. Edited by GSI.

■ A-Z of Geology

April 2008

GSI together with Sherkin Island Marine Station will publish an A-Z Guide to the geology of Ireland aimed at the Primary school sector.

■ Earth Science Ireland Magazine - ES2K

Every 2008 edition

Geoscience articles and news published regularly by ES2k (edited by Tony Bazley).

■ Eureka Newspaper Supplement

April 2008

Eureka, the regular science supplement for primary schools in the Irish Independent, is edited by St. Patrick's College. One of its April editions will be devoted to geoscience and IYPE.

■ Press Releases

Ongoing in 2008

Regular press releases will be issued by GSI to coincide with key IYPE activities. On a local level regional co-ordinators and events organisers will seek local media support as appropriate.

INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES

■ One Geology

Was launched in March 2007 in Brighton, UK.

This is the major international contribution to IYPE. Coordinated by the British Geological Survey, its aim is to web-enable existing geological map coverage (approx. 1:1,000,000) on a global basis.

■ Geology Course

26th May to 1st June 2008

Organised by the Copper Coast Geopark to celebrate European Geoparks Week and the International Year of Planet Earth 2008, the course will provide a general introduction to geology and the background to understand the geology of South East Ireland.

COMMEMORATIVE ITEMS

■ Stamps

Two stamps will be produced specially dedicated to IYPE.

2008

International Year of Planet Earth

Draft Programme of Events

For updates to events check www.planeteearth.ie

LAUNCH EVENT • LECTURES • TV SERIES • WALKS AND TALKS •
SPECIAL WEEKS • COMPETITIONS • SCHOOL EVENTS •
EXHIBITIONS • PUBLICATIONS • INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES •
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LAUNCH EVENT

■ Official Launch of IYPE

Friday 18th January 2008

Presentation and Reception with Minister Eamon Ryan to be held in conjunction with the first public lecture by Prof. Aubrey Manning January at Dublin Castle.

LECTURES

■ GSI Planet Earth Lecture Series

Jan: Prof. Aubrey A Manning

Feb: Dr. Richard Fortey

Mar: Prof Chris D Clark

Apr: Brendan McWilliams

May: Prof. Pat M. Shannon

Jun: Prof. Mike Russell

Sep: Dr. Patrick Leahy

Oct: Prof. Sierd Cloetingh

Nov: Prof. Judith A McKenzie

Dec: Dr. Padhraig S. Kennan

A series of high profile Planet Earth Lectures open to the public. The lectures are based on the themes of the IYPE and each will take place in Dublin and one other location around the island of Ireland.

TV SERIES

■ “Planet Ireland” TV Series

Autumn 2008

Under its Griffith Awards Scheme GSI is providing financial support and expertise to Holocene in the development of a TV series; as well as the distribution of an accompanying DVD to all secondary schools.

WALKS AND TALKS

■ Local Walks and Talks

A variety of events, with geologists and other natural history enthusiasts, in all regional venues throughout the year

These will be happening throughout 2008 and promoted on a local basis by Regional Contacts, Committee Members and other bodies, through the media, websites and flyers, and all supported by www.planetearth.ie. Exhibitions and related events will also be held around the counties. Insurance for events will be the responsibility of the Regional Contact or other organising body or person.

SPECIAL WEEKS

■ Planet Earth Week

26th May to 7th June 2008

Planet Earth Week is a week-long series of events aimed at promoting the awareness and understanding of Irish geology as well as giving people the chance to learn more about Geoparks and their role in promoting Irish natural heritage. Events will take place across Ireland and will include public walks and talks, exhibitions, hands-on activities and guided tours. This week will coincide with Irish Geology Week and European Geopark Week. To register an event for Planet Earth Week please contact: kirstin.lemon@fermanagh.gov.uk.

■ Heritage Week

Sunday 24th August to Monday 1st September 2008

This year's Heritage Week will promote the geosciences. Registration information will be sent out in Jan 2008; more information will be available from June – check the website at www.heritageweek.ie for the latest updates.

■ Science Week Ireland 2008

9th November 2008 (TBC)

Science Week is Ireland's biggest annual promotion of science to the general public. The week-long programme of events across Ireland each November aims to make science more interesting and accessible to children and adults alike.

COMPETITIONS

■ UNESCO Student Contest

17th and 18th February 2008

Artistic competition for students that will award 5 students from the island of Ireland a trip to Paris to take part in the IYPE Global Launch Event at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris in February 2008.

■ How Erratic is your Block?

*Oct 07-Mar 08: Competition open
May 08: Prize giving*

Landscape-based competition aimed at Transition Year and GCSE students in Ireland and Northern Ireland, asking them to identify and describe an erratic. Prize giving in May to be hosted by Minister Eamon Ryan.

■ Photo Competition

Closing date for entries 10 Oct 2008. Awards ceremony in GSI 5th Dec 2008

GSI to rebrand its existing geoscience/landscape photography competition as the IYPE/Du Noyer Photo Competition. The competition will be heavily promoted throughout 2008.

SCHOOL EVENTS

■ Monitoring the Environment - Environmental Monitoring

Oct 2007?

Initiatives for secondary schools. It is hoped to promote them on the website and elsewhere.

■ Schools Visits

Throughout 2008

Organised by DIAS around the theme of earthquakes. To be published on website.

■ School Challenge Belfast W5

13th February 2008

School Challenge Day at W5, organised by GSI and W5, is an environmental decision-making exercise for 'A' level students of geology, geography, citizenship, government and politics and media studies. Students are presented with a fictitious scenario of a proposed development for a gold mine in an area of outstanding natural beauty in Northern Ireland. The day culminates in a real life planning inquiry, wherein group leaders are asked to present their case in front of a Principal Commissioner, who will make a ruling once all evidence has been presented.

■ Classroom Posters & Rock Sets for Schools

October 2008

Under its Griffith Awards Scheme GSI is providing financial support and expertise to Trinity College in the preparation and distribution of geoscience posters and sample rock sets to Primary schools.

EXHIBITIONS

■ GSI Virtual Quarry Exhibit

17th October 2007

GSI Virtual Quarry Exhibit is launched at W5 at the Odyssey Belfast as part the Tellus Conference. Open to the public through admission to W5.

■ Go Get GEOSCIENCE!

17th November 2007

Winter 08- TBA

A family event hosted by W5 at the Odyssey, Belfast, and co-run by GSI and W5. An opportunity for families 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.

■ IYPE Exhibition in GSI

January-December 2008

GSI will prepare a dedicated IYPE exhibition for continuous display in GSI. It will be primarily panels-based but with some rocks and other display props. A replica exhibition will be available for loan for short stint display in libraries, public buildings, museums, heritage centres as requested and as available.

■ BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition

9th-12th January 2008 and 2009

GSI will prepare an exhibit to create awareness about IYPE in the education sector. GSI will also stimulate further interest within schools by providing a Geoscience Award in Jan 2009.

■ GSI Archives Open Day

March 2008

GSI will throw open its vast archives for public display. Key items on display will be ancient maps, printing woodblocks, fossil collections and historical geological memorabilia such as 19th century mining hats.