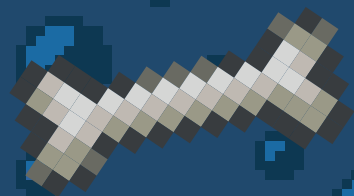


10

NI SCIENCE FESTIVAL

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF
INSPIRING THE FUTURE

15-25 FEBRUARY 2024



FUNDERS



PARTNERS



NORTH WEST
AND EDUCATION
PARTNER



MEDIA
PARTNER



ACCOMMODATION
PARTNER



DIRECTORS FOREWORD

A warm welcome to the tenth annual NI Science Festival – It's a special milestone, and we're delighted to have you join us in celebrating a decade of exploration and discovery. Looking back, it has been an incredible journey - what began as a vision to ignite scientific curiosity has grown into one of the largest science events on the island of Ireland and one of the largest in Europe. This achievement is not ours alone; it belongs to each of you who, year after year, have embraced the spirit of inquiry and made this festival a resounding success.

Our team, along with our brilliant partners and sponsors, have put together a programme that not only showcases the marvels of science but also explores its connections with arts and culture and beyond. We are especially delighted to work with National Museums NI to take over the Transport Museum at Cultra and bring an exciting new work, Autopsy, to W5, as well as planting trees with the Woodland Trust in the North West and bringing the FameLab competition back to Northern Ireland.

From engaging workshops for our younger audience to thought-provoking discussions for adults, there's something for everyone. It's more than just events; it's a celebration of the human fascination with understanding the world around us.

As we step into the next decade, we want to express our gratitude for your continuous support. Let's keep the flame of curiosity burning and inspire the generations to come!

SARAH JONES
DIRECTOR

EDUCATOR'S FOREWORD

Welcome to the 2024 NI Science Festival's Education Programme—an exciting platform merging learning with discovery.

This year, we've assembled engaging events to ignite curiosity and foster a love for science. I'm thrilled to spotlight the invaluable contributions from partners like the Manchester United Foundation, W5 Belfast, SERC, and North West Regional College. Together, we've curated workshops, talks, and experiences spanning robotics, climate change, biodiversity, and more.

This collective effort, backed by our partners, sponsors, educators, and speakers, has shaped an educational journey to inspire learning and discovery. Join us in asking questions, engaging actively, and embracing the wonders of science. Together, we inspire future innovators.

Let's embark on this journey through the 2024 NI Science Festival's Education Programme.

JOE CARLIN,
EDUCATION MANAGER

FESTIVAL TEAM

Director - Sarah Jones

Creative Producer - Jillian Thompson

Marketing Manager - Andrew Moore

Events & Project Officer - Stephanie Garner

Education Manager (Nerve Centre) - Joe Carlin

Project Producer - Vittoria Cafolla

Festival & Volunteer Coordinator - Aoife Earley

Accounts Officer - Kathy Young

Project Coordinator (Nerve Centre) -
Gareth Doherty

Communication & PR - Orry Robinson &
Alana Hughes (JComms)

Design - Jeffers & Sons

Website - Grace Coote

FESTIVAL BOARD

- Victoria Simms (**Chair**)

- Bill Connor

- Claire Burgoyne

- Tony Byrne

- Alan Fitzsimmons

- Judith Harvey

- Jonathan Wallace

- Sara Gunn-Smith

- Donna Rodgers

- Simon Baillie

- Cailín Lynn

GENERAL ENQUIRIES

NI Science Festival
3rd Floor, Botanic House
1-5 Botanic Avenue, Belfast
BT7 1JG

028 9162 9204

Box Office: 028 9024 6609
info@nisciencefestival.com

Charity No. NIC100332

Facebook @niscifest

X @niscifest

Instagram @niscifest

BOOKING INFORMATION

All events taking place at NISF can be booked online through the Festival website at www.nisciencefestival.com

Suitability, admission and booking information are indicated in the listings.

Most of our events do occur a booking fee with the option to donate to the Festival (Charity No. NIC100332), which will go a long way to supporting future editions of NISF.

CONCESSION RATES

Concession rates apply on selected events, where listed, to those aged 16 and under, over 60s, students, the unemployed, and disabled persons unless otherwise stated. Proof of status may be required.

Please note that not all events have concession rates.

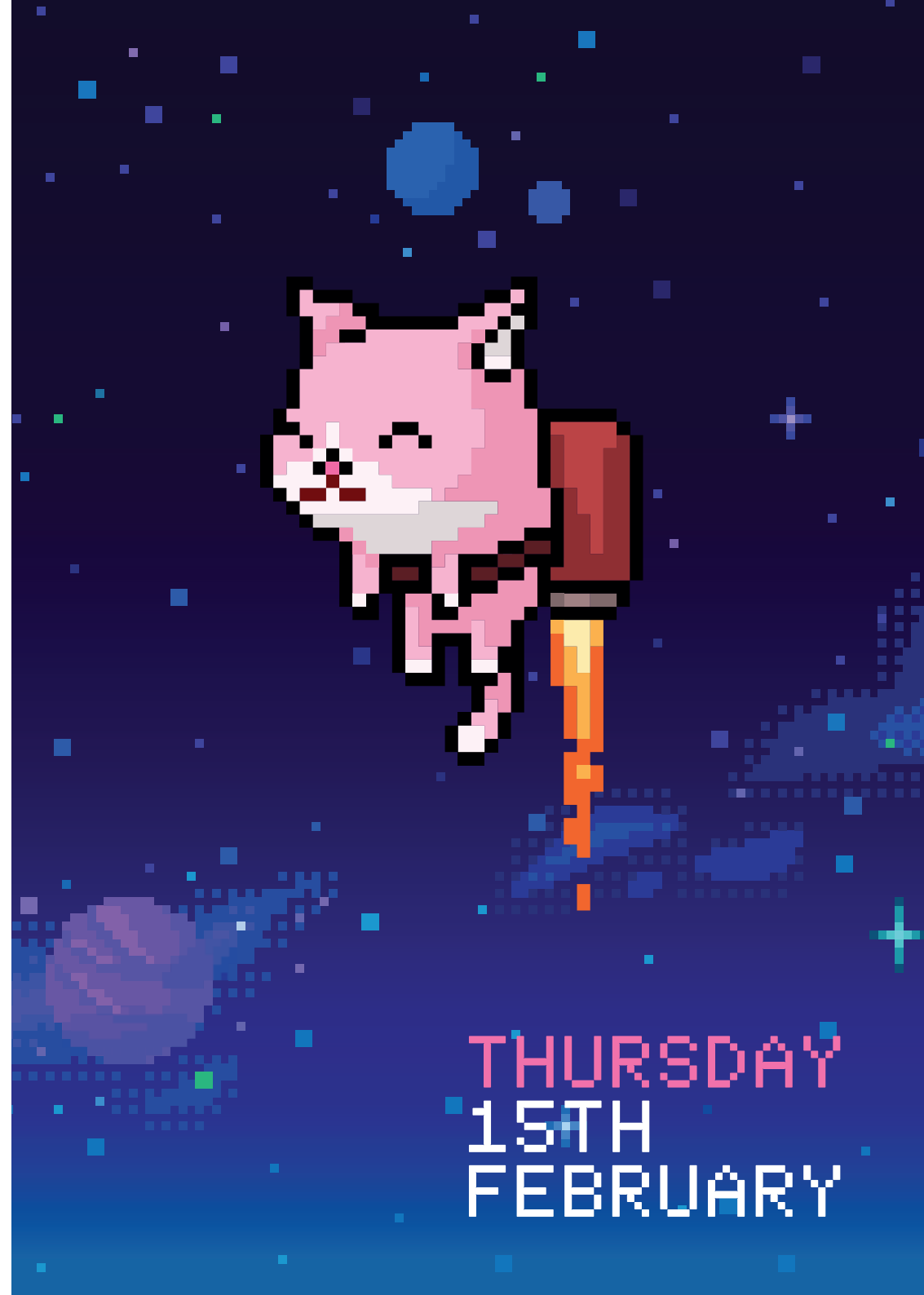
If you require assistance to enable your visit to the event, a complimentary ticket for a carer/companion is available - please phone our box office number **028 9024 6609**

ACCESS

All partnering venues aim to be as accessible as possible however a small number have restricted access. Should you or your group require information or assistance please contact us.

PROGRAMME CHANGES

Please note that all events listed in this printed brochure are subject to change. Be sure to check our website or social media platforms for the most up to date information.



THURSDAY
15TH
FEBRUARY

THE COMPASS

2 Royal Avenue, Belfast

Thurs 15 - Sat 17 February

5pm-9pm : Free

**Suitability: Recommended 16+
/ Open to all ages**

191 years ago, in 1831, the Magnetic North Pole was first discovered. Science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) research is all about exploration. Trial and error, making mistakes, testing and trying again. The Compass brings this to life – becoming an accessible creation of that idea – for all to explore.

Just as a compass helps us to plot a course, find our bearings and explore new worlds, this installation will show us how scientific endeavours and processes directly resonate with our daily lives.

Venture inside The Compass to interact with the animated stories from across Research and marvel at the spectacular projection experience. Get ready to see Belfast's 2 Royal Avenue at the heart of the city centre in a whole new light.

Science Communication



matrix.



FISH FOR FAMILIES

Portrush Yacht Club

Thurs 15 February

2pm - 5pm : Free

Suitability: All Ages

A family-friendly workshop hosted by celebrity chef Paula McIntyre MBE, who will show you how to choose, prepare and cook delicious meals, using fresh local fish. Hear from local scientists about the health benefits of eating fish, improving environmental sustainability and supporting the fishing industry in Northern Ireland.

Food for Thought



ORIENTEERING AT THE PLANETARIUM

Armagh Planetarium

Thurs 15 & Fri 16 February

10am - 4pm : Free

Suitability: All Ages

Embark on a family adventure at Armagh's Astropark, discovering checkpoints and answering science related questions for a chance to earn a certificate upon completion.

Environment + Nature



NISF X WILD IRELAND

Wild Ireland, Dundrain, Co. Donegal

Thurs 15 & Fri 16 February

10am - 4pm : €16.50/€13.00 (child)

Suitability: All Ages

Experience Wild Ireland's adventure-filled exploration of diverse wildlife through engaging Keeper Talks, featuring educational segments on our ancient Celtic Rainforest, Brown bears, Wolves, Lynx, and Wild Boar alongside an interactive 'Touch Table' exhibit showcasing animal artefacts for a hands-on encounter.

Environment + Nature

CLEANING WATER IN AN EVER CHANGING ENVIRONMENT

Belfast Wastewater Heritage Centre

Thurs 15 February

10:30am - 12:30pm

Free

Suitability: All Ages

Join NI Water at our historical Belfast Wastewater Heritage Centre to discover the journey of our water from source to tap. Find out the processes used to keep our water clean and safe in an ever changing and challenging environment and how we can all do our bit to keep the water flowing. Meet the scientists who test and check our water on a daily basis to ensure we continue to deliver quality water to our customers.

Environment & Nature



STEM FLEMING AGRI-PRODUCTS FACTORY TOUR

Fleming Agri-Products, Derry/Londonderry

Thurs 15 February

10:30am - 12:30pm : £3

Suitability: 5+

Fleming Agri-Products is one of the UK and Ireland's oldest manufacturers of agricultural machinery. Join them on a factory tour, you'll get the opportunity to explore the company's heritage and values, as well as gaining an insight into their production processes and customer-focussed practices.

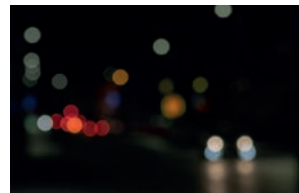
Engineering + Robotics

THE SUPER NATURE SHOW WITH CHANTELLE AND RORY

Various venues in N.Ireland
Thurs 15 - Sun 18 February
11am (15th - 17th) | 12pm (18th)
£7
Suitability: 3 Yrs - 6 Yrs

Join CBeebies' Teeny Tiny Creatures animal experts Chantelle and Rory as they take you on a super mission that will shine a light on some of the cracking creatures that can be found in the UK and Ireland. They'll help children understand the vital planet-saving role that our tiniest animals play in the wonderful web of life as they prove that not all superheros wear capes! Children will also find out how they can become Nature Superheroes themselves with lots of ways to help our wonderful wildlife.

Environment + Nature



RIGHT TO THE NIGHT (SCREENING & TALK)

Girdwood Community Hub, Belfast
Thurs 15 February
3pm : Free
Suitability: All Ages

Uniting artists, astronomers, and environmentalists to raise awareness about light pollution in the city, this event features immersive film projections and interdisciplinary talks to encourage communal action and discussion on the accessibility of the night sky in Belfast.

Art + Science



A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO THE SCIENCE OF COMPOST

Hillsborough Castle
Thurs 15 & Thurs 22 February
11am & 1:30pm : £18.20
Suitability: 14+

Hillsborough Castle's gardeners will show you how they make compost and how to get the carbon and Nitrogen ratio just right. Learn what can be composted and how to tell when it is ready to use, as well as a guided walk through the Walled Garden.

Environment + Nature



CLIMATE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

MBC, QUB
Thurs 15 & Fri 16 February
1pm & 1:45pm : Free
Suitability: 10 - 14 Yrs

Have you ever wondered what the healthcare of the future might look like? The year is 2035, rising temperatures and erratic weather events have introduced a new range of challenges for our doctors to overcome. This is the Climate Emergency Department, and we need your help!

Mind + Body



DATA VISUALISATION LABORATORY

Armagh Planetarium
Thurs 15 & Fri 16 February
1pm - 3pm : £4.50
Suitability: All Ages

Explore the Data Visualisation Laboratory (DVL), experiencing immersive tours of the cosmos with astronomers using panoramic displays and the Digistar computer, visualising 3-dimensional data sets in an interactive planetarium-style setting.

Space



AN ANATOMICAL WORKSHOP ON RESPIRATION & DEGLUTITION

Medical Biology Centre, QUB
Thurs 15 February
11am - 1pm : Free
Suitability: 7+

Discover the science behind respiration and deglutition (breathing and swallowing), in this fun, interactive workshop. Using 3D animation and advanced computer graphics, we'll show you how these two fascinating processes, which are happening constantly in our bodies, operate.

Mind + Body



ORIENTEERING AT MUSSENDEN TEMPLE & DOWNHILL DEMESNE

Mussenden Temple and Downhill Demesne, Castlerock
Thurs 15 February
11:30am - 3pm : Free
Suitability: All Ages

This orienteering experience offers the chance to navigate a scenic course, discover checkpoints, and explore the stunning North Coast with provided maps.

Environment + Nature



FOX, PLAGUES & PAUPERS

Belfast City Hospital, Gate C - Starting Point
Thurs 15 & Sun 18 February
11am (15th) & 2pm (18th) : £12
Suitability: 14+

Embark on a vivid historical journey through the experiences of 19th-century Belfast's populace in coping with disease outbreaks, exploring healthcare practices, fears of workhouses, hospitals, and body-snatchers, led by historian Dr. Robyn Atcheson, offering a sensory glimpse into the realities of everyday life during that era.

History + Society

THE SCIENCE OF JURASSIC WORLD

Various venues in N.Ireland
Thurs 15 - Sun 18 February
2pm (15th - 17th) | 3pm (18th) : £7
Suitability: 7+

Love dinosaurs? Then this is the show for you. An entertaining exploration of the science behind THE movie franchise that helped change the way we see dinosaurs. Join science communicator Jon Chase, as he delves deep into the movies to explore some of the awesome dinosaur facts behind the films.

Environment + Nature



FEELING THE HEAT: BELFAST HEAT AND CLIMATE CHANGE WALKING TOUR

Ormeau Park, Belfast Bandstand - Meeting Point

Thurs 15 & Sat 17 February

2pm (15th) & 10am (17th)

£3

Suitability: 14+

As the Earth's climate warms, risks associated with summer heatwaves are increasing globally, Belfast included. This tour of the city returns as we explore the heat risk across Belfast, as mapped by the Met Office and University of Bristol, offering insights into vulnerable and resilient areas. Make sure to dress appropriately, the topic might be hot but the February weather probably won't be!

Environment + Nature



EXPERIENCE THE CALVER TELESCOPE

Armagh Planetarium

Thurs 15 February

2pm - 4pm : £4.50

Suitability: All Ages

Explore the Armagh Observatory and Planetarium's rich astronomical history by touring their largest telescope dome, offering a unique opportunity to compare and appreciate the differences between historic and modern telescopes.

Space



EXTINCTION EXPLORERS

Ulster Museum, Belfast

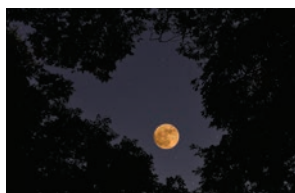
Thurs 15 & Sat 17 February

2pm - 3pm : Free

Suitability: 6 Yrs + and Parents/Guardians

Join us for a free, family friendly tour of the nature galleries at the Ulster Museum. We'll travel through time and search for signs of species long extinct, then track animals that still exist in the wild and create our own species to take home.

Environment + Nature



LUNAR OBSERVING

OM Dark Sky, Omagh

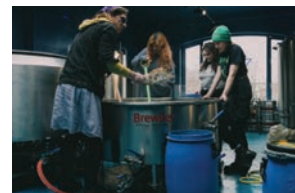
Thurs 15 - Fri 16 February

6pm - 7pm : £8

Suitability: All Ages

OM Dark Sky will be paying extra attention to our nearest natural neighbour in space with two lunar observing sessions. Jupiter, the illuminated moon, and the Seven Sisters star cluster will all make great targets for our range of telescopes!

Space



BEER AND THE BIOLOGY OF TASTE

Out of Office Brewing, Belfast

Thurs 15 February

6:30pm - 7:30pm : £15

Suitability: 18+

Experience the fusion of science and flavour at 'Beer and the Biology of Taste,' an event delving into taste perception, featuring immersive explorations of biology's impact on flavour, alongside indulging in diverse craft beers while witnessing the artistry and secrets of brewing.

Food For Thought



COM-BAT

Ulster Museum, Belfast

Thurs 15 February

2pm - 3pm : £4

Suitability: 10+

The evolutionary arms race between bats and their prey is a battle that has been raging in the skies for 60 million years. Find out how both predators and prey have evolved specialised weapons of attack and specialised defences.

Environment + Nature



A LOOK AT THE STARS, A STEP BACK THROUGH TIME

OTT Car Park, Hilltown

Thurs 15 & Tues 20 February

7pm - 9pm : £25

Suitability: 10+

With nothing but the light of your torch and our leaders to guide you, this peaceful walk lets your senses roam. Listen to stories ranging from ancient Greek myths to Irish legends, transitioning to modern astronomy and stargazing as we look to the skies.

Space

CHLOE DUCKWORTH - NEVER WORK WITH CHILDREN, ANIMALS, OR ARCHAEOLOGISTS

Elmwood Building, QUB

Thurs 15 February

7pm - 9:30pm

£2

Suitability: 14+

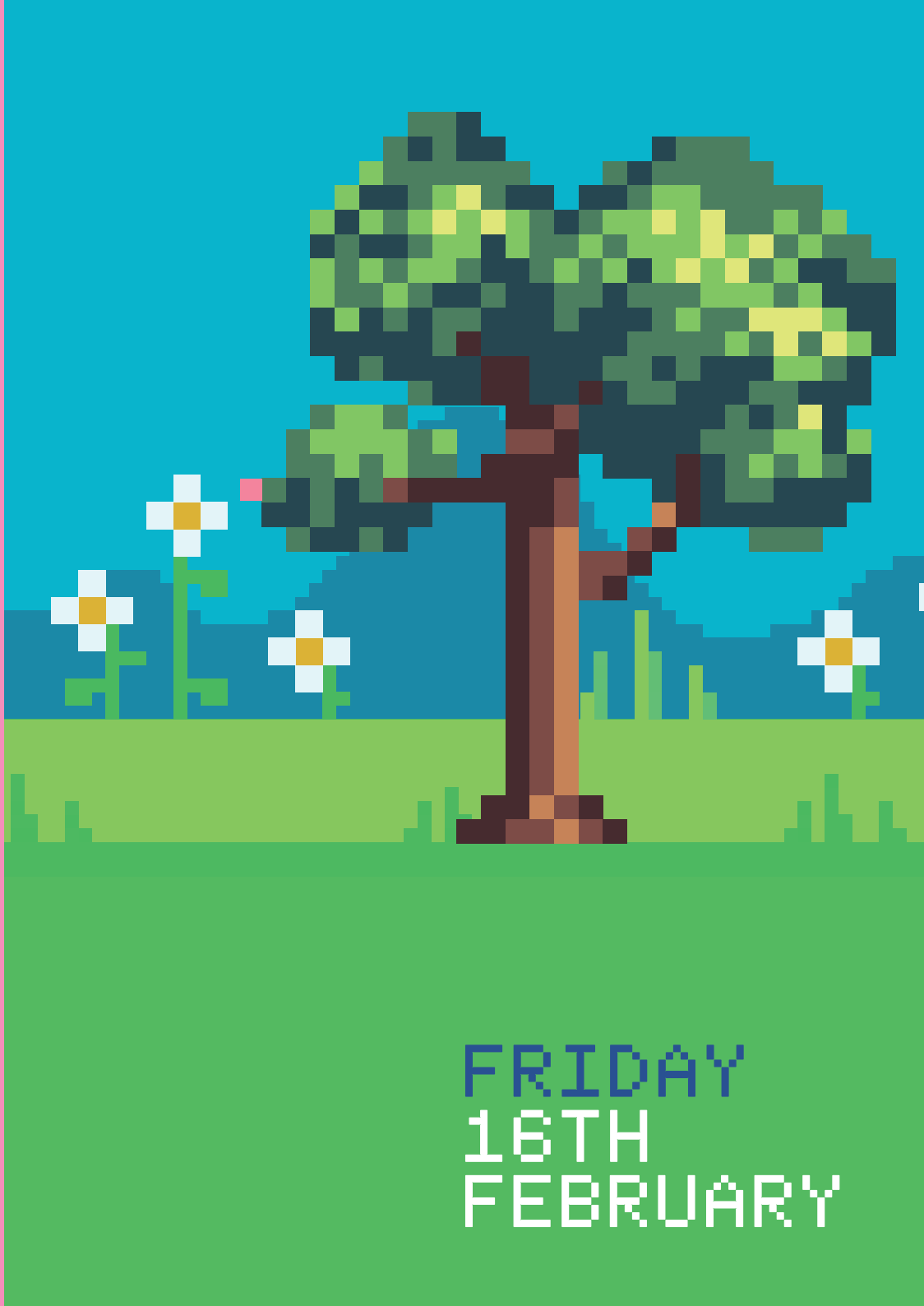
Dr. Chloe Duckworth co-presenter of Channel 4's The Great British Dig merges expertise in experimental archaeology, ancient recycling, and traditional craft practices, while actively engaging in fieldwork across multiple countries and directing excavations at UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

History + Society



THURSDAY 15TH FEBRUARY

NISF x Wild Ireland	10 AM	Dundrain
Orienteering at the Planetarium	10 AM	Armagh
Print & Pictures	10 AM	Strabane
Cleaning Water in an Ever Changing Environment	10:30 AM	Belfast
Stem Fleming Agri-Products Factory Tour	10:30 AM	Derry / Londonderry
An Anatomical Workshop on Respiration and Deglutition (Breathing and Swallowing)	11 AM	Belfast
The Super Nature Show with Chantelle and Rory NISF Roadshow	11 AM	Bangor
Pox, Plagues & Paupers - Horrible Histories of Belfast	11 AM	Belfast
A Beginner's Guide to the Science of Compost	11 AM	Hillsborough
Orienteering at Mussenden Temple & Downhill Demesne	11:30 AM	Castlerock
ART vs. AI	12 PM	Belfast
Climate Emergency Department	1 PM	Belfast
Data Visualisation Laboratory	1 PM	Armagh
The Science of Jurassic World NISF Roadshow	2 PM	Bangor
Com-Bat	2 PM	Belfast
Experience the Calver Telescope	2 PM	Armagh
Feeling the Heat: Belfast Heat and Climate Change Walking Tour	2 PM	Belfast
Extinction Explorers	2 PM	Belfast
Right to the Night (Screening & Talk)	3 PM	Belfast
Lunar Observing	6 PM	Omagh
The Compass	6 PM	Belfast
Beer and the Biology of Taste	6:30 PM	Belfast
Granny Jackson's Dead	6:30 PM & 8 PM	Belfast
Chloe Duckworth - Never Work With Children, Animals, or Archaeologists The Jack Kerr Memorial Lecture	7 PM	Belfast
A Look at the Stars, A Step Back Through Time	7 PM	Hilltown



FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY

THE RISE AND REIGN OF THE MAMMALS

Ulster Museum, Belfast

Fri 16 February

7:00pm : £5

Suitability: 10 Yrs +

Professor Steve Brusatte delves into the 325-million-year journey of mammalian evolution, spanning from their endurance alongside dinosaurs to their triumph in claiming global dominance, unveiling the fascinating tale through new fossil discoveries and cutting-edge technologies in his talk *The Rise and Reign of the Mammals*.

Environment + Nature



NO PLANET B

The MAC, Belfast

Fri 16 February

10am - 5pm : Free

Suitability: 7 Yrs +

Experience the Armagh Observatory & Planetarium dome in Belfast and delve into the significance of the environment on our health. We will explore the impact of climate change and what space travel can tell us about ageing, while meeting the researchers behind this work.

Environment + Nature



MOUNT STEWART'S AMAZING MICROCLIMATE

Mount Stewart, Newtownards

Fri 16 February

10:30am & 1:30pm : £3

Suitability: 14+

Explore Mount Stewart's unique gardens filled with Mediterranean flora amid a changing climate and potential sustainability challenges, joining a guided walk by the National Trust and University of Bristol teams to learn about the garden's distinctive plants and how climate data informs future planning, with ticket admission to Mount Stewart included.

Environment + Nature



THE SCIENCE OF CINEMA AT THE STRAND

Strand Arts Centre, Belfast

Fri 16 February

11am : Free

Suitability: 6 - 14 Yrs

Embark on an exclusive behind-the-scenes journey at Northern Ireland's oldest surviving cinema, the Strand, delving into its projection booths to explore the science and history of cinema while trying your hand at crafting animations using early cinematic techniques.

Art + Science



GET FIRED UP! - BLACKSMITHING

Patterson Spade Mill, Templepatrick

Fri 16, Sat 17, Mon 19 & Tues 20 February

11am, 1pm & 3pm : £25

Suitability: 14+

During this hour-long introduction you'll learn traditional forging and blacksmithing techniques, creating something bespoke such as a poker to take home with you, under the expert guidance of the National Trust blacksmith team.

History + Society



BIRD RINGING MORNING

Bog Meadows Nature Reserve, Belfast

Fri 16 February

9am - 11am : Free

Suitability: All Ages

Come and enjoy a rare and unique opportunity to get up close to Ulster Wildlife's Bog Meadows winter birds. Learn about how bird ringing has contributed to our knowledge of birds and what's in store for the future of bird science.

Environment + Nature



HDR UK, AT THE MARKET

St.George's Market, Belfast

Fri 16 / Sat 17 / Sun 18 February

10am - 2pm : Free

Suitability: 5+ & Parents/Guardians

Visit Health Data Research UK at our stall in the iconic St.George's market and delve into the world of health data. Help us de-identify, sort, and analyse Lego to delve into what it's like for researchers to sort data. Hook a duck to determine the dataset! Hook five ducks to identify health data for pregnancy research. Join us for a unique experience where you get to dive into the fascinating realm of data analysis.

Mind + Body



THE ULTIMATE BUBBLE SHOW

Armagh Planetarium & Observatory

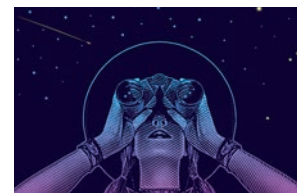
Fri 16 & Sat 17 February

Time(s): Various : £10

Suitability: 3 - 10 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

Witness a thrilling, high-energy soap bubble entertainment show led by Ray, a Guinness World Record Holder, as he showcases a dazzling array of bubble sculptures, effects, and magical displays in his quest to craft the ultimate square bubble!

Science Communication



DIRECTOR'S CUT: THIS MONTH IN ASTRONOMY

Armagh Observatory & Planetarium

Fri 16 February

1pm : £9.50

Suitability: 14+

Join the Director of the Armagh Observatory and Planetarium, Prof Michael Burton, for a live planetarium show where he discusses the latest in astronomy. This show will also feature a Q&A.

Space

PADDLE WITH A PURPOSE: ENNISKILLEN, LOUGH ERNE

Blue Green Yonder Outdoor Adventures, Castle Island, Enniskillen

Fri 16 February

3 pm - 4.30pm

£7 per person

Suitability: Families

Join us as we depart from Castle Island, Enniskillen and embark on a mission to make our blueways a cleaner place. Following the leave no trace principles we aim to tackle the litter in our Lough and make Enniskillen a place we can all be proud of. Lets see what wildlife we can spot along the way including Enniskillens resident grey heron.

Environment + Nature





FROM GREY WOLVES TO GREY SQUIRRELS

Ulster Museum, Belfast
Fri 16 & Sun 18 February
2pm - 3pm : Free
Suitability: All Ages

Join us for a free, family-friendly tour exploring the history of the island of Ireland through its landscape and wildlife. Find out how humans have shaped and been shaped by the environment across Irish history and get hands-on with some of the museum's specimens.

Environment + Nature



DIGITAL CADAVERS- TEACHING ANATOMY WITH TECHNOLOGY

Ulster University, Derry / Londonderry
Fri 16 & Sat 17 February
4pm (16th) | 11am (17th) : £3
Suitability: 14+

Dr. Marise Heyns showcases Ulster University's cutting-edge medical education methods, featuring Anatomage tables, ultrasound, and medical imaging in an interactive live event, offering participants a hands-on experience in visualising the human body's structures.

Mind + Body

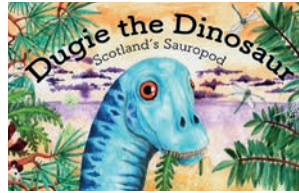


TRASH TO TREASURE - COMPOSTING

Rowallane Garden, Saintfield
Fri 16 February
2pm - 3.30pm : £8
Suitability: All Ages

Composting, where trash becomes a miracle for the garden, nature and the planet. Get your hands dirty as we explore how compost is made, how it works and how it is used in the garden. You'll get up and close with our wriggly wormery & even create compost tea with our gardener.

Environment + Nature



DUGIE THE DINOSAUR

Fri 16, Ulster Museum, Belfast & Sat 17 February Nerve Centre, Derry / Londonderry
Fri 16 - 11am / Sat 17 February - 2pm
£5
Suitability: 3-5 Yrs & Parent/Guardian

Dugie is a long-necked dinosaur who lives on the Isle of Skye. When he is separated from his family in a storm, he needs the help of some new friends to get back to the safety of his lagoon. A story of bravery, friendship and dinosaurs, based on the real-life fossils found on the Isle of Skye. Written by Anne and Steve Brusatte.

Environment & Nature

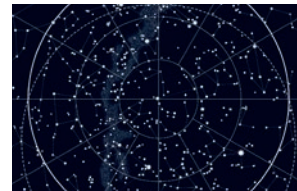


THE SCIENCE OF PARALLEL UNIVERSES- COULD THE MULTIVERSE EXIST?

The MAC, Belfast
Fri 16 February
5.30pm : £16.95 / £14.50
Suitability: 14+

In this talk Prof Amelie Saintonge will explore the science behind parallel universes, and how researchers are even attempting to recreate the multiverse in the lab. You will be amazed to see that the science is even more mind-boggling than fiction!

Maths + Physics



DARK SKIES AT THE GEOPARK

Cavan Burren Park, Cavan
Fri 16 February
7:30pm - 9:30pm : £7
Suitability: All Ages

Experience the celestial wonders of the night sky at Cavan Burren Park's pristine dark sky site with Terry Moseley from the Irish Astronomical Association, engaging in the Big Star Count and learning about stargazing, complemented by a presentation on the universe if the skies are cloudy.

Space

BAKINEERING IN SPACE WITH ANDREW SMYTH

Playhouse, Derry~Londonderry (Fri), The MAC Belfast (Sat)
Friday 16, Playhouse, Derry & Saturday 17 February, The MAC, Belfast
3.30pm
£10
Suitability: All Ages

How can a show stopping dessert explain how astronauts safely return to Earth? What connects molten sugar and micrometeorite protection? "Bakineering" holds the answers! If you have a sweet tooth and an appetite for science, then join aerospace engineer and judge of Netflix's Baking Impossible, Andrew Smyth, on a journey to explore the surprising connections between everyday bakes and the extraordinary engineering that helps keep astronauts alive.

Food for Thought

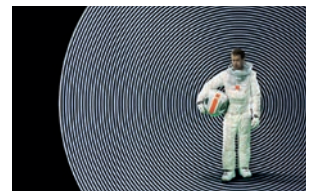


AN EVENING OF DRINK & DRUGS AT HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE

Hillsborough Castle
Fri 16 February
7pm : £32
Suitability: 18+

For thousands of years people have partaken of a variety of state altering substances from tobacco, to alcohol through laudanum to cocaine. Join us for a fun evening of discussion and expert insight into legal highs through the ages. With drinks on arrival and themed live music accompaniment.

History + Society



STARGAZING AND MOON (FILM)

The Old Church, Cushendun
Fri 16 February
7.30pm (stargazing) / 9pm (film)
£3 : 10 Yrs + / 15 Yrs + (film)

Join The Irish Astronomical Association for a night under the stars, where telescopes reveal cosmic wonders. Afterward, immerse yourself in the sci-fi masterpiece "Moon." A perfect blend of real and fictional space exploration, this event promises an otherworldly experience for all attendees. In partnership with The National Trust.

Space

AN EVENING WITH DANNY QUIGLEY

Nerve Centre, Derry / Londonderry

Fri 16 February

7pm : £10

Suitability: 16+

An inspiring evening with Danny Quigley traces his transformation from grief to fitness expert to an advocate for mental health, showcasing his incredible charity feats while delving into the science and benefits of physical challenges, with all proceeds from the event dedicated to the Lighthouse Fund supporting mental health initiatives.

Mind & Body



WILDE DINING

Venue: Secret location in Fermanagh

Fri 16 February

7pm - 10pm : £120

Suitability: 18+

Experience an unforgettable evening of off-grid, sustainable dining and musical entertainment, featuring a 3 course meal cooked over open fire and an exploration into the captivating science and history of fire in culinary practices.

Food For Thought

RATHLIN ISLAND - DARK SKIES AND DISCOVERIES

Rathlin Island

Thurs 15 - Sun 18 February

Time: Various

Admission: Packages for 2 people sharing start from £170 bed & breakfast. Other room options are available.

Suitability: Various

Uncover Rathlin Island's scientific wonders, from stargazing to buried revelations. Visitors can book a stay at the Manor House to access a variety of talks and tours. Alternatively, hone your photography skills by mastering natural light during both day and night through an environmental portrait photography workshop. Don't miss this extraordinary winter escape and if you're a day tripper, you can still join the excitement by booking individual events!

Mind + Body



THE NEUROSCIENCE OF ATTRACTION WITH DR ANNA MACHIN

The MAC, Belfast

Fri 16 February

7:45pm : £16.95 / £14.50

Suitability: 16+

Why are we attracted to some people but not others? And why is attraction sometimes a bolt from the blue, while at others it's a gentle, slow burn? Join evolutionary anthropologist Dr Anna Machin in unravelling the tangle of factors that lead to attraction and love.

Mind + Body

16



THE MERCHANTS WHO GREW A CITY A WALKING TOUR OF BELFAST'S INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE

The Big Fish, Belfast (Starting Point)

Fri 16 & Sun 18 February

11am (15th) & 1pm (18th) : £10

Suitability: 16+

Embark on a guided tour through the oldest parts of Belfast, delving into the city's industrial history from the 1700s to the early 1900s, discovering the pioneering figures and key industries that fueled Belfast's growth from a small town to a prosperous Victorian city

History + Society



WHY DO WE WATCH MOVIES?

University Ulster, Belfast

Fri 16 February

10am - 11:30am : £5

Suitability: All Ages

Explore the captivating world of movies, uncovering the significance of storytelling, screenplay impact, and the neuroscience of our enjoyment in a lecture and discussion dissecting screenplays, original concepts, and the fascinating workings of our brains.

Science Communication

FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY



HUMAN 2.0: A CELEBRATION OF HUMAN BIONICS

Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast

Fri 16 February

2pm : £5 / £3

Suitability: 7 - 11 Yrs +

Imagine being able to hear for the first time, or see in full-colour, or take your first steps on Earth. In 2010, Patrick Kane became the youngest person in the world to be fitted with a bionic arm, join him to look at the leaps in medical engineering and the people he's met, including Paralympians Richard Whitehead and Blake Leeper, and the world's first 'cyborg' Neil Harbisson.

Tech & Innovation

NISCIENCEFESTIVAL.COM

BEYOND THE HYPE: THE INSIDE STORY OF SCIENCE'S BIGGEST MEDIA CONTROVERSIES

Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast

Fri 16 February

7pm - 8pm : £7 / £5

Suitability: 14+

Join Fiona Fox, Chief Executive of the Science Media Centre as she takes us behind the scenes of some of the most toxic science stories of the last two decades, including: Climategate, involving the theft of ten years of emails used to claim that climate change was a hoax, the shaming of Nobel prize winner Tim Hunt, the media frenzy over the threat of 'Frankenstein food', and the bewildering story of the harassment of scientists researching Chronic Fatigue Syndrome/ ME.

Science Communication



17

FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY

LEGO® Exhibition	Various	Belfast
Bird Ringing Morning	9 AM	Belfast
NISF x Wild Ireland	10 AM	Dundrain
Orienteering at the Planetarium	10 AM	Armagh
Why Do We Watch Movies?	10 AM	Belfast
HDR UK	10 AM	Belfast
No Planet B	10 AM	Belfast
The Ultimate Bubble Show	10:15 AM	Armagh
Mount Stewart's Amazing Microclimate	10:30 AM & 1:30 PM	Newtownards
The Merchants Who Grew A City - Walking Tour	11 AM	Belfast
The Super Nature Show with Chantelle and Rory NISF Roadshow	11 AM	Newcastle
Dugie The Dinosaur	11 AM	Belfast
The Science of Cinema	11 AM	Belfast
Grace's Green Gadget's : Race Edition	11 AM & 2:30 PM	Belfast
Get Fired Up! - Blacksmithing	11 AM, 1 PM & 3 PM	Templepatrick
ART vs. AI	12 PM	Belfast
Data Visualisation Laboratory	1 PM	Armagh
Climate Emergency Department	1 PM	Belfast
Director's Cut: This Month in Astronomy	1 PM	Armagh
From Grey Wolves to Grey Squirrels	2 PM	Belfast
The Science of Jurassic World NISF Roadshow	2 PM	Newcastle
Human 2.0 - A Celebration of Human Bionics	2 PM	Belfast
Trash to Treasure - Composting	2 PM	Saintfield
Bakineering in Space with Andrew Smyth	3:30 PM	Derry / Londonderry
Digital Cadavers - Teaching Anatomy with Technology	4 PM	Derry / Londonderry
The Science of Parallel Universes	5:30 PM	Belfast

Lunar Observing	6 PM	Omagh
The Compass	6 PM	Belfast
Granny Jackson's Dead	6:30 PM & 8 PM	Belfast
An Evening of Drink & Drugs	7 PM	Castle
Wilde Dining	7 PM	Fermanagh
Danny Quigley - In Conversation	7 PM	Derry / Londonderry
The Rise and Reign of the Mammals	7 PM	Belfast
Beyond The Hype	7 PM	Belfast
Dark Skies at the Geopark	7:30 PM	Cavan
Stargazing and Moon (film)	7:30 PM	Cushendun
The Neuroscience of Attraction	7:45 PM	Belfast



SATURDAY
17TH
FEBRUARY

MUSEUM TAKEOVER - FULL STEAM AHEAD!

Ulster Transport Museum, Cultra

Sat 17 February

10am - 4pm

£5.75 (Adult) / £3.50 (Child)

Suitability: All Ages

For our landmark 10th year NI Science Festival, alongside some of our friends from past editions, present a packed day of interactive activities, workshops, immersive experiences and much more the whole family can enjoy, set in the awe inspiring surroundings of the

Ulster Transport Museum. Featuring Scientific Sue, Strong Women Science and much more.

Science Communication

NI
NATIONAL
MUSEUMS NI



SOURDOUGH SKILLS

Out of Office Taproom,
Ulster Sports Club, Belfast

Sat 17 February

11am - 2pm : £60

Suitability: 18+

A sourdough skills class hosted by Ciaran from The Hundredth Monkey Bakery, with breakout tutorials, mini workshops, some very bready experiments and, of course, some bread tasting!

Food For Thought



GEOLOGY ROCKS IN THE MOURNES

Carrick Cottage Cafe, Annalong
(Starting Point)

Sat 17 & Sat 24 February

9am - 5pm : £55

Suitability: 14+

Guided by a local Earth Scientist, unravel the geological history of the Mournes, identifying rocks, and hear unheard stories about the 22-mile Mourne Wall, culminating in an adventurous exploration of a cave within Cove mountain!

Environment + Nature



EXPLORING THE FASCINATING SCIENCE OF HUMAN MILK

The Great Hall, Queens

Sat 17 & Sat 24 February

11am - 1pm : £3

Suitability: 18+ (babies welcome)

Explore the remarkable properties and significance of breastmilk throughout human evolution and its role as an essential resource and reliable source of food security, featuring discussions led by Breastival, QUB microbiologist Dr. Simon Cameron, and the human milk bank.

Mind + Body



GEOENERGY DISCOVERY CENTRE

Giant's Causeway Visitors Centre
Car Park, Bushmills

Sat 17 February

9am - 5pm : Free

Suitability: All Ages

Drop in and explore the interactive technologies showcasing geothermal energy's potential as a sustainable source for heating homes, buildings, industries, and agriculture, aligned with GeoEnergy NI's goal of achieving Northern Ireland's net zero carbon targets by 2050.

Environment + Nature

FAMILY TREE PLANTING DAY IN FAUGHAN VALLEY WOODLANDS

Brackfield Farm Wood, Killaloe

Sat 17 February

10am & 1pm

Free

Suitability: All Ages

Grab a spade and help the Woodland Trust create a new native wood for people and wildlife in the Faughan Valley. Learn about the different native tree species in the valley and how you can help conserve our woodlands.

Environment + Nature



WOODLAND TRUST
NORTHERN IRELAND



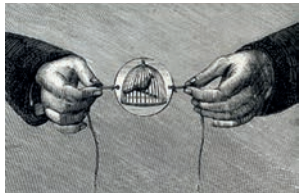


**VIRTUAL
PAST & PRESENT**
3D TECHNOLOGIES IN
ARCHAEOLOGY & GEOGRAPHY

Elmwood Building, Geography, QUB
Sat 17 February
10am - 3pm : £2.50
Suitability: All Ages

Engage with the Centre for GIS and Geomatics, and ArcPal's immersive exhibition and workshops exploring 3D scanning and printing. Featuring demonstrations, hands-on experiences, and the chance to witness cutting-edge technology, including a laser scanning robot dog!

Tech + Innovation



**OPTICAL
ILLUSION
WORKSHOP -
WONDER TURNER**

Hillsborough Castle & Gardens
Sat 17 February
10:30am, 11:30am, 1:15pm & 2:15pm
Free with admission to the Castle
**Suitability: 5 - 10 Yrs & Parents/
Guardians**

Join the family-friendly workshop to explore early Victorian optical illusions by crafting and taking home your own thaumatrope, a 'wonder turner'.

History + Society



**PADDLE WITH
A PURPOSE**
STRANGFORD LOUGH

**Strangford Lough Activity Centre,
Killinchy**
Sat 17 February
10am - 1pm : £40
Suitability: All Ages

Participate in a kayak tour and island clean-up on Strangford Lough, discussing environmental impact with wildlife experts, aiming to preserve the area's beauty and protect its wildlife and enjoying toasted marshmallows and hot chocolate.

Environment + Nature



**THE SCIENCE
OF ANIMAL CARE**

Belfast Zoo
Sat 17 February
10am - 12pm : £25
Suitability: 10+

Explore the application of science in zoo management for optimal animal care, focusing on accommodation, nutrition, health, and enrichment through hands-on activities, encounters with animal artefacts, and live animal interactions while creating and witnessing enrichment items being used.

Environment + Nature



**MARITIME MILE
SCIENCE OF
PHOTOGRAPHY
TOUR**

SoundYard, Belfast - Starting Point
Sat 17 February
10:30am - 12pm : £15
Suitability: 14+

Embark on an interactive photo tour exploring Belfast's Maritime Mile, capturing its rich history and iconic sights like SoundYard, Belfast Buoys, Hamilton Dock, and SS Nomadic.

Art + Science

**STEP INTO
THE WORLD OF
SIMULATION IN
HEALTHCARE**

InterSim, QUB
Sat 17 February
11am & 2pm
£3
Suitability: All Ages

An insider's look at healthcare professional training through simulation, where participants delve into hands-on experiences with cutting-edge technology like VR and humanoid manikins, preparing for complex clinical scenarios and gaining insights into the future of healthcare education.

Mind + Body



CUT + PASTE

MBC, QUB
Sat 17 February
11am - 1pm : £4
Suitability: All Ages

Dive into the revolutionary world of Gene Editing, exploring its potential to tackle global challenges while raising ethical concerns about unintended consequences, allowing participants to wield Molecular Scissors as Gene-Editors for the day, addressing issues from virus destruction and the prospects of reviving extinct species like the Woolly Mammoth.

Mind + Body



**DARK SKIES
ON TOUR**

**WITH THE ARMAGH
OBSERVATORY AND
PLANETARIUM**

Armagh Observatory & Planetarium
Sat 17 February
Time(s): Various : £8
Suitability: All Ages

Experience 90 minutes of space-themed family entertainment with Geopark and Planetarium staff, featuring a captivating show in the Armagh Planetarium's mobile Star Dome, meteorite displays, an interactive experiment, and space-themed arts and crafts.

Space



FUNGIFY ME

Portview Trade Centre, Belfast
**Sat 17, Sun 18, Sat 24 &
Sun 25 February**
11am - 1pm : £49
Suitability: All Ages

Embark on a fungi adventure with Hearty Growers. Led by Terry and his team, delve into the mushroom lifecycle, from spore to harvest. Sample mushroom treats, tuck into mushroom pies and take a mushroom grow kit home for free.

Food For Thought



A BRUSH WITH TECHNOLOGY

Ulster Museum, Belfast
Sat 17 February
11am - 3pm : Free
Suitability: 6+

Participants will merge art and technology in a drop-in workshop, drawing inspiration from artist David Hockney's iPad paintings to create digital masterpieces, guided by a trained visual artist and a curated collection of props for still-life compositions before being guided through the vast array of objects in the Ulster Museum's Elements Exhibition.

Art + Science

THE SECRET LIVES OF THE ELEMENTS WITH KATHYRN HARKUP

Ulster Museum, Belfast
Sat 17 February
2pm - 3pm
£6
Suitability: 14+

When we think of the periodic table we picture orderly rows of elements that conform to type and never break the rules. The Secret Lives of the Elements reveals that the periodic table is more like a sprawling extended family – with its own black sheep, rebels and oddballs. Kathryn is a former chemist, author and renowned Science Communicator and through this event Kathryn is sure to inspire the chemically curious!

Science Communication



WATER WORKS

2 Royal Avenue, Belfast
Sat 17, Sun 18, Sat 24 and Sun 25 February
11am - 3pm : Free
Suitability: All Ages

Through a series of workshops for various ages we will construct eco-friendly toy boats and launch them with the help of boating experts. No shanty songs but plenty of talk about our water systems. What boats have been built in our area? What materials were used? How do we use the Lagan and will the river look with the impact of climate change?

Environment + Nature



HOW DO WE LEARN ABOUT LEARNING?

Girdwood Community Hub, Belfast
Sat 17 February
12pm - 2pm : Free
Suitability: 3 - 11 Yrs & Parents/ Guardians

This family-oriented event by Ulster University offers interactive activities focused on child development research, encompassing researched and self-directed activities emphasising language, literacy, and physical development through themed walking tours, games, interactive apps, and animations.

Science Communication



THE ANATOMY OF AI

Seamus Heaney Homeplace, Bellaghy
Sat 17 February
2pm : £10
Suitability: 14+

Join a panel discussion exploring the implications of artificial intelligence on artistry, creativity, and the evolving relationship between technology and artistic expression, featuring arts practitioners Gary Shaw, Katie Richardson, and Wendy Erskine, and Professor of Artificial Intelligence Michaela Black, chaired by writer Michael Quinn.

Art + Science

SATURDAY 17TH FEBRUARY



MINI MOON RELAUNCH PARTY

The Black Box, Belfast
Sat 17 February
1pm : £5
Suitability: 0-10 Yrs

An afternoon of joyous dancing at The Black Box Belfast's out of this world dance party! Join DJ Twister on the decks with special guest scientist, space lover, and dancing earthling Liz Conlon for an unmissable *Cosmic Dance Party!*

Art + Science



WHAT IS THE PERFECT BODY?

Circusful (Belfast Community Circus School)
Sat 17 February
1pm : £5
Suitability: All Ages

Delve into centuries of debate about physical fitness, combining historical perspectives, strength demonstrations, and audience participation to explore the elusive definition of an ideal body shape as perceived by scientists and societies.

Mind + Body



FORAGING AFLOAT

Strangford Lough Activity Centre, Killinchy
Sat 17 & Sun 18 February
2pm - 5pm : £70
Suitability: 18+

Spring is arriving on Strangford Lough and with it the arrival of an array of seasonal wild food. Join local experts Rory Martin, David Thompson, & Celia Spouncer for a unique guide to foraging, local history, and the flavour of the area.

Food For Thought



FOSSIL HUNTING AND THE GOOD DINOSAUR (FILM)

The Old Church, Cushendun
Sat 17 February
2pm - 5pm : £3
Suitability: All Ages

Join the National Trust for an afternoon of fossil hunting followed by a screening of the Pixar animated film, *The Good Dinosaur*.

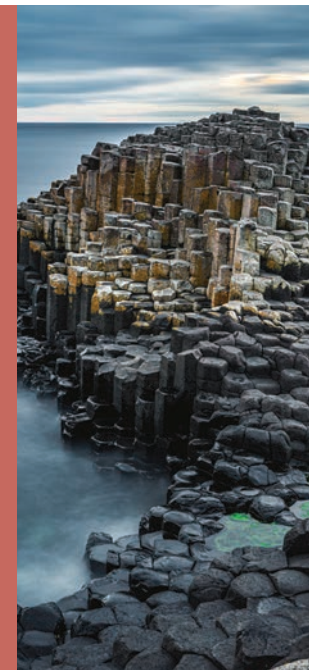
Environment + Nature

A NEW VIEW OF THE GIANT'S CAUSEWAY ILLUSTRATED LECTURE

Giants Causeway Visitors Centre, Bushmills
Sat 17 February
Walk 1 at 12.00; Talk at 1.30; Walk 2 at 2.30
Admission - included with Visitor Centre admission
Suitability: 11+

Surely there is nothing new to discover at the Giant's Causeway? But in 2021 a new theory was announced that explained why the columns descend to sea level only at the Causeway, and overturned an 80-year-old idea that the lava had filled an ancient valley. The evidence is surprisingly obvious, and will be explained in simple terms as part of a broader overview of the volcanic history of the Causeway Coast.

Environment + Nature





HISTORICAL SHIPWRECK TOUR

Bay View Road, Ballycastle - Starting Point

Sat 17 & Sat 24 February

2:30pm - 5:30pm : £70

Suitability: 18+

Embark on a maritime adventure along the Giants Causeway Coastline, exploring the history of shipwrecks, including tales of treasure, tragedy, and historical significance such as the Spanish Armada's Girona, offering a unique opportunity to witness these submerged vessels through cutting-edge technology from the surface.

History + Society



SCIENCE OF THE OLYMPICS

Girdwood Community Hub, Belfast

Sat 17 February

2pm : £3

Suitability: 11+



Science and Sport team up in this dynamic show with physicist, TV presenter and former professional footballer, Mark Langtry, aka "The Science Guy". Investigate the gold medal science of the Olympic Games through interactive demonstrations and challenges in this fusion of sport and science! Take part in the action, step onto the podium and become a scientific Olympian!

Science Communication



DARK SKIES AT THE GEOPARK

Killykeegan Nature Reserve, Enniskillen

Sat 17 February

7:30pm - 9:30pm : £7

Suitability: All Ages

Experience the mesmerising night sky at Northern Ireland's pristine Killykeegan Nature Reserve engaging in a Dark Sky Safari to learn star-counting techniques and record celestial wonders, complemented by a universe presentation in case of cloudy skies.

Space

LIEVEN SCHEIRE - A.I.

The Black Box, Belfast

Sat 17 February

8pm - 9:30pm : £10

Suitability: 18+

Lieven Scheire introduces this new superhero of technology in an entertaining and accessible way. You'll get a glimpse of how it all works, what it can already do, and what it will be capable of in the future. It's a first encounter with something that might soon become your new friend, butler, advisor, psychologist, personal trainer or guardian angel.

Science Communication

matrix.



WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP - DISMANTLING THE GENDER MYTHS

Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast

Sat 17 February

6pm : £6

Suitability: 16+

Join Professors Karise Hutchinson and Pragma Agarwal to challenge leadership stereotypes, explore neuroscience and emotions in leadership, analyse women's representations in media, and discover ways to create an inclusive leadership model that transcends traditional expectations, offering practical tools based on scientific insights for an engaging conversation.

Science In Society



HIVESPLAINING CONCERT

- 'GROWING UP'

Belfast Central Library

Sat 17 February

2pm - 3pm : £5

Suitability: All Ages

HIVE Choir is back with their concert series 'HIVESPLAINING', where they attempt to explain everything you need to know about a scientific topic through the medium of song! This year, to celebrate the NI Science Festival's 10th birthday, HIVE has birthed a brand new show - 'HIVESPLAINING: Growing Up'!

Art + Science



ÉANNA NÍ LAMHNA - WONDERS OF THE WILD

Cultúrlann Uí Chanáin, Derry/Londonderry

Sat 17 February

2pm - 3pm : £8 (includes workshop)

Suitability: 7+

From rabbits eating their own poo to what feeds on humans and how caterpillars burst! Join Éanna to discover animal eating plants, what rises from the dead, and lots of other weird and wonderful surprises, followed by a hands-on nature workshop!

Environment + Nature



OUR WILD WORLD - STROLL & STORYTELLING

Cultúrlann Uí Chanáin, Derry/Londonderry

Sat 17 February

11am - 12pm : £10

Suitability: 14+

Embark on a walking tour exploring Derry/Londonderry's ecological place-names, followed by a talk with wildlife expert Éanna Ní Lamhna, discussing her book "Our Wild World." Dive into the wonders of nature, address pressing environmental issues, and join the conversation on our role in preserving the planet. Tickets for the talk are also available separately.

Environment + Nature

SATURDAY 17TH FEBRUARY

LEGO® Exhibition	Various	Belfast
Geology Rocks in the Mourne	9 AM	Annalong
GeoEnergy Discovery Centre	9 AM	Giants Causeway
HDR UK	10 AM	Belfast
NISF x Ulster Transport Museum - Full STEAM Ahead!	10 AM	Cultra
Feeling the Heat: Belfast Heat and Climate Change Walking Tour	10 AM	Belfast
Why Do We Watch Movies?	10 AM	Belfast
Family Tree Planting Day in Faughan Valley Woodlands	10 AM & 1 PM	Killaloo
Virtual Past & Present - 3D Technologies in Archaeology & Geography	10 AM	Belfast
Paddle with a Purpose: Strangford Lough	10 AM	Killinchy
The Science of Animal Care	10 AM	Belfast
The Ultimate Bubble Show	10:15 AM	Armagh
Optical Illusion Workshop - Wonder Turner	10:30 AM, 11:30 AM, 1:15 PM & 2:15 PM	Hillsborough
Maritime Mile Science of Photography Tour	10:30 AM	Belfast
Sourdough Skills	11 AM	Belfast
Grace's Green Gadget's : Race Edition	11 AM & 2:30 PM	Derry / Londonderry
Exploring The Fascinating Science of Human Milk	11 AM	Belfast
Digital Cadavers - Teaching Anatomy with Technology	11 AM	Derry / Londonderry
The Super Nature Show with Chantelle and Rory NISF Roadshow	11 AM	Enniskillen
Get Fired Up! - Blacksmithing	1 AM, 1 PM & 3 PM	Templepatrick
Éanna Ní Lamhna - Our Wild World	11 AM	Derry / Londonderry
Cut & Paste	11 AM	Belfast
Step into the World of Simulation in Healthcare	11 AM & 2 PM	Belfast
Dark Skies on Tour	Various	Armagh

Fungify Me	11 AM	Belfast
A Brush With Technology	11 AM	Belfast
WaterWorks	11 AM	Belfast
ART vs. AI	12 PM	Belfast
How Do We Learn About Learning?	12 PM	Belfast
Mini Moon Relaunch Party	1 PM	Belfast
Granny Jackson's Dead	1 PM, 3 PM, 6:30 PM & 8 PM	Belfast
A New View of the Giant's Causeway	12 PM , 1:30 PM & 2:30 PM	Giants Causeway
What is the Perfect Body?	1 PM	Belfast
HIVEsplaining concert - 'Growing Up'	2 PM	Belfast
The Science of Jurassic World NISF Roadshow	2 PM	Enniskillen
The Secret Lives of the Elements with Kathryn Harkup	2 PM	Belfast
Extinction Explorers	2 PM	Belfast
The Anatomy Of AI	2 PM	Bellaghy
The Science of the Olympics	2 PM	Belfast
Éanna Ní Lamhna - Wonders of the Wild	2 PM	Derry / Londonderry
Dugie The Dinosaur	2 PM	Derry / Londonderry
Foraging Afloat	2 PM	Killinchy
Fossil Hunting and The Good Dinosaur	2 PM	Cushendun
Historical Shipwreck Tour	2:30 PM	Ballycastle
Bakineering in Space with Andrew Smyth	3:30 PM	Belfast
Women in Leadership – Dismantling the Gender Myths	6 PM	Belfast
The Compass	6 PM	Belfast
Dark Skies at the Geopark	7:30 PM	Enniskillen
Lieven Scheire - A.I.	8 PM	Belfast



SUNDAY 18TH FEBRUARY

NIAMH NIC DAEID - THE FUTURE OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

Whitla Hall, Belfast

Sun 18 February

2pm

£10 / £8

Suitability: 12 +

Using scientific methods in service of the law was first recorded in 1248 during the Song Dynasty in China. Ever since, new scientific advances from mass spectrometry to DNA sequencing have been incorporated into detective work to catch criminals and exonerate the innocent. But how is the leading-edge technology of today like Virtual Reality being used to investigate crime scenes? And what are the breakthroughs of the future that could crack previously unsolvable cases? Join award-winning forensic chemist Niamh Nic Daeid to find out.

Mind + Body



SLIEVE GULLION GEO-HIKE

Slieve Gullion Forest Park
(main car park) - Starting Point

Sun 18 & Sun 25 February

9am - 3pm : £35

Suitability: 14+

A guided hike up to the summit of Slieve Gullion. Follow mountain leader and Earth Scientist guides for some fascinating history, geology and even myths surrounding Fionn Mac Cumhaill, known for his famous exploits at the UNESCO site of Giant's Causeway.

Environment + Nature



LEGO CARTOGRAPHY 2.0

- MAP THE WORLD!

School of Geography, QUB

Sun 18 February

12pm - 2:30pm : Free

Suitability: 6 - 14 Yrs

Help construct a Lego world map, displaying vital environmental and climate data derived from scientific research, with participants working alongside mapping and climate experts.

Environment + Nature



DINOSAUR MESSY PLAY

Newcastle Community Cinema

Sun 18 February

10am - 11am : £7

Suitability: 0 - 6 Yrs & Parents/
Guardians

An engaging dinosaur discovery class offering toddlers the chance to enhance cognitive and physical development through hands-on messy play, fostering learning and experimentation in a sensory-rich environment ideal for early childhood exploration.

Create Make Play



SP-ACE (A SENSORY JOURNEY THROUGH SOUND)

Sonic Arts Research Centre, QUB

Sun 18 February

12pm - 1:30pm : £15

Suitability: 18+

Embark on an immersive auditory journey with sound artist Tessa Ann and Dr Isaac Gibson, experiencing therapeutic sound through innovative compositions and captivating visuals, exploring sensory experiences at the Sonic Lab within the SP-Ace event.

Mind + Body

GRAY'S PRINTING PRESS

Gray's Printing Press, Strabane

Sun 18 & Sun 25 February

1pm - 4pm

£8.50

Suitability: 18+

Take a step back in time and discover a treasure trove of ink, galleys and presses hidden behind an 18th-century shop front in the heart of Strabane, once the famous printing town of Ulster.

History + Society





KIDNEY CANVAS

MBC, QUB

Sun 18 February

1:30pm - 3:00pm : £2

Suitability: All Ages

Join an engaging event merging art, science, and community involvement through hands-on art interventions supporting kidney patients, insights from kidney disease charities, a candy DNA building experience led by QUB scientists, vibrant activities, musical performances, and refreshments, promising inspiration and fun.

Mind + Body



NEVER SAY 'AT LEAST' RECOGNISING THE REAL LOSS IN MISCARRIAGE

The Playhouse, Derry/Londonderry

Sun 18 February

2pm - 3:30pm : £5

Suitability: 18+

This panel discussion delves into the often-hidden topic of miscarriage and pregnancy loss, drawing insights from psychology, therapy, and personal experiences to shed light on its impact on families.

Mind + Body



THE LIFE CYCLE OF STARS

OM Dark Sky, Omagh

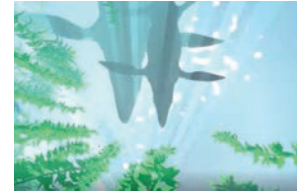
Sun 18 February

2pm - 3pm : £3

Suitability: All Ages

Attend OM's talk on the captivating journey of stars from formation to their exotic end stages, accompanied by visuals captured from their telescopes.

Space



THE WHO, WHAT, WHY OF ZOOLOGY

Ulster Museum, Belfast

Sun 18 February

2pm - 3pm : £5

Suitability: 7 - 11 Yrs

What's your favourite animal fact? Have you ever wondered who discovered it in the first place? Chances are, it was a zoologist! From the deepest oceans to Himalayan valleys, zoologists explore far and wide to better understand the worlds of mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and nearly anything else that can walk, fly or swim!

Environment + Nature

ALICE ROBERTS - CRYPT: LIFE, DEATH AND DISEASE IN THE MIDDLE AGES AND BEYOND

Whitla Hall, Queen's University

Sun 18 February

4:30pm

£15

Suitability: All Ages

Join Alice as she talks about her new book, *Crypt: Life, Death and Disease in the Middle Ages and Beyond*, looking at how ancient bones hold the key to understanding the impact of violence and disease in mediaeval society.

Environment + Nature



SPACE COLOURING FOR KIDS

Little Acorns Bookshop, Derry/Londonderry

Sun 18 February

2:30pm : £3

Suitability: 3-10 Yrs

Enjoy an afternoon of Apollo 11 colouring and celebrate the first moon landings by NASA. Learn about the planning, the construction, crew and the historic first moon landing back in 1969.

Space

NOT JUST FOR THE BOYS WHY WE NEED MORE WOMEN IN SCIENCE

Whitla Hall, Queen's University Belfast

Sun 18 February

6pm : £10 / £8

Suitability: 12+

Join Dame Athene Donald as she explores, using her own experience and those of other top scientists who are women, the factors that drive women to give up on a career in science. From societal expectations, prejudice, hostility, and condescension to unconscious and systemic bias, particularly in science research, as evidenced by recent studies.

Science Communication

IOP Institute of Physics



DRS & DISEASES WALKING TOUR

Clifton House, Belfast - Starting Point

Sun 18, Mon 19 & Sat 24 February

2pm - 3:30pm : £22.50

Suitability: 11+

Explore Belfast's rich medical history, meet inspiring figures like Mary Ann McCracken, Sir James Murray (milk of magnesia inventor), and Dr. William Drennan, dedicated to improving Belfast's health. Learn about the city's 19th century anti-vaxers, health hazards in linen mills, food poisoning from contaminated shell fish, the fire hazards of Victorian dresses and the dodgy Dr Bloom.

History + Society

NISCIENCEFESTIVAL.COM



WONDERDOG:

HOW THE SCIENCE OF DOGS CHANGED THE SCIENCE OF LIFE WITH JULES HOWARD

Whitla Hall, Queen's University

Sun 18 February

12pm : £10 / £8

Suitability: 12+

What do dogs know of their world? And what do they really think of us? Join zoology correspondent and Guardian writer Jules Howard, author of *Wonderdog*, in this celebration of the role that dogs are playing in the science of animal minds.

Environment + Nature



A IS FOR ARSENIC THE POISONS OF AGATHA CHRISTIE

Little Acorns Bookshop, Derry/Londonderry

Sun 18 February

7pm - 9pm

£10 - price includes glass of wine

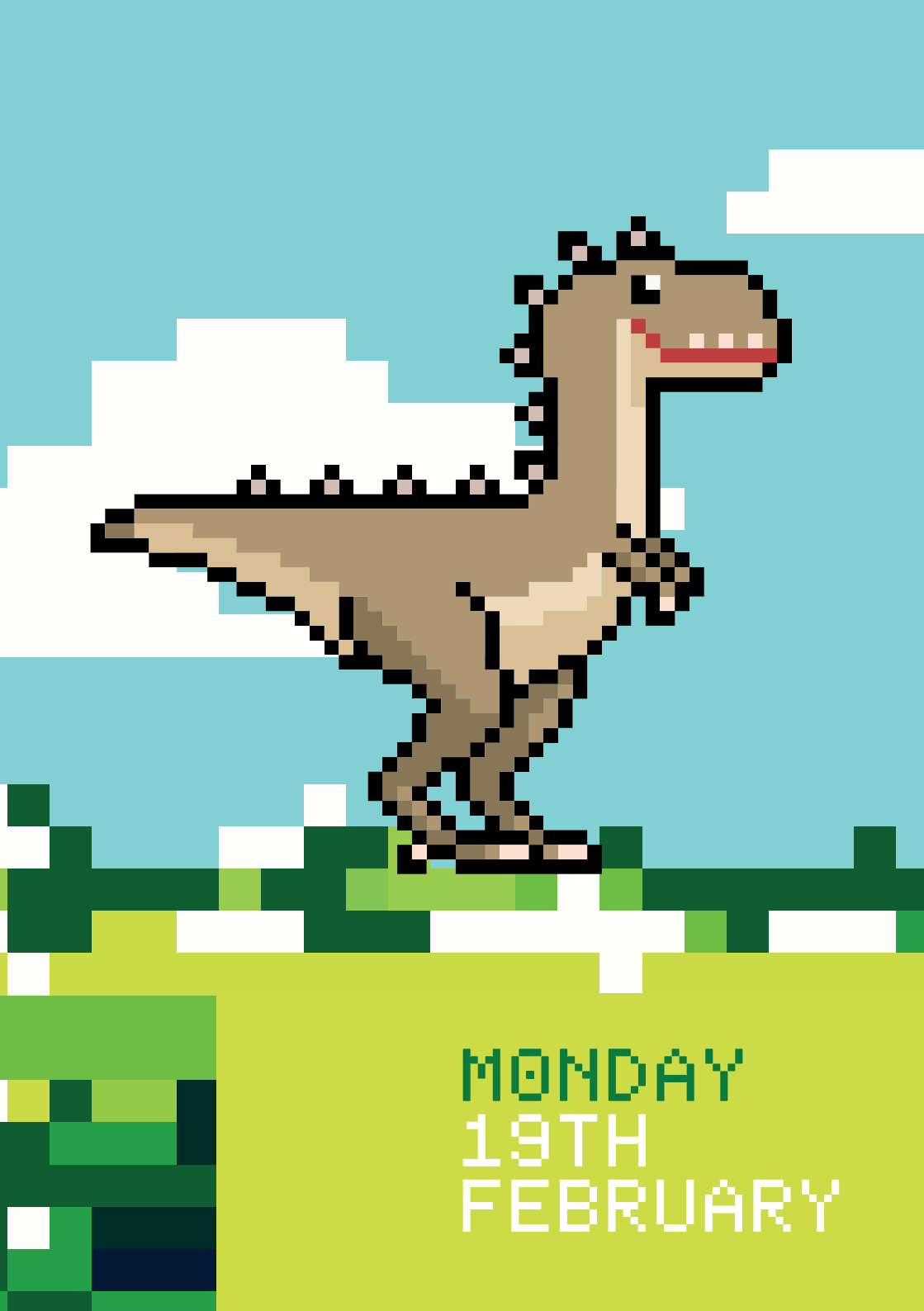
Suitability: 18+

A is for Arsenic is a celebration of the use of science by the undisputed Queen of Crime. Join Author and Chemist Dr Kathryn Harkup as she investigates the poisons used by the murderer in Agatha Christie mysteries.

Science Communication

SUNDAY
18TH FEBRUARY

LEGO® Exhibition	Various	Belfast
Slieve Gullion Geo-hike	9 AM	Killeavy
HDR UK	10 AM	Belfast
Dinosaur Messy Play	10 AM	Newcastle
The Super Nature Show with Chantelle and Rory NISF Roadshow	11 AM	Portrush
SP-Ace (A sensory journey through sound)	12 PM	Belfast
Lego Cartography 2.0 – Map the World!	12 PM	Belfast
Wonderdog: How the Science of Dogs Changed the Science of Life with Jules Howard	12 PM	Belfast
Gray's Printing Press	1 PM	Strabane
Granny Jackson's Dead	1 PM, 3PM, 6:30PM, & 8 PM	Belfast
The Merchants Who Grew A City - Walking Tour	1 PM	Belfast
Kidney Canvas - Hot desk your way around the science and art of kidney disease	1:30 PM	Belfast
From Grey Wolves to Grey Squirrels	2 PM	Belfast
Foraging Afloat	2 PM	Killinchy
The Who, What, Why of Zoology	2 PM	Belfast
Pox, Plagues & Paupers - Horrible Histories of Belfast	2 PM	Belfast
Never Say 'At Least' - Recognising the Real Loss in Miscarriage	2 PM	Derry / Londonderry
Niamh Nic Daeid on Forensic Science	2 PM	Belfast
The Life Cycle of Stars	2 PM	Omagh
The Science of Jurassic World NISF Roadshow	2 PM	Portrush
Drs & Diseases Walking Tour	2 PM	Belfast
Space Colouring for Kids	2:30 PM	Derry / Londonderry
Alice Roberts - Crypt: Life, Death and Disease in the Middle Ages and Beyond	4:30 PM	Belfast
Athene Donald - Not Just For the Boys: Why We Need More Women in Science	6 PM	Belfast
A is for Arsenic: The Poisons of Agatha Christie	7 PM	Derry / Londonderry



DARK MATTERS

A NIGHT OF SHORT FICTION INSPIRED BY JOHN STEWART BELL AND CERN

John Bell House, Belfast

Mon 19 February

7pm - 8pm

£7 / £5

Suitability: 11+

Explore the remarkable life and scientific contributions of physicist John Stewart Bell, born in Belfast, featuring readings by author Lucy Caldwell, Computer Scientist/Software Engineer Dr Michael Davis's personal journey from Belfast to CERN, and insights from Bell's biographer, Professor Andrew Whittaker, in an engaging evening blending fiction, biography, and science.

Art + Science

BRITISH COUNCIL
Northern Ireland



MENSA MAGNIFICENT MONDAY QUIZ

The Black Box, Belfast

Mon 19 February

7:30pm - 10pm

£2 - No booking required.

Suitability: 18+

Drop in to The Black Box for a light-hearted team quiz devised by Mensa. No football, no soaps - just science, technology, engineering and a bit of general knowledge. Even if your quizzing is less than impressive, grab a few friends and come on down for the craic! You might even win a prize. Teams of up to six people are welcome.

Science Communication



SIGHT-READ A POETRY WORKSHOP WITH 3D-PRINTED BRAILLE

Queen's University, Belfast

Mon 19 February

2pm - 3:30pm : £5

Suitability: 18+

This inclusive workshop delves into innovative forms of poetry by incorporating tactile images, 3D-printed Braille fragments, and the Ekphrasis technique, allowing participants of all sight levels to engage with architectural motifs, dragons, and collage poetry, fostering a unique poetic experience.

Art + Science



GENES FROM OLD BONES

GENOMES AND IRISH
PREHISTORY

The Great Hall, QUB

Mon 19 February

7pm - 9pm : Free

Suitability: All Ages

The origins of people living in Ireland has been a hotly debated topic as our perceived identity impacts on the politics of the island. To celebrate Darwin Day 2024, Professor Dan Bradley, from Trinity's School of Genetics and Microbiology will explore the evolution of people in Ireland through their genetic history. This event is organised by Humanists UK

History + Society

THE ART & SCIENCE OF THE CLASSIC MARTINI

Rattlebag Cocktail Bar, Belfast

Mon 19 February

7pm - 9pm

£25

Suitability: 18+

Rattlebag case studies: Join us for an immersive experience delving into the history, techniques, and nuances of crafting the perfect martini. From selecting the finest gin and vermouth to mastering the elusive balance of ingredients, participants will gain hands-on expertise in creating this iconic cocktail. Our skilled guides will teach garnishing techniques and offer creative variations, ensuring you leave with the confidence to impress any palate with a classic martini.

Food For Thought



MONDAY 19TH FEBRUARY

Get Fired Up! - Blacksmithing	11 AM, 1 PM & 3 PM	Templepatrick
Science Sandwich - Lunchtime Lectures!	12:45 PM	Belfast
Sight-Read - A poetry Workshop with 3D-printed Braille	2 PM	Belfast
Drs & Diseases Walking Tour	2 PM	Belfast
Genes from Old Bones: Genomes and Irish Prehistory	7 PM	Belfast
Dark Matters - A Night of Short Fiction Inspired by John Stewart Bell and CERN	7 PM	Belfast
The Art & Science of the Classic Martini	7 PM	Belfast
Mensa Magnificent Monday Quiz	7:30 PM	Belfast



23
24
25



WATCH
THIS
SPACE

belfast2024.co.uk

EMBRACING
OUR
CREATIVITY



TUESDAY
20TH
FEBRUARY

BLINDBOY AT THE NI SCIENCE FESTIVAL

Millennium Forum, Derry/
Londonderry

Tues 20 February

7:30pm

£29

Suitability: 18+

Experience The Blindboy Podcast live at NI Science Festival with Limerick's own polymath, author, screenwriter, songwriter, musician, producer and academic Blindboy.

Described as a 'cultural phenomenon' by The New York Times, The Blindboy Podcast is an award-winning, storytelling podcast in the Irish tradition of the Seanchai which seamlessly intertwines history, fiction, cultural critique and politics into a relaxing form the creator calls 'the podcast hug'. He draws upon his experiences to democratise topics such as art, psychology, politics, science and music.

For this exclusive event, Blindboy will speak to two special guest scientists, offering the audience a unique and humorous insight into issues the scientists are currently researching.

Mind + Body



SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD IN SPORT

Check Website

Tues 20 February

Check Website

Free

Suitability: 18+



The role of parents in youth athletes' development is pivotal, influencing their participation, achievements, and well-being in sports, presenting challenges that require understanding and coping strategies as explored by the Ulster University Sport Psychology Research Team in this interactive workshop.

Mind + Body



AETHEREAL MATERIAL

The Black Box, Belfast

Tues 20 February

2pm-4pm : Free

Suitability: All Ages

Explore the symbiotic relationship between sound, conversation, and music through the 'Aetherial Material' project, culminating in an LP launch event showcasing recorded soundscapes, compositions, and improvisations, inviting attendees to experiment with the 'speech-to-song' auditory illusion.

Tech + Innovation



DOCTORING JAMES JOYCE

The Graduate School, QUB

Tues 20 February

7pm : Free

Suitability: 11+

Delving into the lesser-known medical aspirations of James Joyce and his profound influence on literature, science, and medicine, Prof Mark Lawler presents 'Doctoring James Joyce,' exploring Joyce's imaginative foresight across various scientific domains in a captivating one-man show.

History + Society



ASTRONOMY ON TAP

Post House, Belfast

Tues 20 February

7pm : Free

Suitability: 18+

Astronomy on Tap is launching a satellite event near you! Grab a drink, enjoy some food, compete in activities to win space-themed prizes, and most importantly, laugh and learn about all things space through short talks from local astronomers.

Space

PLANET EARTH III OUR CHANGING WORLD

W5 Life, Belfast

Tues 20 February

6pm - 7.30pm : Free

Suitability: All Ages

Dr. Miranda Dyson, Open University Lecturer and BBC academic consultant, examines the influence of longstanding collaborations between the Open University and the BBC on natural history programs, focusing on their impact on public conservation efforts and addressing the role played in highlighting climate change's effect on animal behaviour for Planet Earth III.

Environment + Nature



TUESDAY 20TH FEBRUARY

Get Fired Up! - Blacksmithing	11 AM, 1 PM & 3 PM	Templepatrick
ART vs. AI	12 PM	Belfast
Science Sandwich - Lunchtime Lectures!	12:45 PM	Belfast
Supporting Your Child in Sport	Check Website	Check Website
Aethereal Material	2 PM	Belfast
Planet Earth III - Our Changing World	6 PM	Belfast
A Look at the Stars, A Step Back Through Time	7 PM	Hilltown
Doctoring James Joyce	7 PM	Belfast
Astronomy on Tap	7 PM	Belfast
Blindboy at the NI Science	7:30 PM	Derry / Londonderry



WEDNESDAY
21ST
FEBRUARY



FORENSIC ENTOMOLOGY FACTS FROM FLIES

Online
Wed 21 February
2pm - 3pm : Free
Suitability: 14+

Dr. Marise Heyns, an Anatomist with a background in Biomedical Forensic Science, illustrates the critical role of forensic entomology in determining crucial information such as post-mortem interval, circumstances surrounding death, and even suspect identification through insect evidence in a presentation detailing real cases and her extensive experience within the field.

Environment + Nature



THE SIR BERNARD CROSSLAND LECTURE

Riddel Hall, QUB
Wed 21 February
5:30pm - 7:30pm : Free
Suitability: 16+

This lecture is held in association with Engineers Ireland and The Institution of Engineering and Technology. Jayne Brady, Head of the Northern Irish Civil Service, obtained a Master's degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering, and her address will focus on innovation.

Engineering + Robotics



CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF TOXIC MASCULINITY

The Graduate School, QUB
Wed 21 February
7pm - 8pm : Free
Suitability: 16+

Join Dr Paul Caplat from Queen's University Belfast as he explores the economic cost and societal impact of 'toxic masculinity'. Mixing scientific evidence with personal experiences and pop culture references, this informal talk attempts to bust the *myth of the real man!*

Mind + Body

FAMELAB NORTHERN IRELAND FINAL

Ulster Sports Club, Belfast
Wed 21 February
7pm - 10pm
Free
Suitability: 18+

Experience the thrilling showcase of scientific talent and communication at FameLab Northern Ireland's live final, featuring ten finalists competing with charm, scientific expertise, and innovation in a three-minute window.

Science Communication

matrix.



FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PODCAST

Ulster University, Belfast
Wed 21 February
4pm : £3
Suitability: 14+

The FST podcast showcases one-off discussions with senior figures across science, research, technology and innovation. At a special live NISF edition, the team interviews Toju Duke, a renowned figure in Responsible AI. She spent over a decade working at Google, founded Diverse AI to champion underrepresented groups in AI.

Science Communication

THE WHISKEYS OF IRELAND

The Second Fiddle, Belfast
Wed 21 February
7pm - 9.30pm : £45.00
Suitability: 18+

Join Peter Mulryan, the Founder and CEO of Blackwater Distillery, as he takes you on a captivating exploration into the rich history of Irish Whiskey. Drawing from his book, this event promises whiskey enthusiasts a comprehensive look at Irish Whiskey covering its history, distilling techniques, and the all-important aspect: its unique taste!

Food for Thought



THE SCIENCE BEHIND DIGITAL MENTAL HEALTH APPS

HOW CAN THEY HELP YOUNG PEOPLE IN NI?

Ulster University, Belfast
Wed 21 February
1pm - 3pm : Free
Suitability: 16+

Join our workshop exploring the role of digital mental health apps in supporting youth. Take part in a debate on the pros and cons of using these applications with speakers who will address pressing issues.

Mind + Body

NISCIENCEFESTIVAL.COM

UNRAVELLING STRESS

DEBUNKING MYTHS AND SCIENCE OF RESILIENCE

Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast
Wed 21 February
7pm - 8pm : £5
Suitability: 14+

Dive into the fascinating world of stress and resilience in this talk hosted by Psychologists from Queen's University Belfast. Unravel the mysteries behind why individuals respond uniquely to stress and gain insights into the cutting-edge research shaping our understanding of resilience.

Mind + Body

TENX9

The Black Box, Belfast
Wed 21 February
7pm - 9.30pm : Free
Suitability: 18+

Tenx9 and the NI Science Festival are teaming up again to bring you nine true stories on the theme Games. This is an extremely popular event and operates on a first come, first serve basis. So getting down early is strongly recommended. Get in touch with your true stories at tenx9.com/submissions

Art + Science

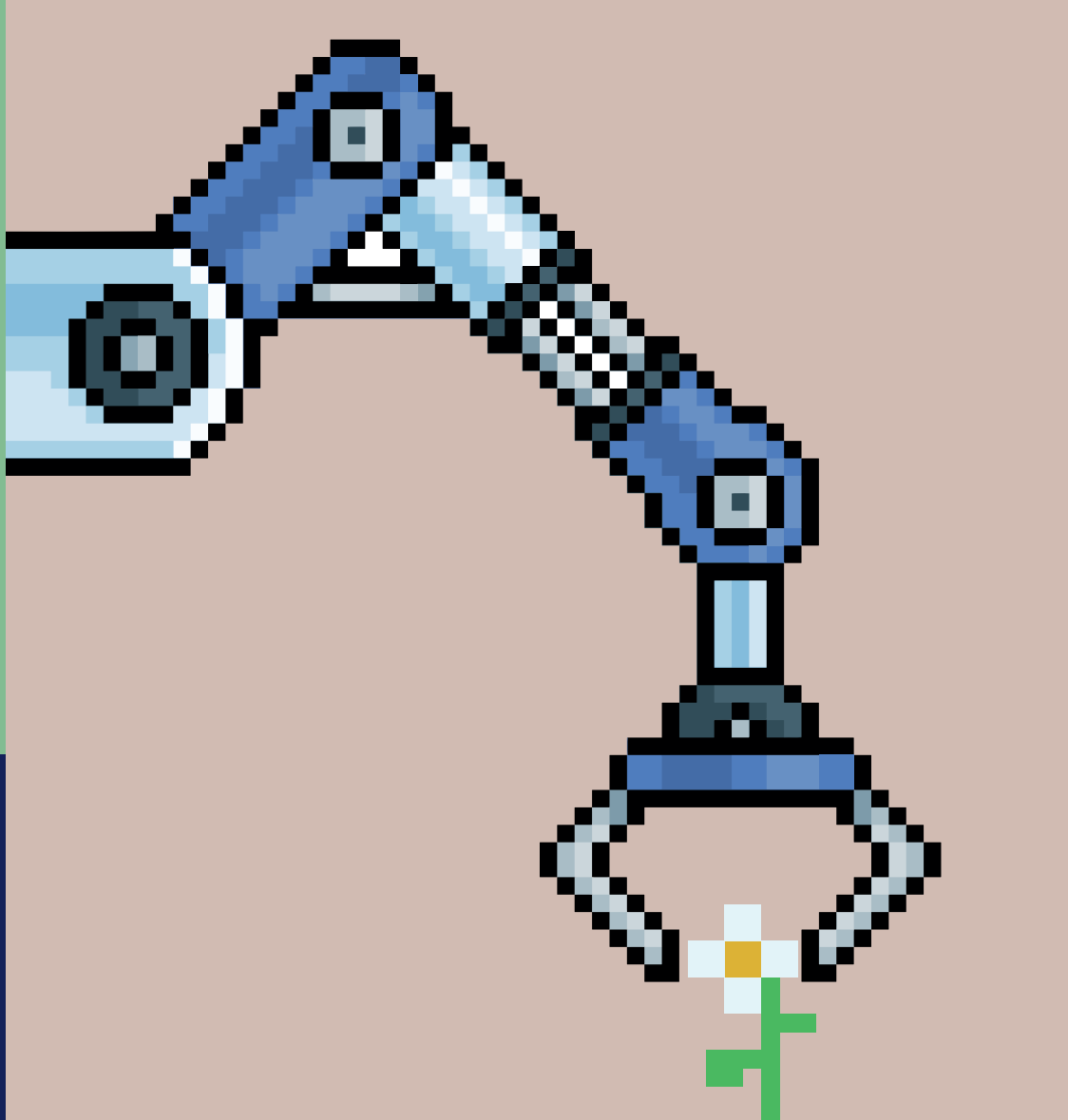
WEDNESDAY 21ST FEBRUARY

ART vs. AI	12 PM	Belfast	Unravelling Stress: Debunking Myths and Science of Resilience	7 PM	Belfast
Science Sandwich - Lunchtime Lectures!	12:45 PM	Belfast	FameLab - Northern Ireland Final	7 PM	Belfast
The Science Behind Digital Mental Health Apps	1 PM	Belfast	TENx9	7 PM	Belfast
Forensic Entomology - Facts from Flies	2 PM	Online			
The Sir Bernard Crossland Lecture	5:30 PM	Belfast			
Foundation for Science & Technology Podcast	4 PM	Belfast			
Granny Jackson's Dead	6:30 PM & 8 PM	Belfast			
Causes and Consequences of Toxic Masculinity	7 PM	Belfast			
The Whiskeys of Ireland	7 PM	Belfast			

 BRITISH COUNCIL
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THURSDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

WHAT'S THE BLOOMING PROBLEM WITH LOUGH NEAGH?

Seamus Heaney Homeplace, Bellaghy

Thurs 22 February

7:30pm - 9pm : £5

Suitability: 15+

Take this chance to gain a deeper understanding of the science behind the Lough Neagh blue-green algae crisis. Together, we can explore solutions and work towards safeguarding this precious natural resource.

Environment + Nature

matrix.



HEARTS & CRAFTS WORKSHOP

AN ANATOMY ART WORKSHOP

Medical Biology Centre, QUB

Thurs 22 February

6:30pm - 8:30pm : £2

Suitability: 15+

An evening blending art and anatomy, drawing inspiration from anatomical models, images, and an Egyptian mummy to create a personalised canvas tote bag, with all materials and guidance provided.

Art + Science



BEAUTY, BOOKS & BOTANY

Rowallane Garden, Saintfield

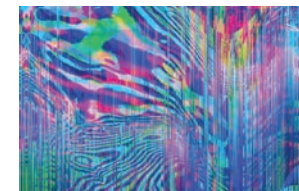
Thurs 22 February

6:30pm - 8:30pm : £15

Suitability: 14+

Explore the intersection of science and art in Rowallane Garden with Head Gardener Claire McNally, delving into their historical plant collection, innovative horticulture, unique book collection, and conservation efforts to preserve these plants for the future.

History + Society



SHC PRESENTS... ACID

Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast

Thurs 22 February

7pm - 9pm : Free

Suitability: 18+

The Seamus Heaney Centre at Queen's presents 'ACID,' an eclectic showcase of diverse literary forms, allowing students and staff to share their creative work within a 7-minute timeframe, fostering experimentation and exposure to new audiences while also featuring outside experts or enthusiasts from various fields.

Art + Science

THE SCIENCE OF LIVING

Bangor Courthouse

Thurs 22 February

7pm : £10

Suitability: 18+

Ever wondered whether breakfast really is the most important meal of the day? Or when is the perfect time to drink a cup of coffee? How about why finding the motivation to exercise is so hard? Bringing to bear the latest research in psychology, neurology, nutrition, biology, and medicine, best-selling author Dr Stuart Farrimond unearths the facts behind the fads, and provides take-away advice on every area of our lives – and all delivered in Dr Stu's trademark style; approachable, authoritative, and above all, entertaining.

Mind & Body





FARMING FOR NATURE AMBASSADORS

Boundary Brewing, Belfast

Thurs 22 February

7pm - 9pm : £3

Suitability: 18+

Join us as we introduce six new 'Farming for Nature Ambassadors' who have embraced innovative practices that balance agriculture with nature. There will be a chance to view footage showcasing their farms, where a commitment to environmental stewardship takes centre stage

Environment + Nature

RICHARD WISEMAN - IN CONVERSATION

Ulster University, Coleraine

Thurs 22 February

6pm - 7:30pm

Free

Suitability: 16+

Investigating the Impossible:
How do magicians produce objects from thin air and defy gravity?
Do ghosts exist and can psychics really predict the future? Can you achieve the impossible? Join psychologist and best-selling author Professor Richard Wiseman as he explores the limits of the human mind and proves that we can all achieve more than we think.

Mind + Body



LEV PARIKIAN - TAKING FLIGHT

The Black Box, Belfast

Thurs 22 February

7:30pm : £7 / £5

Suitability: 18+

Lev Parikian is fast becoming one of Britain's best loved nature writers. In his latest book recently shortlisted for the 2023 Royal Society Book Prize, *Taking Flight*, he explores the how, why and when of flight in four distinct groups of animals: insects, pterosaurs, birds and bats.

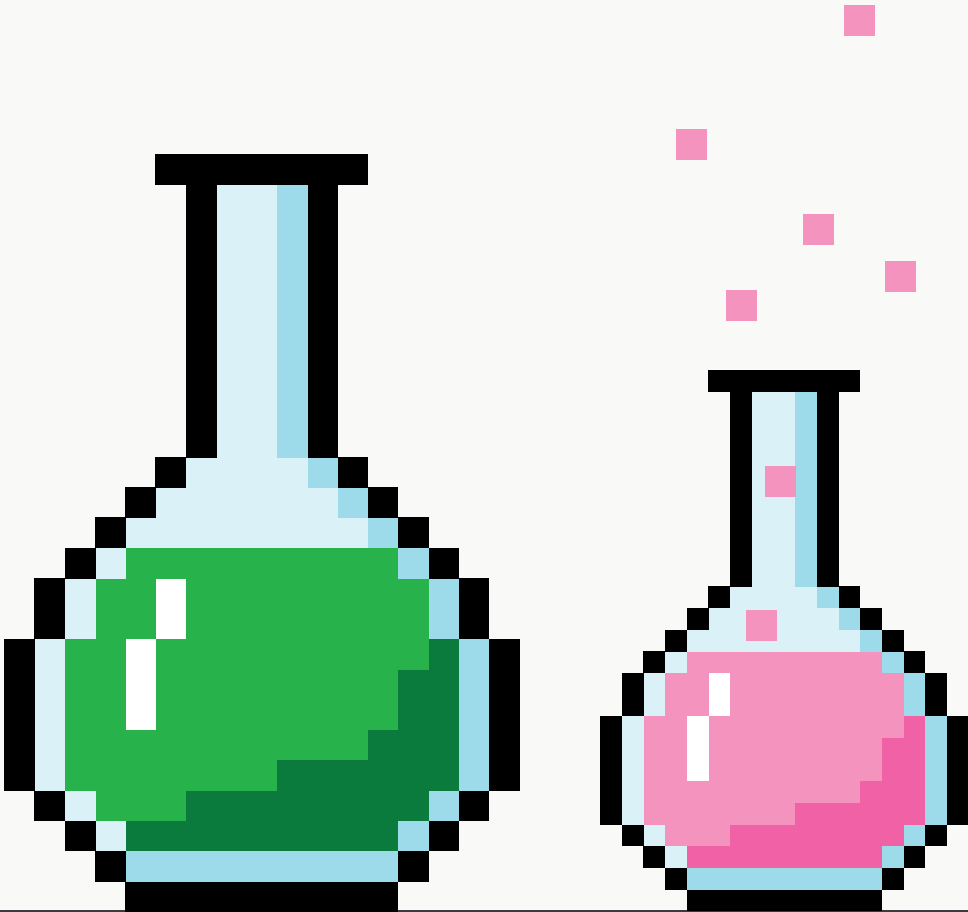
Environment + Nature

THE
ROYAL
SOCIETY



THURSDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

A Beginner's Guide to the Science of Compost	11 AM	Hillsborough
ART vs. AI	12 PM	Belfast
Science Sandwich - Lunchtime Lectures!	12:45 PM	Belfast
Richard Wiseman - In Conversation	6 PM	Coleraine
Hearts & Crafts Workshop: An Anatomy Art Workshop	6:30 PM	Belfast
Beauty, Books & Botany	6:30 PM	Saintfield
Granny Jackson's Dead	6:30 PM & 8 PM	Belfast
SHC Presents...ACID	7 PM	Belfast
Farming for Nature Ambassadors	7 PM	Belfast
What's the blooming problem with Lough Neagh?	7 PM	Bellaghy
The Science of Living	7 PM	Bangor
Lev Parikian - Taking Flight	7:30 PM	Belfast



FRIDAY
23RD
FEBRUARY

AUTOPSY

W5 Belfast

Fri 23 - Sun 25 February

Time(s): Various

Free with admission into W5

Suitability: 7+

Welcome to Autopsy, a live theatrical exploration through our anatomy. A multi-sensory journey that will educate and inform on the importance of the greatest machine; the human body.

Using a high tech blend of projection mapping, scanning and lighting we make that initial incision and peel back the skin on our subject and delve into the wonders within!

Mind + Body



FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY



WHERE'S THE JUSTICE?

THE IMPACT OF TRAUMA-
INSENSITIVE SYSTEMS

Moot Court, QUB Law School

Fri 23 February

5.30pm-7.15pm : £5

Suitability: 16+

A panel discussion with professionals of neuroscience, psychology, and justice discussing the challenges survivors of domestic violence face when navigating the justice system. This is a unique opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the issues at hand and the collaborative efforts to support survivors. In collaboration with Women's Aid.

Mind & Body



LITTLE ASTRONOMERS

Armagh Planetarium

Fri 23 February

10am - 11am : £5

Suitability: 0-5 Yrs

Embark on an interplanetary adventure for toddlers with the Astronaut George dome show, followed by interactive activities and sensory room exploration, as George explores planets and the search for alien friends!

Space



SURVEYING THE SURVEYORS

HOW DIVIS HELPED
MAP IRELAND

Divis & the Black Mountain, Belfast

Fri 23 February

11am - 3pm : £5

Suitability: 14+

Join a historical journey at Divis & the Black Mountain with Professor Keith Lilley exploring the 1820s mapping of Ireland by the Ordnance Survey from this summit, followed by an outdoor adventure retracing the steps of early surveyors as well as exploring the technological advancements in surveying methods past and present.

Environment + Nature

THE INCREDIBLE WORLD OF LIFE- SAVING DOGS

The Linen Hall, Belfast

Fri 23 February

1pm : £4 / £6

Suitability: 18+

Neil Powell, a dedicated dog lover and expert in dog behaviour, has utilised his canine companions in various search and rescue missions, including mountaineering rescues and efforts related to the Lockerbie bombing. As a Senior Trainer for Disability Assistance Dogs, he conducts groundbreaking research at Queen's University, exploring dogs as early warning systems for epilepsy. Powell shares his insights and experiences in a captivating talk, shedding light on why dogs truly earn the title of man's best friend.

Science Communication



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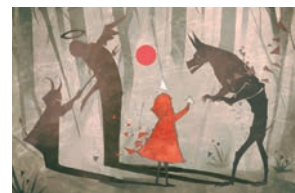
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THE SCIENCE OF ADHD & WOMEN WITH DR NATASHA LANGAN

The MAC, Belfast
Fri 23 February
7:30pm
£16.95 / £14.50
Suitability: 14+

This talk by Dr. Natasha Langan delves into the underdiagnosis of women and girls with ADHD, exploring its distinct presentation, the prevalence of shame in late diagnoses, and offering strategies for managing ADHD through compassionate understanding, emphasising psycho-social interventions alongside medical approaches.

Mind + Body



COME TO THE DARK SIDE WE HAVE BISCUITS!

David Kerr Building, QUB
Fri 23 February
6:30pm - 8pm : Free
Suitability: 16+

Explore the nuanced aspects of the Dark Triad personality traits—psychopathy, Machiavellianism, and narcissism—revealing their potential positive attributes like resilience, mental toughness, and coping strategies in everyday life, presented through flash talks by Queen's University Belfast researchers aiming to foster self-reflection and a broader understanding of these often stigmatised traits.

Mind + Body



PINK FLOYD DOME SHOW

Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast
Fri 23 February
7:30pm : £10 / £8
Suitability: 14+

Commemorate the 50th anniversary of Pink Floyd's legendary album *The Dark Side of the Moon* with a unique full-dome music experience, merging the album's iconic sounds with breathtaking 360° visuals showcasing the Solar System and celestial wonders.

Art + Science



SEVEN DRINKS FOR SEVEN CHEESES

The Playhouse, Derry/L'Derry
Fri 23 February
7:30pm - 9:30pm : £35
Suitability: 18+

We all love a bit of cheese...well most of us! If cheese is your thing, this evening is NOT to be missed. Co-hosted by World Cheese Judge and Cheese Writer, Patrick McGuigan this evening will take you on a Legenderry journey as we introduce some of the best craft drinks and pair them with award-winning local cheese.

Feed for Thought



W5 LATE

W5, Belfast
Fri 23 February
7pm - 11pm : £10
Suitability: 18+

Experience the unmissable, adults-only night of interactive science experiments and exploration at W5 free from the usual daytime crowds.

Science Communication

STARGAZING EVENING

Armagh Planetarium
Fri 23 February
7pm - 9pm : £5
Suitability: All Ages

Join us at Armagh Planetarium for this year's series of Stargazing evenings. For each session we will have a team of experts to help you navigate the night sky using our telescopes (weather depending) along with a dome show in our digital theatre and an astronomer talk.

Space



CLAUDIA HAMMOND - THE KEYS TO KINDNESS

Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast
Fri 23 February
7:30pm : £10 / £8
Suitability: 14+

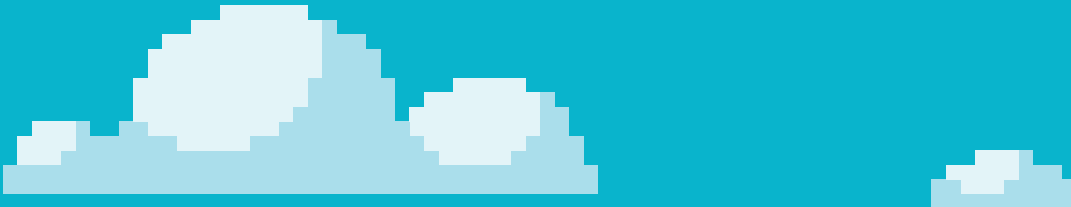
What can psychological research tell us about kindness and the most effective strategies for building more kindness into our lives? Broadcaster and author of the *Keys To Kindness*, Claudia Hammond takes on an eye-opening tour of the topic.

Mind + Body



FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY

Little Astronomers	10 AM	Armagh
Surveying The Surveyors: How Divis Helped Map Ireland	11 AM	Belfast
ART vs. AI	12 PM	Belfast
Science Sandwich - Lunchtime Lectures!	12:45 PM	Belfast
The Incredible World of Life-saving Dogs	1 PM	Belfast
Can You Dig It?	12:45 PM	Belfast
Come to the Dark Side (we have biscuits!)	6:30 PM	Belfast
Granny Jackson's Dead	6:30 PM & 8 PM	Belfast
Stargazing Evening	7 PM	Armagh
The Science of ADHD & Women	7:30 PM	Belfast
Autopsy	Various	Belfast
W5 Late	7 PM	Belfast
Claudia Hammond - The Keys To Kindness	7:30 PM	Belfast
Seven Drinks for Seven Cheese	7:30 PM	Derry / Londonderry
Pink Floyd Dome Show	8 PM	Armagh



SATURDAY
24TH
FEBRUARY

THE FOYLE SCIENCE SHOWCASE

Foyle Arena, Derry/Londonderry

Sat 24 February

10am - 4pm : Free

Suitability: All Ages

NISF Presents The Foyle Science Showcase, an engaging and interactive experience, featuring robotics experts discussing cutting-edge research, a mobile planetarium for solar system exploration, diverse animal encounters, and workshops exploring nature, the human body, food, psychology, and technology for young science enthusiasts.

Science Communication



matrix.



PATRICK G JOHNSTON CENTRE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

PUBLIC OPEN DAY

Patrick G Johnston Centre for
Cancer Research, QUB

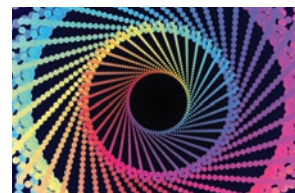
Sat 24 February

10am - 1pm : Free

Suitability: All Ages

Experience the forefront of cancer research where innovative studies, interactive lab visits, and expert insights showcase Queen's University Belfast's leadership in understanding, treating, and preventing cancer.

Mind + Body



DNA IN A DAY

W5, Belfast

Sat 24 February

10.30am - 4.30pm : £40

Suitability: 18+

Embark on an immersive workshop unravelling human genetics, specifically exploring the TAS2R38 gene's taste receptor coding, offering hands-on laboratory experience with DNA isolation, PCR, enzyme digests, and gel electrophoresis, catering to adults keen on understanding genetics in an engaging and informative environment.

Mind + Body

DISCOVER: DOGS

Ulster Museum / Botanic Gardens,
Belfast

Sat 24 February

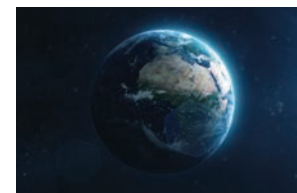
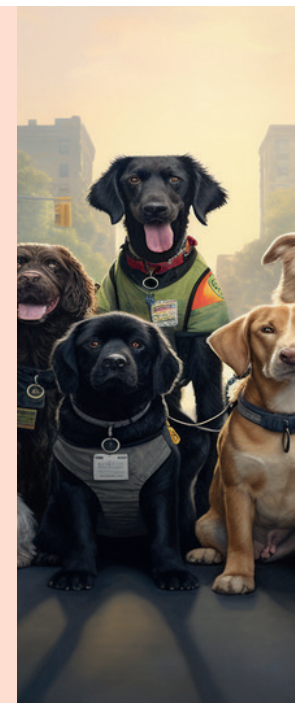
10am - 4pm

Admission: Various -
see website for details.

Suitability: All Ages - Dog lovers
are welcome but sadly our furry
friends will have to stay at home
on this occasion for any of our
indoor talks.

Are you a dog lover? Do you want to learn more about the cutting edge research taking place in the canine world? If so, this day is not to be missed. Join us and a selection of researchers and trainers from across Ireland to explore a range of topics across canine behaviour, healthcare and what it takes to become a dog detective!

Environment + Nature



OUR WORLD FROM SPACE FAMILY CLUB

Armagh Planetarium

Sat 24 February

10am - 12pm : £3.50

Suitability: 6 - 10 Yrs

Explore the marvels of Earth from a celestial perspective in the family-oriented Our World from Space Club, delving into satellite functions in monitoring Earth's dynamic surface, studying weather, climate, oceans, and land formations.

Space



FUN WITH FOSSILS

Carrickfergus Museum

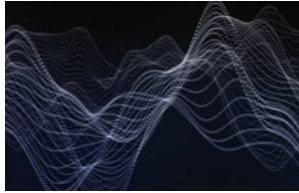
Sat 24 February

10am - 3pm : Free

Suitability: 5 Yrs + & Parents/
Guardians

Create plaster of Paris fossils using moulds, learn from experts about local fossils and discover the significance of these fossils from the East Antrim coast, taking home handmade replicas while exploring the richness of ammonites, sea urchins, and various fossils found in chalk, Jurassic clays, and limestones.

Environment + Nature



JUMBLES OF SOUND

Sonic Arts Research Centre, QUB
Sat 24 February
10am : £1
Suitability: 14+

Dr. Trevor Agus commemorates a century of auditory research unveiling the complexities of our hearing, from the relationship between background noise and speech comprehension to discoveries highlighting patterns within sound perception, initiated by pivotal experiments at Bell Laboratories.

Art + Science



MIMI'S RAINBOW ADVENTURE

2 Royal Avenue, Belfast
Sat 24 & Sun 25 February
10am - 4pm : Free
Suitability: 3 - 10 Yrs

Discover Mimi's Rainbow Adventure—a free, interactive exhibition by the Institute of Physics—where families explore fun physics experiments, creative activities, and meet inspiring scientists, offering an engaging experience for children to find answers to their curious questions about the world.

Maths + Physics



THINK DEEP

Marble Arch Caves, Enniskillen
Sat 24 February
10am - 1pm : £8
Suitability: All Ages

Explore the mesmerising underground realm of the Marble Arch Caves, discovering sculpted rivers, passages, and chambers formed over millennia, while delving into the hydrology, dye tracing, and geological significance, all culminating in an immersive experience using cutting-edge VR technology.

Environment + Nature

WHAT IS THE N.IRELAND LONGITUDINAL STUDY

AND HOW DOES IT USE CENSUS AND ADMINISTRATIVE DATA TO RESEARCH OUR POPULATION?

Elmwood Building, QUB
Sat 24 February
10:30am - 11:30am : Free
Suitability: 14+

Engage in an interactive session about the Northern Ireland Longitudinal Study, exploring its creation, use of Census and administrative data to investigate public interest issues and population trends, while welcoming ideas for potential research from participants interested in understanding data utilisation.

Science Communication



QUB ASTRONOMY DAY

Lanyon Building, QUB
Sat 24 February
10:30am - 4:30pm : Free
Suitability: All Ages

Embark on an interstellar adventure with the Astrophysics Research Centre at Queen's University Belfast, offering space-themed activities, talks on groundbreaking astronomical discoveries, Northern Lights demonstrations, solar surface viewing through telescopes (weather permitting), and hands-on experiences for budding scientists of all ages.

Space



QUEEN'S BIOLOGY SHOWCASE

School of Biological Sciences, QUB
Sat 24 February
10:30am - 1:30pm : Free
Suitability: All Ages

Engage with scientists from Queen's School of Biological Sciences as they delve into biodiversity, sustainable food production, disease management, and climate impacts through interactive exhibits and talks, fostering a better understanding of preserving and nurturing our natural world.

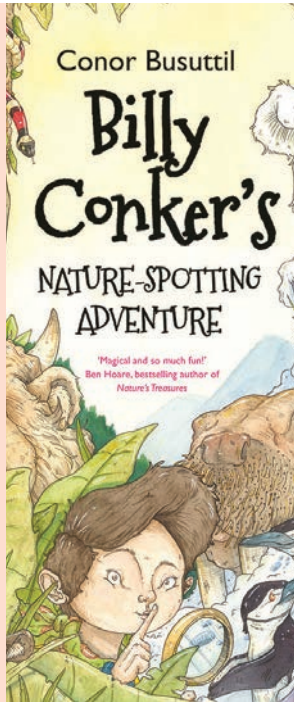
Environment + Nature

BILLY CONKER'S NATURE SPOTTING ADVENTURE!

Ards Art Centre, Newtownards
Sat 24 February
11am & 2pm (each session will last 1hr 15mins)
£10 (includes workshop and Materials)
Suitability: 6+

Journey into nature with acclaimed author, Illustrator and passionate conservationist, Conor Bussitill. Delve into the magic of his new acclaimed book; Billy Conker's Nature Spotting Adventure as we explore our ecosystems with a drawing workshop exploring the wonders of forests and oceans. You'll also have the opportunity to create your very own super cool mini insect hotel to take home!

Environment + Nature



MAKE YOUR OWN MINI WETLAND

WWT Castle Espie, Comber
Sat 24 February
11am & 2pm : £9.70
Suitability: All Ages

Discover the simplicity of creating a mini wetland to support diverse wildlife in your surroundings and learn seasonal care tips during this session, emphasising that even small water bodies can attract and sustain frogs, birds, insects, and facilitate new life.

Environment + Nature



NATURE NURTURE WILDLIFE WALK

Victoria Park, Belfast
Sat 24 February
11:30am - 1pm : Free
Suitability: All Ages

Come along to our family friendly wildlife walk, where we will take a look at the birds and the trees in Victoria Park. We will have Bird ID with British Trust for Ornithology and tree ID and Biodiversity spotting with Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful.

Environment + Nature



ORIENTEERING AT FLORENCE COURT

Florence Court, Enniskillen
Sat 24 February
11:30am - 3pm : Free
Suitability: All Ages

Enjoy an orienteering adventure at Florence Court's grounds, offering courses suitable for all ages, providing maps to navigate and find checkpoints at your own pace, with the option to walk leisurely or compete against time, guided by a coach at the start and upon completion.

Environment + Nature



OPEN SOUND LAB

Sonic Arts Research Centre, QUB
Sat 24 February
12pm - 1pm : Free
Suitability: 14 - 18 Yrs

Explore the Open Sound Lab, offering hands-on interaction with diverse technologies like Ableton Link, DJ decks, and electronic instruments, providing participants a glimpse into the JAM 4 experience alongside the chance to engage with different stations.

Art + Science

TIM AND PAM FOGG

Ulster University, Belfast
Sat 24 February
12pm - 1pm : £5
Suitability: 14+

Tim and Pam Fogg are Ulster University science graduates. They turned their climbing and caving passion into their work and have travelled the world mapping new caves, working on conservation projects, and providing training, rigging and safety supervision for natural history and adventure filming, BBC's Planet Earth 1 and 2, Life, Operation Iceberg, Human Planet, Frozen Planet, Wild China, and Disney's Chimpanzee.

Environment + Nature



MUSIC MIND & BRAIN

Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast
Sat 24 February
1:30pm & 3:30pm
£5
Suitability: 0-14 Yrs & Parents/ Guardians

BMS CHILL offers a comforting space for individuals with additional needs and families to experience classical music together, featuring RiChmusicNI's co-founder, Chris Blake, who explores the intricate connection between music and the brain, with a special focus on music's impact on autism, before the event begins.

Art + Science



TRADERS, PILGRIMS AND VIKINGS ON THE RIVER QUOILE

Quoile Bridge, Downpatrick
Sat 24 February
2pm - 5pm : £50
Suitability: 18+

Embark on a kayak adventure along the river Quoile to Inch Abbey, immersing in its rich history with insights from researchers Dr. Sarah Baccianti and Dr. Frances Kane, exploring settlements, Viking influence, and the origins of local place names while admiring the landscape's freshwater wildlife.

History + Society



THE MOURNES THROUGH TIME ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE & CULTURAL HERITAGE

Hilltown Community Centre (Carcullion House), Hilltown
Sat 24 February
2pm - 5pm : Free
Suitability: All Ages

The Mourne Mountains have a rich environmental and cultural history. This hands-on exhibition will tell a story of landscape change and human activity in the Mourne since the last Ice Age, showcasing some of the methods used to reconstruct past environments.

History + Society



NATURE DENATURED

Sonic Arts Research Centre, QUB
Sat 24 February
12pm - 1pm : £1
Suitability: 14 Yrs +

Immerse yourself in music played through the 48-speaker system of SARC's Sonic Lab. This curated concert of music features the sounds of nature, sounds inspired by nature, and nature-related data turned into sound, as never heard before. It takes a lot of kit to sound this natural!

Environment + Nature



THROUGH A VETS EYES

Ulster Museum
Sat 24 February
12:30pm - 1:30pm : £6
Suitability: 8+

Embark on an illuminating exploration with distinguished veterinarian Dr. Sean Wensley as he navigates the profound interconnection between human lives and animals, urging us to consider our responsibility in enhancing their welfare.

Environment + Nature



BIOMEDXPERIENCE A RESEARCH JOURNEY

The Wellcome - Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine, QUB
Sat 24 February
1pm - 5pm : Free
Suitability: All Ages

Meet local scientists leading research in vision and vascular disease, respiratory medicine, the immune system and microbes. Join us for demonstrations, interactive research activities, talks and tours of the Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine (WWIEM).

Mind + Body



NATURE- THEMED KARAOKE

Sonic Arts Research Centre, Belfast
Sat 24 February
2pm - 2pm : £1
Suitability: All Ages

Experience the ultimate karaoke immersion with the return of the high-end nature-themed Sonic Lab sound system, inviting singers to blend their voices using cutting-edge audio technologies, supervised by expert sound engineers, offering autotune or natural vocal renditions

Art + Science

UNLOCKED: THE REAL SCIENCE OF SCREEN TIME AND HOW TO SPEND IT BETTER

Ulster University, Belfast
Sat 24 February
2pm - 3pm : £7 / £5 concession
Suitability: 14+

Unlocked by Professor Pete Etchells offers a reassessment of our screen habits, debunking fears of device addiction by presenting scientific insights and advocating for a balanced, constructive relationship with technology.

Mind + Body





YASMIN ALI - AN ENGINEER'S STORY

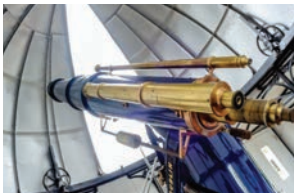
ON INTRODUCE A GIRL TO ENGINEERING DAY

The Belfast Room, Ulster Museum
Sat 24 February
2pm : £5
Suitability: 10+



Yasmin Ali, an award-winning chartered engineer in the energy industry, champions renewable technologies, excels in science communication, and acknowledged as one of the top 50 female engineers for her impactful engagement efforts.

Engineering + Robotics



LEGENDARY TELESCOPES TOUR

Armagh Planetarium
Sat 24 February
2:30pm - 4pm : £15
Suitability: 14+

Embark on the Legendary Telescopes Tour at Armagh Observatory and Planetarium, exploring its historic telescopes dating back centuries and led by expert guides detailing their pioneering scientific contributions, offering a chance to engage with these iconic instruments, including the Grubb 10-inch star catalogue and the century-old Calver telescope.

Space



CAPCOM GO - DOME SHOW

Armagh Planetarium
Sat 24 & Sun 25 February
4pm : £2
Suitability: 10+

Experience the immersive documentary CapCom Go, highlighting the Apollo program's triumphs in putting humans on the Moon, now translated into BSL and ISL, aiming to inspire future generations of explorers and innovators.

Space

FREE AGENTS: HOW EVOLUTION GAVE US FREE WILL

The Belfast Room, Ulster Museum
Sat 24 February
3pm : £6
Suitability: 14+

Do humans have free will? Until recently, scientists have mostly avoided this question, but with recent advances and discoveries changing how we understand the biological basis of behaviour, neuroscientists like Kevin Mitchell are tackling it for the first time.

In Free Agents, Kevin Mitchell, a prominent neuro-geneticist and popular science blogger, takes readers across billions of years of evolution to tell the remarkable story of how living beings capable of choice emerged from lifeless matter.

Mind + Body



FUNGI: THE WEB OF LIFE

QFT, Belfast
Sat 24 February
4pm : £6
Suitability: All Ages

Much of life on Earth is connected by a vast, hidden network that we are only just beginning to understand. Out of sight, between the world of plants and animals, another world exists — the kingdom of fungi. Featuring acclaimed biologist, Dr. Merlin Sheldrake and narrated by Bjork.

Environment + Nature

ALL IN THE MIND

The MAC, Belfast
Sat 24 February
2pm : £6
Suitability: 14+



Claudia Hammond and panel discuss how to be hopeful, finding hope in unlikely places, and what to do when it disappears.

The event will be broadcast as an episode of All in the Mind on BBC Radio 4 in the spring.

Mind + Body



SNOW LEOPARD TRAIL TASTER TAPE PREMIERE

Ulster Museum, Belfast
Sat 24 February
4pm : £5
Suitability: 11+

Local conservationist Dr Jonny Hanson premieres the taster tape of his in-development adventure conservation film, Snow Leopard Trail. The screening will be followed by a panel discussion featuring cast, crew and other special guests.

Environment + Nature



THE CAUSEWAY CHEESE EXPERIENCE

Maegen, Bushmills
Sat 24 February
7pm : £45
Suitability: 18+

Experience an exclusive evening hosted by Cheese Maegdens Emma & Jo at their Bushmills cheese shop, led by renowned cheese expert Patrick McGuigan, exploring the essence of Irish artisan cheese through a guided tasting of five cheeses alongside locally crafted beverages.

Food for Thought



THE EVIDENCE THE SCIENCE OF THE MENOPAUSE

The MAC, Belfast
Sat 24 February
6.30pm : £6
Suitability: 16+

Every woman's journey through the menopause is deeply personal and unique. But how does where you live shape your perceptions of this life stage and experiences of it? In this edition of The Evidence, Claudia Hammond looks at how the menopause is viewed around the world and unpacks the latest science along the way..

Mind + Body

SATURDAY

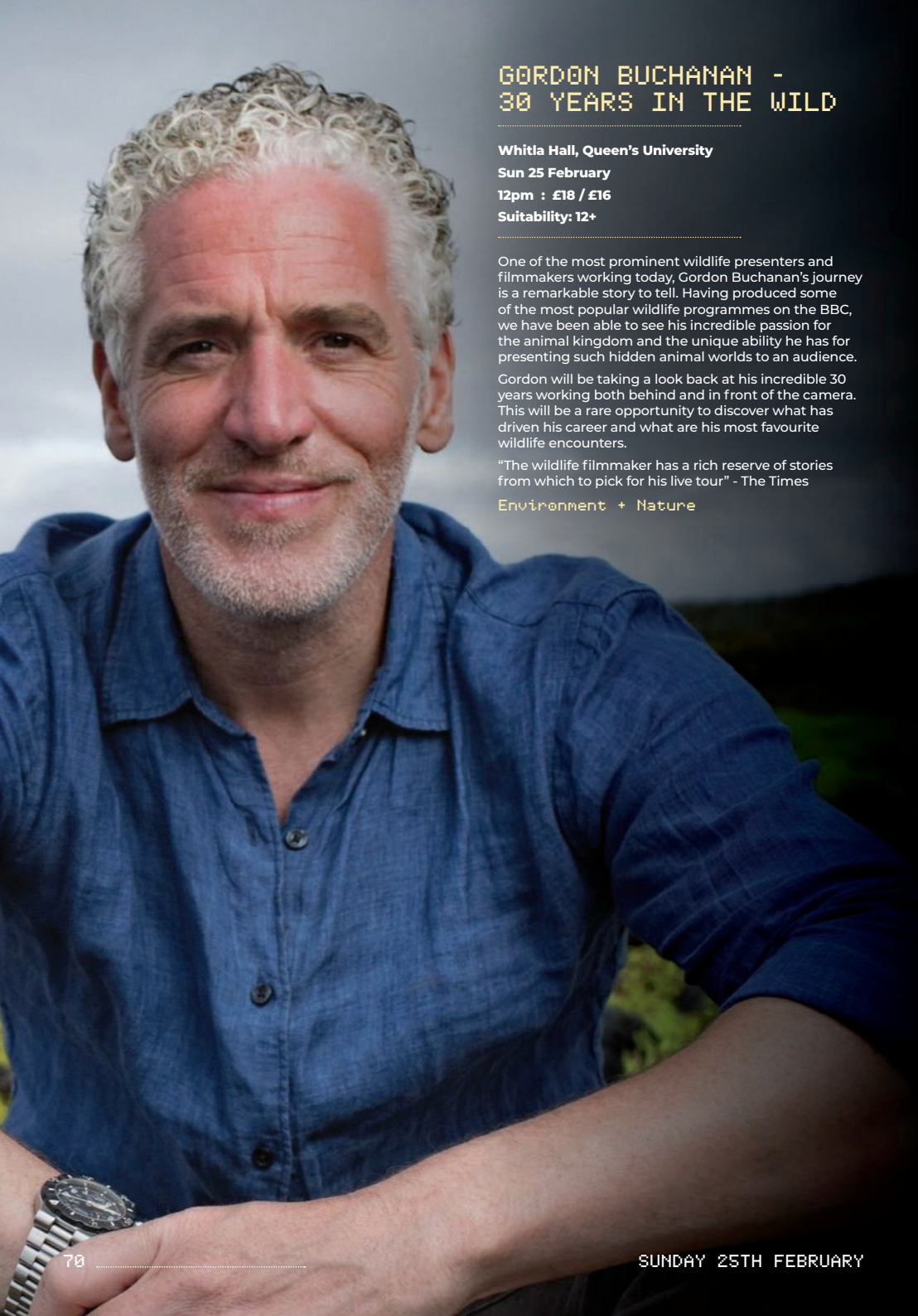
23RD FEBRUARY

Autopsy	Various	Belfast
Geology Rocks in the Mourne	9 AM	Annalong
The Foyle Science Showcase	10 AM	Derry / Londonderry
Discover: Dogs	10 AM	Belfast
DNA In A Day	Check Website	Belfast
Cancer Research Public Open Day	10AM	Belfast
Our World from Space Family Club	10 AM	Armagh
Fun with Fossils	10 AM	Carrickfergus
Jumbles of Sound	10 AM	Belfast
Mimi's Rainbow Adventure	10 AM	Belfast
Think Deep	10 AM	Enniskillen
Queen's Biology Showcase	10:30 AM	Belfast
QUB Astronomy Day	10:30 AM	Belfast
Billy Conker's Nature Spotting Adventure!	11 AM & 2 PM	Newtownards
What is the Northern Ireland Longitudinal Study...	10:30 AM	Belfast
Make Your Own Mini Wetland	11 AM	Comber
Nature Nurture Wildlife Walk	11:30 AM	Belfast
Orienteering at Florence Court	11:30 AM	Enniskillen
Open Sound Lab	12 PM	Belfast
ART vs. AI	12 PM	Belfast
Tim and Pam Fogg - In Conversation	12 PM	Belfast
Nature Denatured	12 PM	Belfast
Through a Vets Eyes	12:30 PM	Belfast
BiomedXperience: A Research Journey	1 PM	Belfast
Music Mind & Brain	1:30 PM & 3:30 PM	Belfast
Traders, Pilgrims and Vikings on the River Quoile	2 PM	Downpatrick
Drs & Diseases Walking Tour	2 PM	Belfast

The Mourne Through Time: Environmental Change & Cultural Heritage	2 PM	Hilltown
Nature-themed Karaoke	2 PM	Belfast
BBC Radio 4 - All In The Mind	2 PM	Belfast
Unlocked: The Real Science of Screen Time	2 PM	Belfast
Yasmin Ali - An Engineer's Story	2 PM	Belfast
Historical Shipwreck Tour	2:30 PM	Ballycastle
Legendary Telescopes Tour	2:30 PM	Armagh
Free Agents: How Evolution Gave Us Free Will	3 PM	Belfast
Granny Jackson's Dead	3 PM, 6:30 PM & 8 PM	Belfast
CapCom Go - Dome Show	4 PM	Armagh
Fungi: The Web Of Life	4 PM	Belfast
Snow Leopard Trail Taster Tape Premiere	4 PM	Belfast
The Causeway Cheese Experience	7 PM	Bushmills

The Evidence - The Science of Menopause	7 PM	Belfast
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GORDON BUCHANAN - 30 YEARS IN THE WILD

Whitla Hall, Queen's University

Sun 25 February

12pm : £18 / £16

Suitability: 12+

One of the most prominent wildlife presenters and filmmakers working today, Gordon Buchanan's journey is a remarkable story to tell. Having produced some of the most popular wildlife programmes on the BBC, we have been able to see his incredible passion for the animal kingdom and the unique ability he has for presenting such hidden animal worlds to an audience.

Gordon will be taking a look back at his incredible 30 years working both behind and in front of the camera. This will be a rare opportunity to discover what has driven his career and what are his most favourite wildlife encounters.

"The wildlife filmmaker has a rich reserve of stories from which to pick for his live tour" - The Times

Environment + Nature

THE MONKS, THE VIKINGS AND THE SMUGGLERS OF STRANGFORD LOUGH

Strangford Lough Activity Centre,
Killinchy

Sun 25 February

1:30pm - 4:30pm : £50

Suitability: 18+

Trace a traditional smuggling route with local guides and experts including Rory Martin and historians Dr. Sarah Baccianti and Dr. Frances Kane, unravelling the history of Mahee Island's monastic ruins, Viking influence, and the origins of Northern Ireland's place names.

History + Society



POWER UP AN ENGINEER'S ADVENTURES INTO SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Ulster Museum

Sun 25 February

1.30pm : £6

Suitability: 12+

Power Up is a definitive picture of the intricate world that humanity has built, and a rallying cry to face the challenges of climate change using the power at our fingertips.

'A powerful and often lyrical book ... Fascinating and insightful in equal measure', MARK MIODOWNNIK, author of *Stuff Matters* and *Liquid*.

Engineering & Robotics



ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY IMAGE PROCESSING CLINIC

OM Dark Sky, Omagh

Sun 25 February

12pm : £3

Suitability: All Ages

Discover the intricate process of capturing and processing celestial imagery using advanced equipment, including discussions on capture software, image stacking, and processing techniques, spanning solar, lunar, and Deep Sky Object (DSO) photography.

Space



BILLY CONKER'S NATURE SPOTTING ADVENTURE!

Ulster Museum, Belfast

Sun 25 February

11am & 2pm (each session
will last 1hr 15mins)

£10 (includes workshop and
Materials)

Suitability: 6+

Journey into nature with acclaimed author, Illustrator and passionate conservationist, Conor Bussitill. Delve into the magic of his new acclaimed book; Billy Conker's Nature Spotting Adventure as we explore our ecosystems with a drawing workshop exploring the wonders of forests and oceans. You'll also have the opportunity to create your very own super cool mini insect hotel to take home!

Environment + Nature



JAMES & THE GIANT PEACH (FILM)

Newcastle Community Cinema
 Sun 25 February
 3pm - 5pm : £7
 Suitability: 3-10 Yrs & Parents/
 Guardians

Experience Roald Dahl's enchanting story on the big screen of an orphan and his insect companions inside a colossal peach as they set off on a thrilling adventure to New York City. Screening will be followed by engaging film-related activities such as arts, dance, or games.

Create. Make. Play.



MEET THE BUGS UP CLOSE!

Newcastle Community Cinema
 Sun 25 February
 6pm - 8pm : £5
 Suitability: All Ages

A screening of "Microcosmos," a 1996 documentary showcasing the intricate lives of insects and wildlife is followed by an exploration led by a local wildlife expert, providing viewers with a captivating close-up view of these creatures and offering a unique perspective on the natural world.

Environment + Nature



BACK TO THE CHEESEBOARD!

Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast
 Sun 25 February
 7pm - 9pm : £45
 Suitability: 18+

We're back for another exclusive evening celebrating the allure of cheese with food journalist Patrick McGuigan and cheese expert Johnny McDowell, featuring an array of premium Irish cheeses paired harmoniously with top-tier spirits, craft beer, and cider, while discovering the art and science of cheese making in an engaging and enjoyable manner.

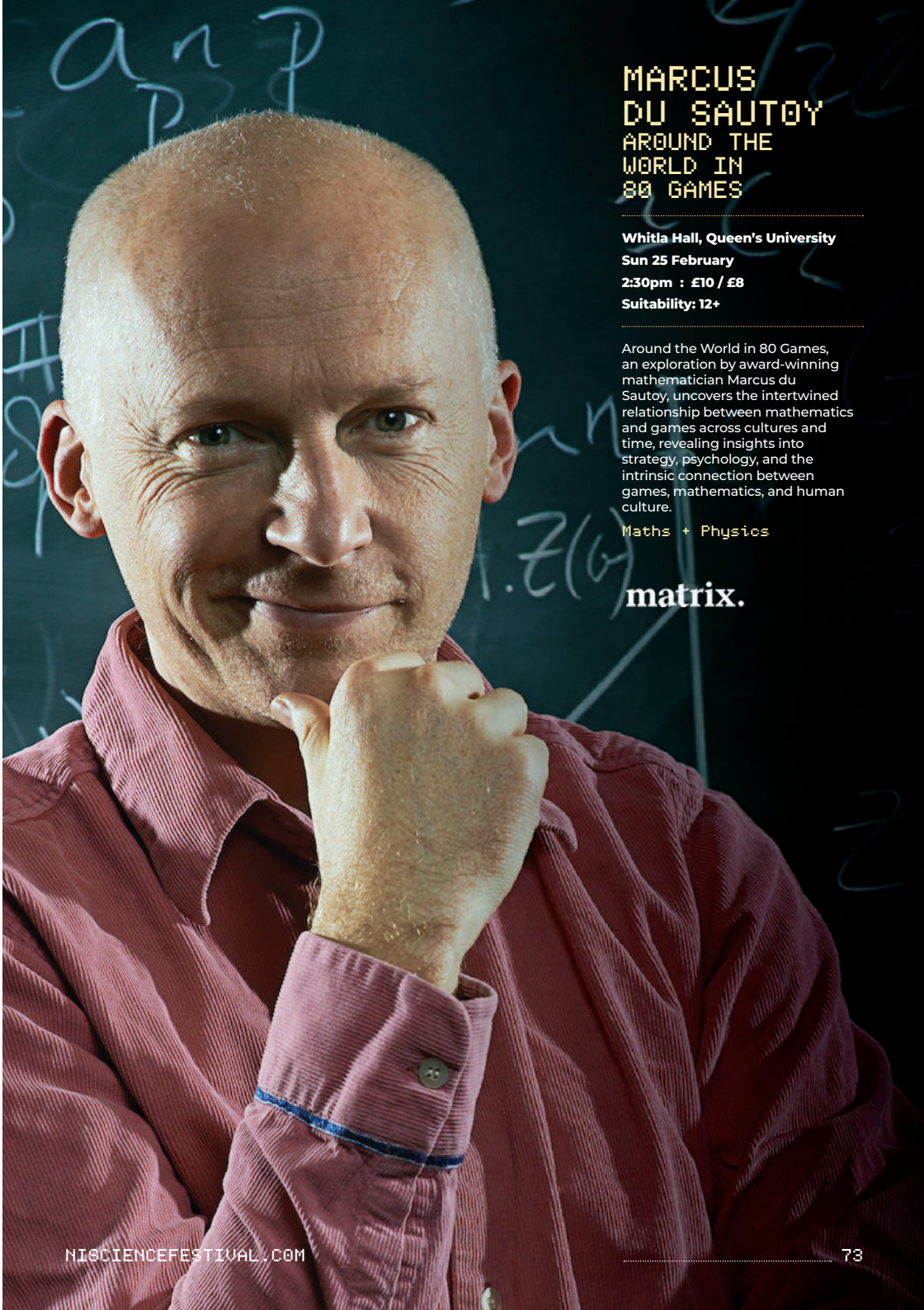
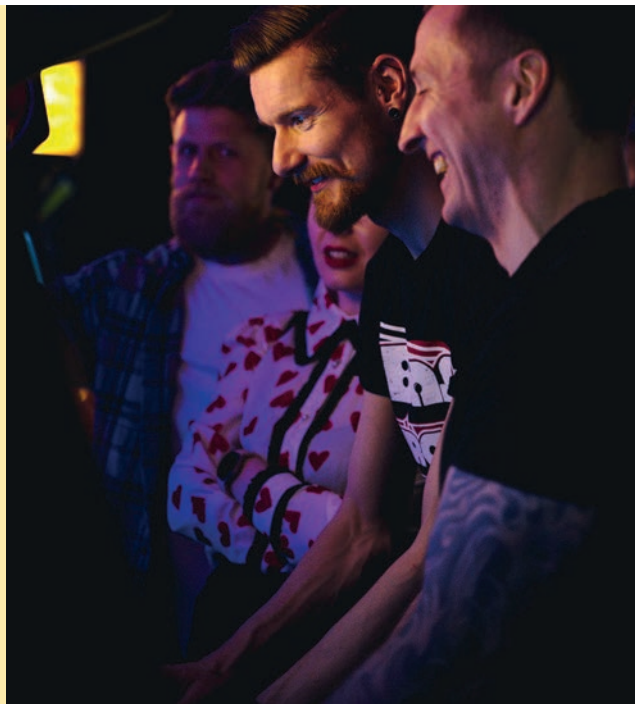
Feed For Thought

BASE ARCADE PRESENTS BELFAST WORLD TETRIS CHAMPIONSHIP!

The Black Box, Belfast
 Sun 25 February
 4pm - 8pm : £8
 Suitability: 18+

To celebrate the 40th anniversary of the videogame masterpiece Tetris, NISF have teamed up with Base Arcade to find out just who is the best player of the tetromino puzzler! Expect a night of music, drink, spot prizes and a small selection of non Tetris games on hand too!

Tech + Innovation



MARCUS DU SAUTOY AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 GAMES

Whitla Hall, Queen's University
 Sun 25 February
 2:30pm : £10 / £8
 Suitability: 12+

Around the World in 80 Games, an exploration by award-winning mathematician Marcus du Sautoy, uncovers the intertwined relationship between mathematics and games across cultures and time, revealing insights into strategy, psychology, and the intrinsic connection between games, mathematics, and human culture.

Maths + Physics

matrix.

SUNDAY 25TH FEBRUARY

Autopsy	Various	Belfast
Slieve Gullion Geo-hike	9 AM	Killeavy
Mimi's Rainbow Adventure	10 AM	Belfast
Billy Conker's Nature Spotting Adventure!	11 AM & 2 PM	Belfast
ART vs. AI	12 PM	Belfast
Astrophotography Image Processing Clinic	12 PM	Omagh
Gordon Buchanan - 30 Years In The Wild	12 PM	Belfast
Marcus Du Sautoy - Around The World in 80 Games	Check Website	Belfast
Gray's Printing Press	1 PM	Strabane
Power Up - An Engineer's Adventure into Sustainable Energy	1:30 PM	Belfast
The Monks, the Vikings and the Smugglers of Strangford Lough	1:30 PM	Killinchy
James & The Giant Peach (Film)	3 PM	Newcastle
Granny Jackson's Dead	3 PM, 6:30 PM, & 8 PM	Belfast
Belfast World Tetris Championship	4 PM	Belfast
CapCom Go - Dome Show	4 PM	Armagh
Meet The Bugs Up Close!	6 PM	Newcastle
Back to the Cheeseboard!	7 PM	Belfast



ONGOING +
EXHIBITIONS

MID ULSTER MEGA FACTORY TOURS

Multiple venues across Mid Ulster

Check Website for Full Details

10am - 2pm; 1pm : £4

Suitability: 8+

Join us at various locations across Mid Ulster - one of Northern Ireland's manufacturing hubs - for a series of behind-the-scenes tours and insights into a variety of engineering processes. Whether you're interested in exploring a career in manufacturing or are simply keen to find out more about the day-to-day functioning of these industries, this event offers a rare opportunity to experience the inner workings of different companies.

Featuring:

Mallaghan Engineering

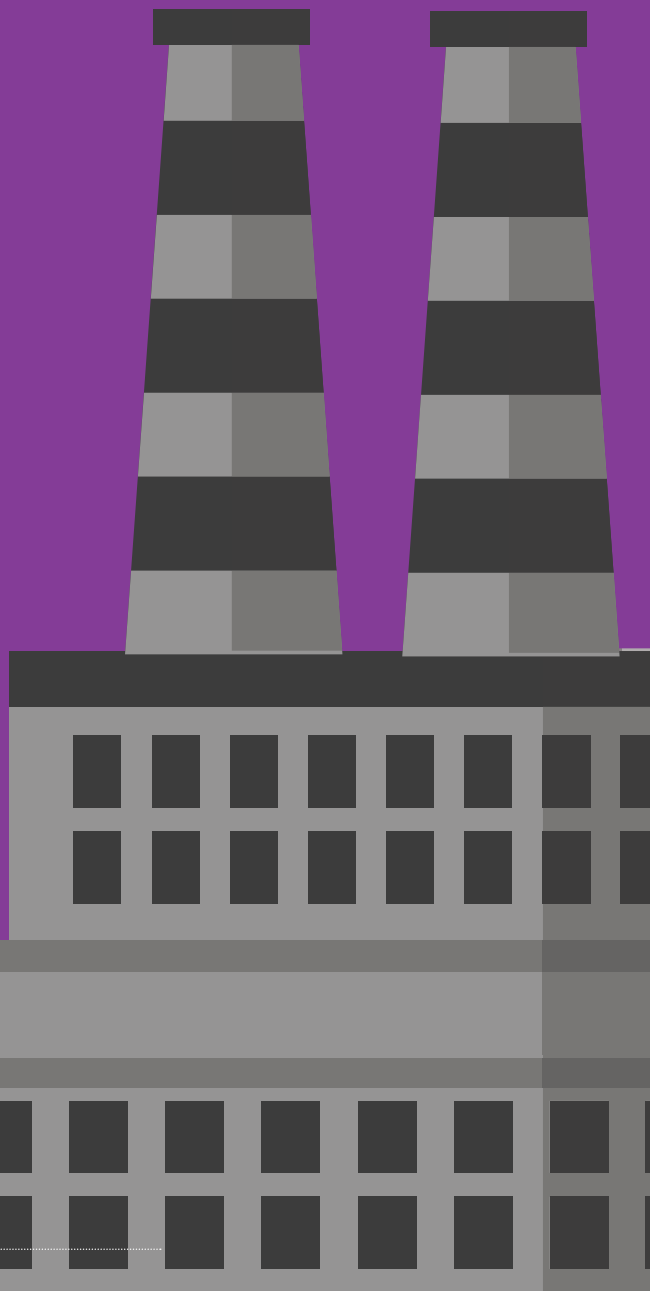
Sperrin Metal Products Limited

Moyola Precision Engineering

Specialist Group

Ezystak Conveyors

Engineering + Robotics



PRINT & PICTURES

Alley Theatre, Strabane

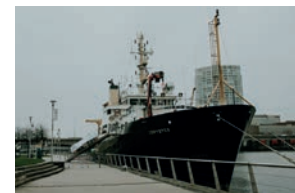
From Thurs 15 February

10am - 4pm : Free

Suitability: All Ages

Immerse yourself in Strabane's unparalleled photography and printing heritage, featuring iconic images from AJ Welch to Herbert Cooper, alongside rare artefacts and historical printing equipment, celebrating the town's pivotal role in Ireland's cultural legacy.

History + Society



AFBI RESEARCH VESSEL TOURS

Queen's Quay, Titanic Quarter,
Belfast

Check Website for Details

Sessions run hourly
between 10am - 4pm

Free : Suitability: All Ages

Explore the AFBI Research Vessel R.V. Corystes! Take part in hourly guided tours offering insights into the ship's operations, meeting the crew and scientists.

All children must be accompanied by an adult. Not accessible for wheelchairs or for people with mobility issues.

Environment + Nature



MATHS MILE

Various locations across
Belfast City Centre

Ongoing Throughout The Festival
Free

Suitability: All Ages

Embark on a maths-filled journey through Belfast City Centre, engaging in family-friendly problem-solving activities tailored for 4-10 year-olds, organised by Ulster University experts and the ESRC-funded Centre for Early Mathematical Learning, with a chance to win prizes by uploading your completed map to our website!

Science Communication

NISF X LUMI

Queen's Film Theatre, Belfast

Date & Time: Various

£8.40 full / £7 concession

Suitability: 8+

Embark on cinematic journey at the NI Science Festival with a selection of films specially curated by the Lumi Programmers at Queen's Film Theatre. Explore themes of love and cluelessness, class struggles, dystopian futures, and delve into Afrofuturism, challenging historical narratives through surreal lenses. Check out the website for a full list of films for all ages and interests!

TBC



LEGO® EXHIBITION

Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast

Fri 16 - Sun 18 February

Time(s): Various

£6.50 (child) / £5.50 (adult)

Suitability: 7+ & Parents/Guardians

Experience the ultimate LEGO® Exhibition featuring over 130 diverse models spanning 30 years, accompanied by engaging activities, including a Mini-Figure® Treasure Hunt, Fact Finder Quiz, Creation Station, LEGO® Games, and the thrilling opportunity to meet LEGO® Batman, promising a fun-filled day for all ages!

Create. Make. Play



STEM STORYTIME

Various libraries across NI

Check Website for Details

Time(s): Various : Free

Suitability: 4 - 8 Yrs & Parents / Guardians

Join a STEM ambassador for a story time event in the library during the NI Science Festival. Children will be treated to a selection of stories to discover science in a fun way! The books chosen will spark excitement, teach something new and make STEM accessible to children.

Science Communication



GRANNY JACKSON'S DEAD

47 Malone Road, Belfast

Thurs 15 - Sun 18 & Wed 21 - Sun 25 February

Time(s): Various

£15 / £14 concession

Suitability: 14 +

Granny Jackson's Dead...but her story isn't. Her family would like to invite all those who knew her (except the Kelly's from the Glens, anyone from the council, Big Jim, Miss Gilmour, and Brendan -he knows what he did) to pay their respects and give her a good send off. She will be dearly missed by her devoted, adoring, clever, beautiful, hardworking, long-suffering, generous-to-a-fault daughter Susan,

Art + Science



ART VS. AI

ArtisAnn Gallery, Belfast

Ongoing Throughout The Festival

12pm - 5pm : Free

Suitability: All Ages

An exhibition showcasing AI-generated artworks mimicking renowned artists alongside original pieces created by both artists and using AI as a tool, highlighting the symbiotic relationship between technology and creative expression.

Art + Science

SCIENCE SANDWICH - LUNCHTIME LECTURES!

The Black Box, Belfast

Thurs 15 - Fri 23rd

12:45pm - 1:30pm

£8 (Price includes a sandwich + coffee/tea)

Suitability: 14+

THURS 15TH: GREEN SOFTWARE

Marc Niven, Innovation Lead, Kainos

Explore the future of sustainable software, where we delve into eco-friendly innovation and sustainable practices shaping a greener, more responsible digital landscape. Join Marc Niven, Innovation Lead at Kainos, to discover how software development can lead the way in minimising the environmental impact of the product and services we use.

TUES 20TH: MAYFLIES IN THE MISTS OF TIME

Helen James, Senior Curator of Natural Sciences, National Museums NI

Mayflies are an ancient lineage of freshwater insects, with fossil records extending back some 300 million years. Today, they are considered sensitive indicators of environmental change, and many studies use them for this purpose.

WED 21ST: THAT TIME IT RAINED FOR TWO MILLION YEARS

Mike Simms, Curator of Geology, National Museums NI

In 1987 two geologists, Mike Simms and Alastair Ruffell, both now in Northern Ireland, discovered evidence for a huge increase in rainfall 233 million years ago. Now considered as the 'Dawn of the Modern World', how was it discovered, and how has it influenced the World around us today?

THUR 22ND FEB: SAVING ISLAND WILDLIFE BY AIR, LAND AND SEA!

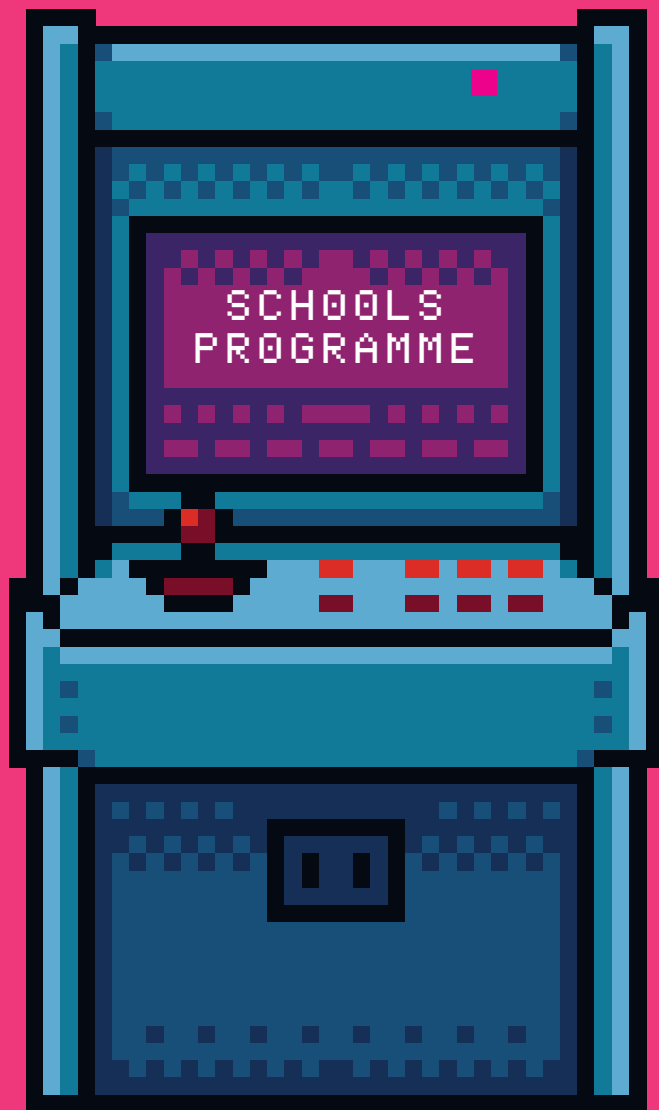
John Kelly, LIFE Raft Programme Manager, RSPB

Preventing extinctions is a tough job, but somebody's gotta do it. Join us to learn just how important islands are and hear about the RSPB's work to prevent extinctions on islands both here at home in Northern Ireland and much further afield. A globe spanning journey with helicopters, research ships, rope access and much more.

FRI 23RD FEB: CAN YOU DIG IT?

Dr Stu Farrimond, trained medical doctor and Sunday Times best-selling author

Join Dr. Stuart Farrimond, renowned for simplifying science, in an enlightening session demystifying gardening. Whether you're an old hand or a rookie, this session is for anyone who's been left confused by gardening's forest of gobbledygook and strange rituals. You'll leave with the confidence to dig it like a pro!



TEACHERS AND EDUCATORS

take a look at our exciting Schools programme. With over 60 events to choose from, there surely is something for all Key Stages and abilities.



DISCOVER THE HEAT BENEATH YOUR FEET

Geothermal energy is a low carbon and renewable energy source that has the power to heat and cool our homes and buildings 24 hours a day, whatever the weather!

GeoEnergy NI, delivered by the Department for the Economy, is showcasing the potential of this important resource, and the benefits it could bring Northern Ireland.

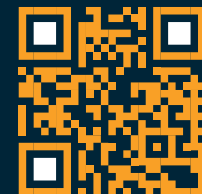
Want to find out more?

Visit the project's interactive, mobile GeoEnergy Discovery Centre!

Enjoy:

- Virtual reality technology
- Handling Northern Irish rocks that are hundreds of millions of years old
- Fun activities and experiments for all ages

To find out more about GeoEnergy NI and the GeoEnergy Discover Centre visit: www.GeoEnergyNI.org



A pixelated space scene with a blue sun at the top center, several planets of different sizes and colors (blue, green, yellow, red) scattered throughout, and a background of stars and nebulae. The text "WHY SCIENCE?" is centered in the middle of the image.

WHY SCIENCE?

NISCIENCEFESTIVAL.COM