

The poster features a topographic map background with various colored regions: a light blue sky at the top, an orange band, a teal band with white contour lines, an orange band, another teal band with white contour lines, and a dark blue base with white contour lines. A dark blue octagon is centered in the upper half, containing the event title in white. The dates are printed in white at the bottom.

NI SCIENCE FESTIVAL

**11-22
FEBRUARY
2026**

FUNDERS



PARTNERS



NORTH WEST & EDUCATION PARTNER



BOOK SELLER PARTNERS



LITTLE ACORNS BOOKSTORE

DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

Welcome to the 12th NI Science Festival — twelve years of big ideas, bold thinking, and brilliant people coming together to celebrate the wonder of science.

Each year, the festival grows not just in scale but in ambition, and this edition is no exception. Over the next 12 days, we're thrilled to present a programme that brings STEAM to life through thought-provoking talks, joyful experimentation, and powerful storytelling for all ages.

We are honoured to welcome some of the UK's most inspiring communicators. Professor Alice Roberts returns with her signature blend of insight and wonder, inviting us to think more deeply about humanity's past and future. Professor Jim Al-Khalili joins us to explore the cutting edge of quantum physics and we're also delighted to host Dick Strawbridge, whose engineering know-how and infectious enthusiasm continue to spark the imaginations of makers and innovators everywhere.

This year's programme also ventures into new creative terrain with Never Always Ever Was in Portaferry, a unique fusion of art, STEAM and storytelling that invites audiences to experience science from a fresh perspective. Plus, we're charting new territory with Maps and Memories, our new programme exploring 200 years of the Ordnance Survey first detailed mapping of Ireland.

And none of this would exist without our phenomenal team and partners. Their passion, graft, and imagination have shaped this year's festival from the ground up — thank you!

So dive in, explore, follow your curiosity, and join us in celebrating the North's biggest, boldest festival of science and ideas.

Enjoy every moment!

Sarah Jones, Director

MINISTER'S WELCOME

Increasing our skills base is key to delivering a sustainable, prosperous economy. Since 2015 the Science Festival has entertained and inspired tens of thousands of people every year, stimulating an interest in STEM subjects. I am proud that my Department is continuing to support the festival as it continues its successful journey.

Economy Minister Dr Caoimhe Archibald

FESTIVAL TEAM

Director
Sarah Jones

Creative Producer
Jillian Thompson

Events & Project Officer
Stephanie Garner

Marketing Manager
Andrew Moore

Education & North West Manager
Rachel McDermott

Festival Assistant
Husk Bennett

Maps & Memories Project Coordinator
Polly Garnett

Accounts Officer
Lynsay Warnock

Communications & PR
Orry Robinson & Aimee Moore
(JComms)

Design
Jeffers & Sons

FESTIVAL BOARD

Prof Victoria Simms (Chair)
Prof Jonathan Wallace (Vice-Chair)
Judith Harvey (Treasury)
Claire Burgoyne (Secretary)
Dr Donna Rogers
Simon Bailie
Cailin Lynn
Simon Sellars
Prof Dermot Green
Prof Tony Byrne
Marty Harvie
Rebecca Shields
Dr Maeve Liston

GENERAL ENQUIRIES

NI Science Festival
The Crescents Arts
2-4 University Road
Belfast, Antrim BT7 1NH
T. 028 9162 9204

Box Office: 028 9024 6609
info@nisciencefestival.com
Charity Number: NIC100332

Social Media @niscifest



BOOKING INFORMATION

All events can be booked online through our website at www.nisciencefestival.com

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

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

All children attending must be accompanied by an adult.

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.

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.

Thanks to Halifax Foundation NI we will have a number of BSL and captioned events available - please check our website for details.

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**

PROGRAMME CHANGES

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



Events marked with this symbol form part of Maps & Memories, a two-year community heritage project celebrating 200 years since the Ordnance Survey began its first mapping survey on Divis Mountain.

WEDNESDAY 11 FEBRUARY

ANCIENT EGYPTIAN LIVES

AS REVEALED BY
MODERN SCIENCE
JACK KERR
MEMORIAL LECTURE

ELMWOOD HALL, QUB
TUES 10 FEBRUARY
6:30PM
£5

Explore how modern science has transformed our understanding of ancient Egypt. This lecture from Professor Rosalie David OBE traces groundbreaking discoveries revealing how disease, diet, climate change, and medical practices shaped one of the world's oldest civilizations, offering fresh insight into the lives, health, and beliefs of Egyptians across more than 7,000 years of history.

All Ages
SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY

TUESDAY
10
FEBRUARY



STONEY BEGINNINGS

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE
OF NORTHERN IRELAND,
BELFAST

WED 11 FEBRUARY

1PM

FREE

Geologist Ian Enlander and archaeologist Maia Giles explore Antrim's link between geology and archaeology, revealing how pyrometamorphic sites formed prized Neolithic porcellanite axes—both tools and ritual objects and showcasing examples from HED collections.

14 Yrs +

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



EXTINCTION EXPLORERS

ULSTER MUSEUM,
BELFAST

WED 11 & THURS 12
FEBRUARY

2PM

FREE

Enjoy a free, family-friendly tour of the Ulster Museum's nature galleries. Journey through time to uncover signs of extinct species, discover animals that still roam the wild today, and finish with hands-on investigative activities in the museum's research classroom.

5 - 11 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



THE BIG PICTURE

START GALLERY,
DUNGANNON

WED 11 FEBRUARY

2PM

£20

A cosmic art workshop where children design a nebula-inspired wall mural using mixed media, sponges, paint pistols and balloons, then create shimmering 'cosmic dust' from coloured salts and glitter to take home.

6 - 11 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

ART & SCIENCE



THE ULTIMATE BUBBLE SHOW

ARMAGH PLANETARIUM
WED 11 - SAT 14
FEBRUARY

CHECK WEBSITE
FOR TIMES

£12/£40 FOR
FAMILY OF 4

Ray Bubbles, Guinness World Record bubbleologist, delivers a spectacular science-meets-art show featuring volcano, carousel, ghost and tornado bubbles—all leading to the ultimate square bubble. Fun and accessible for all ages.

All Ages

ART & SCIENCE



THE SCIENCE OF THE CORN MILL

ULSTER FOLK MUSEUM,
CULTRA

WED 11 FEBRUARY

11AM & 1PM

£8.50 CHILD
£13.50 ADULT

A watermill is a centuries-old renewable-powered machine of wheels, cogs and millstones that grinds grain into flour. Visit Straid Corn Mill at the Ulster Folk Museum to explore its simple, effective workings in action.

12 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



LOOK CLOSER: SCREENINGS & MINI LAB WORKSHOPS

ULSTER FOLK MUSEUM,
CULTRA

WED 11 FEBRUARY

10:30AM, 12PM & 2PM

£6

Join us for a Tiny Wonders screening and Mini Lab exploration. With scientists from Queen's and CeDaR, kids use real microscopes to study natural curiosities—bring something tiny to investigate! Parental supervision required.

All Ages

ART & SCIENCE

W5 ON TOUR: THE HUNT

EXTREME EXISTENCE

SPACE THEATRE
BANGOR (11TH) /
NEWCASTLE COMMUNITY
CINEMA (12TH) /
ARDHOWEN THEATRE /
ENNISKILLEN (13TH)
& ROE VALLEY CENTRE /
LIMAVADY (14TH)

WED 11 - SAT 14 FEBRUARY
11AM

£8

The W5 team presents an interactive, demo-packed show exploring how animals hunt, hide and survive. You choose the creatures, and they reveal the adaptations. Expect fun science, audience participation, and time to quiz presenters and explore props afterward.

5-14 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



NISF
ROADSHOW



THE MAGICAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING SHOW

NEW GATE ARTS CENTRE, DERRY~LONDONDERRY

WED 11 FEBRUARY

11AM & 2PM

£8

Scientific Sue's Magical Science and Engineering Show blends toys, circus gadgets, and household items with magical stories to reveal the science behind illusions, inspiring young audiences with funny, immersive, and imaginative experiments.

5-14 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



THE RISE OF AGENTIC AI

ULSTER UNIVERSITY, BELFAST

WED 11 FEBRUARY

3PM

FREE

An interactive session exploring agentic AI, systems that make decisions, set goals and act autonomously. Through demos and discussion, discover current capabilities, future opportunities and the ethical challenges of trusting machines to think and act for us.

14 Yrs +

TECHNOLOGY & AI



DR BOT: WHY DOCTORS CAN FAIL US—AND HOW AI COULD SAVE LIVES

CRESCENT ARTS CENTRE, BELFAST

WED 11 FEBRUARY

7PM

£7

matrix.

Charlotte Blease explores how carefully applied AI could enhance patient experience and support doctors. Drawing on expert interviews, she shows how AI is already improving diagnosis, treatment, and aftercare, with potential to transform healthcare.

14 Yrs +

HEALTH AND THE HUMAN BODY

HORRIBLE SCIENCE WITH NICK ARNOLD!

SPACE THEATRE, BANGOR (11TH), NEWCASTLE COMMUNITY CINEMA (12TH), ARDHOWEN THEATRE, ENNISKILLEN (13TH) & ROE VALLEY CENTRE, LIMAVADY (14TH)

WED 11 - SAT 14 FEBRUARY

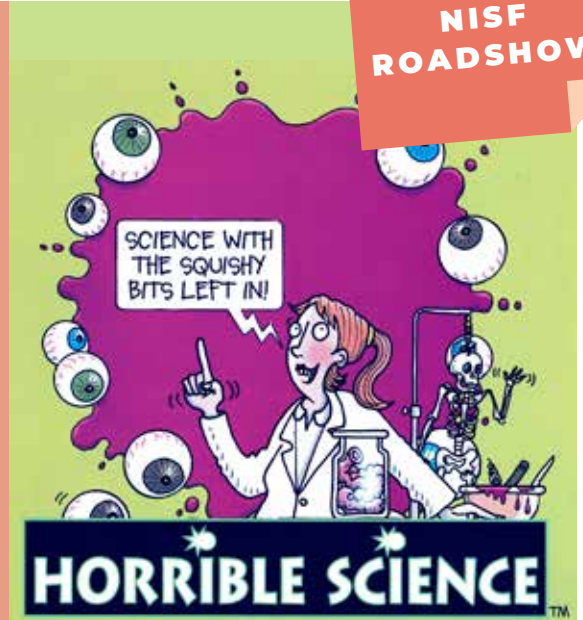
3PM

£8

Nick Arnold, creator of Horrible Science, delivers a riot of outrageous experiments, revolting facts and hilarious mayhem, with quizzes, hands-on challenges and gloriously gross science—perfect for anyone who loves things that ooze, squelch and stink.

5-14 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

ART & SCIENCE



**NISF
ROADSHOW**

ART CURE

THE SCIENCE OF HOW THE ARTS TRANSFORM OUR HEALTH

CRESCENT ARTS CENTRE, BELFAST

WED 11 FEBRUARY

8PM

£10

Professor Daisy Fancourt shows how the arts enhance health—boosting brain development, resilience, and recovery, reducing stress, depression, and pain, building neural pathways, and lowering risks of loneliness and frailty to help us thrive.

16 Yrs +

BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR



CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF TOXIC MASCULINITY

SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES BUILDING, QUB

WED 11 FEBRUARY

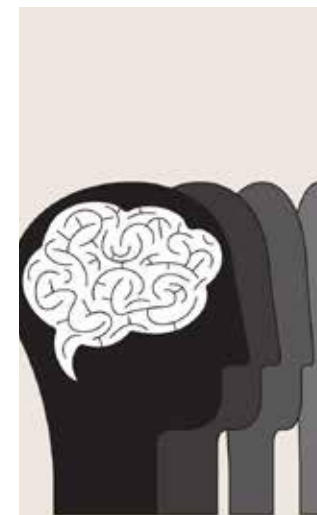
7PM

FREE

Dr Paul Caplat explores the social and economic costs of toxic masculinity, showing how harmful gender stereotypes affect men and society, and how cultural change can foster healthier, more inclusive masculinity.

18 Yrs +

BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR



THE SCIENCE OF AUDHD

WITH PROF JAMES BROWN SEEDTALKS

THE MAC, BELFAST

WED 11 FEBRUARY

8PM

£18

Professor James Brown explores AuDHD, where autism and ADHD combine into a distinct brain profile, examining genetic and neurological roots, burnout risks, and differences in executive function, emotion, sensory processing, and medication responses.

16 Yrs +

BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR

MARIE CASSIDY

SEAMUS HEANEY
HOMELAND,
BELLAGHY (11TH)
THE MAC, BELFAST
(12TH)

WED 11 & THURS 12
FEBRUARY

7.30PM

£16 - £14

Dr. Marie Cassidy, Ireland's former State Pathologist, reflects on her extraordinary forensic career, her transition to bestselling writing, and insights gained from decades uncovering truth in complex cases.

18 Yrs +

BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR



THE SCIENCE OF FLANN O'BRIEN

THE PLAYHOUSE,
DERRY~LONDONDERRY

WED 11 FEBRUARY

7.30PM

£8

Professor Dermot Diamond examines how science in Flann O'Brien's work, often placed in surreal, absurd contexts, shapes his distinctive writing, culminating in *The Third Policeman*, a prime example of scientific imagination.

14 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



THE SCIENCE & STORIES BEHIND THE FIRST 6" MAP OF IRELAND

ORDNANCE SURVEY
NI OFFICES, BELFAST

WED 11 FEBRUARY

2PM

FREE - BOOKING
ESSENTIAL

Explore Ireland's surveying history, from Great Theodolites to modern mapping, and its impact on understanding landscapes. Experts Ken Stewart and Professor Keith Lilley lead this lunchtime talk at Ordnance Survey NI's headquarters.

14 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE
& HISTORY



PARFUL POWERPOINT PRESENTATION PARTY

THE BLACK BOX,
BELFAST

WED 11 FEBRUARY

7:30PM

£9 - £5

A PowerPoint party for the perennially curious! Each presenter has ten minutes to share a hot take, ranking, or arcane knowledge. Cosy, stimulating, and delightfully nerdy, it's the perfect night out for curious minds.

18 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE
& HISTORY



TRACING YOUR ROOTS

MAGHERA HERITAGE
CENTRE

WED 11 FEBRUARY

7PM

£6.50

This event explains how to research family history, source genealogy records, create family trees, and use resources like public records, census data, newspapers, and genetic testing to uncover lineage.

18 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY

THE NEUROSCIENCE OF TRAUMA

UNRAVELING MENTAL
HEALTH IN IRELAND
SEEDTALKS

THE MAC, BELFAST

WED 11 FEBRUARY

5.30PM

£18

Dr Michael Keane explains how trauma reshapes the brain, affecting memory, emotion, and stress. Explore resilience, recovery, and emerging therapies, with insights from imaging research, the Irish context, and a Q&A session.

16 Yrs +

BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR



AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY

10 FEBRUARY

EVENT	VENUE	TIME
Ancient Egyptian Lives - As Revealed by Modern Science Jack Kerr Memorial Lecture	Elmwood Hall, QUB	6:30pm

WEDNESDAY

11 FEBRUARY

EVENT	VENUE	TIME	EVENT	VENUE	TIME
The Ultimate Bubble Show	Armagh Planetarium	Various - Check Website	The Rise of Agentic AI	Ulster University, Belfast	3pm
Look Closer: Screenings & Mini Lab Workshops	Ulster Folk Museum, Cultra	10:30am, 12pm & 2pm	Horrible Science with Nick Arnold! NISF Roadshow	SPACE Theatre Bangor	3pm
The Science of the Corn Mill	Ulster Folk Museum, Cultra	11am & 1pm	The Neuroscience of Irish Trauma	The MAC, Belfast	5:30pm
The Magical Science and Engineering Show	New Gate Arts Centre, Derry / Londonderry	1am, 2pm	Dr Bot: Why Doctors Can Fail Us—and How AI Could Save Lives	Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast	7pm
W5 on Tour: The Hunt – Extreme Existence NISF Roadshow	SPACE Theatre Bangor	11am	Causes and Consequences of Toxic Masculinity	School of Biological Sciences Building, QUB	7pm
Stoney Beginnings	PRONI, Belfast	1pm	Parful PowerPoint Presentation Party	The Black Box, Belfast	7:30pm
Extinction Explorers	Ulster Museum, Belfast	2pm	Marie Cassidy In Conversation	Seamus Heaney Homeplace, Bellaghy	7:30pm
The Big Picture	The Linen Green, Dungannon	2pm	The Science of Flann O'Brien	The Playhouse Derry / Londonderry	7:30pm
The Science and Stories Behind the First 6" Map of Ireland	Ordnance Survey NI Offices, Belfast	2pm	Art Cure	Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast	8pm
Getting Started with Genealogy	Maghera Heritage Centre	7pm	The Science of AuDHD	The MAC, Belfast	8pm

THURSDAY

12 FEBRUARY

ICONS OF IRISH SEAS

ULSTER UNIVERSITY, BELFAST

THURS 12 FEBRUARY

6PM - 7:30PM

FREE

Bestselling author Olive Heffernan uncovers the dramatic struggle playing out across two-thirds of the ocean that lies beyond national borders. She will delve into icons of the natural world that are present around the island of Ireland. From the porbeagle shark to the puffin, what does the status of these creatures tell us about the need for conservation and restoration of our seas?

14 Yrs +

CLIMATE & SUSTAINABILITY



GREEN SCREEN MACHINES

BURNAVON ARTS & CULTURAL CENTRE, COOKSTOWN

THURS 12 FEBRUARY

10AM - 12:30PM
(8-12 YEAR OLDS)
& 2 - 4:30PM
(13-16 YEAR OLDS)

FREE

Step into the spotlight in this hands-on green-screen workshop! Act, direct, and edit your own short film using effects and AI, bringing dragons, galaxies, and imaginative worlds to life.

10-16 Yrs

ART & SCIENCE

METAMORPHOSIS: HOW INSECTS ARE CHANGING OUR WORLD

ULSTER MUSEUM, BELFAST

THURS 12 FEBRUARY

2PM

£7

Long before humans, insects shaped our vibrant world. Join entomologist Erica McAlister at the Ulster Museum as she reveals how these tiny creatures continue to transform science, nature, and our understanding of life in her lively, insightful style.

14 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



HOW DOES IT WORK? WITH MADDIE MOATE

THE MAC, BELFAST

THURS 12 FEBRUARY

11AM & 2PM

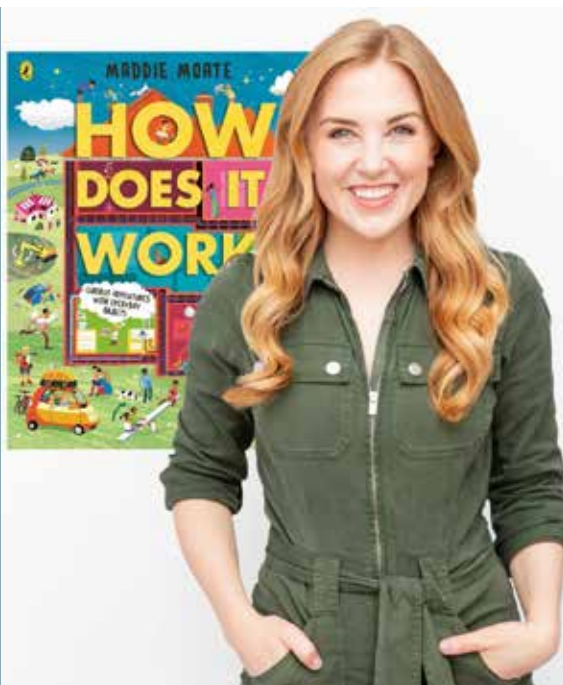
£16

Join Maddie Moate to explore everyday machines, from fridges and microwaves to diggers and fire engines. Discover how they work at home, school, and beyond through mini-adventures, puzzles, and hands-on challenges. Learn the science behind objects and gadgets while solving mazes, spot-the-difference games, and word ladders in this interactive journey.

5-14 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

ART & SCIENCE

matrix.



ORIENTEERING AT SOMERSET FOREST COLERAINE AND FLORENCECOURT ENNISKILLEN

THUR 12 FEBRUARY

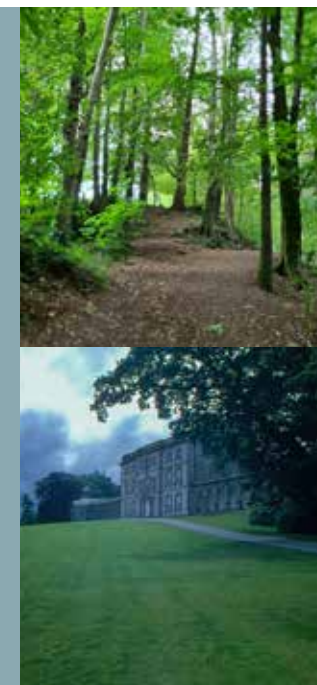
11AM & 11.30AM

FREE

Come along and explore the stunning National Trust grounds of Florence Court and along the River Bann the idyllic Somerset Forest. Orienteers will welcome you and have two courses ready for you to navigate round.

5-14 Yrs & Parents/
Guardians

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



CREATE THE CRATER

START GALLERY,
DUNGANNON

THURS 12 FEBRUARY

2PM

£20

Calling all aspiring astronauts. In this hands-on workshop, young explorers will work together to build a giant collaborative moon, complete with craters, textures, and shimmering space dust.

8 - 12 Yrs

ART & SCIENCE

TASTING NOTES: THE ART AND SCIENCE OF PAIRING BEER & MUSIC

THE COURT HOUSE, BANGOR (12TH)
& NEW GATE ARTS CENTRE, DERRY
(13TH)

THURS 12 & FRI 13 FEBRUARY

7.30PM

£28 - £20

Your brain is lying to you! Join author, broadcaster, and beer lover Pete Brown for a fun, insightful evening exploring how your senses really work. Combining neuroscience, storytelling, humour, music, and, of course - beer tasting, Pete will guide you through six award-winning beers while revealing surprising connections between taste, sound, and perception. Open your ears, your mind, and your palate, you'll never think about beer or music the same way again!

18 Yrs +

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



A LOOK AT THE STARS A STEP BACK THROUGH TIME

OTT CAR PARK,
HILLTOWN

THURS 12 & 19 FEBRUARY

7PM

£25

Hike the Mournes at night and discover the stars anew! Expert guides share stories from ancient Greece and Celtic Ireland to modern astronomy, combining twilight walking, storytelling, and stargazing to connect nature, history, and the cosmos.

All Ages

SPACE



BURKE & HARE BODY SNATCHERS, SERIAL KILLERS, ULSTERMEN

DICEY RILEY'S,
STRABANE

THURS 12 FEBRUARY

7:30PM

£10

Historian Andrew Johnston presents the chilling story of Ulster-born murderers, their victims, and the aftermath, including the science behind their crimes, the practice of 'burking,' and the phrenology that shaped Burke's trial.

18 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



THE FIFTH ELEMENT

MCCONNELL'S
DISTILLERY, BELFAST

THURS 12 FEBRUARY

7PM

£50

Chef Gemma Austin presents a special five-course tasting menu inspired by McConnell's 5 Year Old Irish Whisky and the science of flavour. Set in McConnell's Distillery, each course reflects a stage of whisky-making, offering sensory surprises and a unique dining experience from grain to glass in Belfast's historic Crumlin Road Gaol.

18 Yrs +

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



MINECRAFT ROCKS!

ULSTER MUSEUM,
BELFAST

THURS 12 FEBRUARY

1PM-4PM

FREE

Come along to this drop in event. Minecraft has many rock types, but what are those rocks really like? Come along to the Ulster Museum with Dr Mike Simms to find out if the real rock is as good as the Minecraft version - or even better!

5 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR



EATING DISORDERS IN NI

EMELEUS LECTURE
THEATRE QUB, BELFAST

THURS 12 FEBRUARY

6PM

FREE

Join researchers, clinicians, and those with lived experience to explore progress and challenges in addressing this silent epidemic. Hosted by Queen's University Belfast, the event encourages open, inclusive discussion for families, professionals, and the wider public.

14 Yrs +

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



THE JOY OF MISSING OUT: BREAKING FREE FROM OUR PHONES

THE BLACK BOX,
BELFAST

THURS 12 FEBRUARY

7PM

£8

Why are we glued to our phones? Explore the biology behind screen use in this three-part event. Emer Maguire reveals how dopamine drives habits, its impact on children, and the importance of a smartphone-free childhood.

All Ages

BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR



DESIGNING TOMORROW WITH ROUNDVIEW: A HANDS-ON JOURNEY TO SUSTAINABILITY

ULSTER MUSEUM, BELFAST

THURS 12 & SUN 22
FEBRUARY

10:30AM - 4:30PM

FREE

Join this interactive workshop to co-create a positive climate story using RoundView. Through games, puzzles, and art, explore environmental challenges and discover practical, hopeful solutions that inspire meaningful action.

All Ages

CLIMATE & SUSTAINABILITY

RENDR FESTIVAL

PORTVIEW TRADE
CENTRE, BELFAST

THURS 12 & FRI 13
FEBRUARY

4PM-11PM

£85

Experience two nights celebrating creativity and technology. Hear from 30+ industry leaders from Netflix, Pixar, Disney, and Epic Games, explore digital art, try new tech, enjoy the food village and arcade, and be inspired.

18 Yrs +

TECHNOLOGY & AI



AT A GLANCE

THURSDAY

12 FEBRUARY

EVENT	VENUE	TIME	EVENT	VENUE	TIME
The Ultimate Bubble Show	Armagh Planetarium	Various - Check Website	Extinction Explorers	Ulster Museum, Belfast	2pm
RENDER Festival	Portview Trade Centre, Belfast	See Website	Metamorphosis: How Insects are Changing our World	Ulster Museum, Belfast	2pm
Minecraft Rocks!	Ulster Museum, Belfast	See Website	Horrible Science with Nick Arnold! NISF Roadshow	Newcastle Community Cinema	3pm
Designing Tomorrow with Roundview: A Hands-On Journey to Sustainability	Ulster Museum, Belfast	10am - 5.30pm	Our Aquatic Environment: Icons of Irish Seas	Ulster University, Belfast	6pm
Green Screen Machines: Filmmaking Workshop	Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre, Cookstown	10am & 2pm	Eating Disorders in Northern Ireland	Emeleus Lecture Theatre, QUB	6pm
Orienteering Somerset Forest	Somerset Forest, Coleraine	11am	The JOY of Missing Out	The Black Box, Belfast	7pm
W5 on Tour: The Hunt - Extreme Existence NISF Roadshow	Newcastle Community Cinema	11am	A Look At The Stars, A Step Back Through Time	Ott Car Park, Hilltown	7pm
How Does it Work? with Maddie Moate	The MAC, Belfast	11am & 2pm	The Fifth Element	McConnell's Distillery, Belfast	7pm
Orienteering Florence Court	Florencecourt Enniskillen	11:30am	Burke & Hare: Body Snatchers, Serial Killers, Ulstermen	Dacey Riley's, Strabane	7:30pm
Our Wild Home: Exploring NI's Nature and Landscapes	2 Royal Avenue	12pm	Marie Cassidy in conversation with Alison Morris	The MAC, Belfast	7:30pm
Create The Crater	STArt Gallery, Dungannon	2pm	Tasting Notes: The Art and Science of Pairing Beer & Music	The Court House, Bangor	7:30pm

FRIDAY

13 FEBRUARY



MIMI'S TINY ADVENTURE

2 ROYAL AVENUE, BELFAST

FRI 13 & SAT 14 FEBRUARY

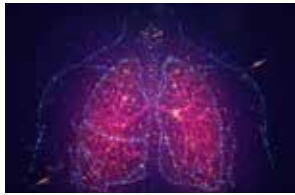
10AM - 6PM

FREE - DROP IN

Join Mimi as she rescues her granny at microscopic size, with hands-on physics experiments, arts and crafts, puzzles, and fun for the whole family.

5+ Yrs & Parents/Guardians

PHYSICS & MATHS



AN ANATOMICAL WORKSHOP

ON RESPIRATION AND DEGLUTITION

MBC BUILDING, QUB

FRI 13 FEBRUARY

12.30PM

FREE

Explore breathing and swallowing in this interactive workshop. Using 3D animation and hands-on stations, discover the four swallowing stages, breathing mechanics, and how conditions like asthma and dysphagia affect the body.

14 Yrs +

HEALTH & THE HUMAN BODY



PICK UP A PEBBLE, FIND A FOSSIL

WHITEPARK BAY, BALLYCASTLE

FRI 13 FEBRUARY

11AM - 1PM

FREE

Dr Mike Simms leads a family-friendly fossil hunt at White Park Bay. Explore ancient rocks, uncover clues to past creatures, and learn to spot fossils on this time-travelling adventure.

5+ Yrs & Parents/Guardians

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE

CHEMISTRY AND THE CELTS

ULSTER MUSEUM, BELFAST

FRI 13 FEBRUARY

11AM, 1PM, 3PM

£8

Journey with Scientific Sue to explore Celtic chemistry, iron, tools, dyes, and medicines, through hands-on experiments, storytelling, and spectacle in a fun, family-friendly celebration of science and history.

5-14 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



INNOVATION IN ACTION: AN ENGINEERING RESEARCH SHOWCASE

ASHBY BUILDING, QUB

FRI 13 FEBRUARY

9AM - 3:30PM

FREE

Explore innovation at the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Research Showcase. Discover interactive displays, tours, and presentations highlighting world-class facilities, industry collaborations, and groundbreaking research shaping a better future.

14 Yrs +

ENGINEERING & ROBOTICS

BAKINEERING TAKES FLIGHT

THE MAC, BELFAST (13TH) & NEW GATE ARTS CENTRE, DERRY (14TH)

FRI 13 & SAT 14 FEBRUARY

2PM

£12 - £10

Discover the surprising links between baking and aerospace in Andrew Smyth's "bakineering" show. Through live demos, learn how everyday treats reveal engineering secrets behind flight in this fun, hands-on experience.

All Ages

ENGINEERING & ROBOTICS



matrix.



BODY MOT: HEALTH ASSESSMENTS FROM THE NICOLA STUDY

NI CLINICAL RESEARCH FACILITY (NICRF), BELFAST CITY HOSPITAL

FRI 13 FEBRUARY

10AM - 1PM

FREE

NICOLA staff from QUB host a hands-on health station at Belfast City Hospital. Try grip strength, balance, blood pressure, and body composition assessments while learning about healthy ageing. Open to all 50+.

50 Yrs +

HEALTH & THE HUMAN BODY



THE SECRET LIFE OF SMARTPHONE MINERALS!

SCHOOL OF CHEMISTRY AND CHEMICAL ENGINEERING, QUB

FRI 13 FEBRUARY

10AM

FREE

Explore the critical minerals in smartphones, from cobalt in batteries to rare earths in speakers. Examine samples, trace their journey from mine to mobile, and learn how science drives sustainable supply chains.

All Ages

CHEMISTRY & MINERALS



GET ARTY WITH ARCHAEOLOGY

ULSTER MUSEUM, BELFAST

FRI 13 FEBRUARY

10AM - 12PM

FREE

Join HERoNI archaeologists Bronagh Murray and Hannah Parker for a hands-on workshop. Make a pop-up castle or replica Bann disc, handle prehistoric pots and artefacts, and explore heritage sites with interactive Historic Environment Map Viewer demonstrations.

All Ages

ART & SCIENCE



CRAFTERS OF THE FORGE

PATTERSON'S SPADE MILL, TEMPLEPATRICK
FRI 13 - SUN 15 FEBRUARY

10AM, 12:30PM & 2:30PM
£25

Experience traditional craftsmanship in this hands-on blacksmithing workshop with the National Trust. Learn forging techniques and create your own coat hook. Wear sturdy shoes, old clothes, and bring a water bottle.

14 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY

BOGLAND: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

ULSTER AMERICAN FOLK PARK, OMAGH

FRI 13 FEBRUARY
11AM

£13

Explore the last raised bog at Ulster American Folk Park. Learn its history, hear about restoration from Ulster Wildlife and Conservation Volunteers, and join hands-on conservation work. Wellies recommended for muddy fun!

8 Yrs +

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



BUILD YOUR OWN PLANET & ITS INHABITANTS

START GALLERY, DUNGANNON
FRI 13 FEBRUARY

2PM

£20

Children become space explorers in this creative workshop, designing alien planets and the creatures that inhabit them. Using paints, collage, and model-making, they craft unique worlds filled with lava, crystals, or strange forests.

8 - 12 Yrs

ART & SCIENCE



CREATING COLOUR IN ART

ULSTER MUSEUM, BELFAST

FRI 13 FEBRUARY

2PM

FREE

Learn about how artists created colour in the past, by looking at a range of objects on display in the Ulster Museum. Get involved in a 'colour search' to add to your own artists' palette board. Then, grind your own minerals and mix your paints to create your own unique colours.

5-11 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

ART & SCIENCE



POX, PLAGUES & PAUPERS: HORRIBLE HISTORIES OF BELFAST

BELFAST CITY HOSPITAL (MEETING POINT)

FRI 13, FRI 20 & SAT 21 FEBRUARY

2PM

£15

Explore 19th-century Belfast with Dr Robyn Atcheson. Discover how people coped with disease, how doctors treated the sick, and the fears surrounding workhouses, hospitals, and body-snatchers on this revealing tour.

12 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



MEET THE FOOD NERDS!

CO-CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS, ULSTER UNIVERSITY, COLERAINE

FRI 13 FEBRUARY

11AM & 2PM

FREE

Discover how food scientists use household data to tackle health and sustainability challenges. Explore felt food activities, take part in a mini survey, and meet the team behind a groundbreaking food and health study!

All Ages

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



FROM INK TO IMPACT: SCIENTIFIC HERITAGE IN SPECIAL COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES

MCCLAY LIBRARY, QUB

THURS 12 FEBRUARY

11AM, 2PM & 3:30PM

FREE

QUB Special Collections & Archives presents a drop-in exhibition exploring scripts, and artefacts, from Thomas Andrews' papers to Isaac Newton's works, revealing how science has evolved at Queen's since 1845.

16 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



WEARABLE AI ADVENTURE: FROM MOTION TO MEANING

COMPUTER SCIENCE BUILDING, QUB

FRI 13 FEBRUARY

12:30PM

FREE

Discover how tiny sensors track steps and power everyday gadgets—from phones and watches to cars and robots. See sensors in action at this interactive, hands-on event for all ages.

16 Yrs +

TECHNOLOGY & AI

AN EVENING WITH DICK STRAWBRIDGE

ARDHOWEN THEATRE, ENNISKILLEN (13TH) & HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE (14TH)

FRI 13 & SAT 14 FEBRUARY

7.30PM

£25 - £18.50

Join engineer and sustainability advocate Dick Strawbridge for an evening exploring engineering, heritage restoration, and sustainable living. With lively discussion, Q&A, and contributions from local heritage apprentices, the event celebrates craftspeople, conservation, and innovation—highlighting how practical skills and creative thinking can inspire future careers.

14 Yrs +

SOCIETY CULTURE & HISTORY





WILDLIFE WALK

ULSTER FOLK MUSEUM, CULTRA

FRI 13 FEBRUARY

2PM

£12

Take a beginner's guided walk with CEDaR to uncover Ulster's hidden wildlife. Learn to identify and record plants and animals, contributing to research that supports biodiversity and tracks species trends.

All Ages

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



FROM MOVEMENT TO MAGIC

QUB CAPTURE STUDIO

FRI 13 FEBRUARY

3PM

FREE

Discover the tech behind blockbuster movies in this interactive demo. See motion capture and immersive visual effects in action, as experts show how real-time movements become stunning visuals on an LED wall.

All Ages

TECHNOLOGY AND AI



UNITED & UNIQUE: SEPARATED BY GEOGRAPHY, UNITED BY COMMUNITY

QUEEN'S FILM THEATRE, BELFAST

FRI 13 FEBRUARY

4:30PM

FREE

A short film by care-experienced youth from South Africa and NI, sharing their journeys, friendships, and stories of life in and after care, highlighting differences in policy, practice, and hopes for change.

12 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



HEARTS & CRAFTS

MEDICAL BIOLOGY CENTRE, QUB

FRI 13 FEBRUARY

6:30PM

£2

Explore human anatomy with QUB. View rare specimens and a live beating heart via ultrasound, then design your own anatomy-inspired tote bag. Materials and guidance provided; suitable for all skill levels.

15 Yrs +

ART & SCIENCE

VAMPIROLOGY: THE SCIENCE OF HORROR'S MOST FAMOUS FIEND WITH KATHRYN HARKUP

THE MAC, BELFAST

FRI 13 FEBRUARY

7:30PM

£12

Explore the vampire myth with Dr Kathryn Harkup, tracing its global stories from folklore to pop culture, and uncover how science can explain the origins, fears, and enduring appeal of this legendary fiend.

14 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



NEVER ALWAYS EVER WAS

PORTICO, PORTAFERRY

FRI 13 FEBRUARY

7PM

£15

Never Always Ever Was follows Danny from Belfast and Julia from Port Fairy across decades, exploring identity, home, and the far-reaching impact of their choices after a fateful New Year's Eve meeting in 1989, weaving together love, ambition, and the search for purpose.

14 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY

BRITISH COUNCIL
Northern Ireland



UNDER PRESSURE: HOW THOMAS ANDREWS SHAPED QUEEN'S, SCIENCE, & BELFAST

THE GREAT HALL, QUB
FRI 13 FEBRUARY

6:30PM

FREE

Explore the legacy of Thomas Andrews, 19th-century scientist and first QUB Vice-President. Experts discuss his discoveries and lasting impact on science, education, and civic life in Belfast during Queen's 180th celebrations.

12 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



STARGAZING EVENING

ARMAGH PLANETARIUM

FRI 13 & FRI 20
FEBRUARY

6:45PM

£10

Experience stargazing at Armagh Planetarium with guided telescope views, a stunning dome show, and access to exhibitions and the Data Visualisation Lab—perfect for newcomers and seasoned stargazers alike.

All Ages

SPACE & ASTRONOMY



PISEÓG: BAD LUCK OF THE IRISH

THE PLAYHOUSE,
DERRY~LONDONDERRY

FRI 13 FEBRUARY

7:30PM

£10

Historian Andrew Johnston explores Ireland's superstitions, from magpie counts to broken mirrors, revealing how culture, psychology, and chance shaped beliefs in luck and the darker fears behind misfortune.

14 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



TOO MUCH AUTONOMY!

COMPUTER SCIENCE BUILDING, QUB
FRI 13 FEBRUARY

2PM

FREE

Explore autonomous AI in this interactive session with Dr Vishal Sharma. Through live demos with robots and computers, step in as the human in the loop and see how coding keeps AI safe and reliable.

14 Yrs +

TECHNOLOGY & AI

AT A GLANCE FRIDAY 13 FEBRUARY

EVENT	VENUE	TIME	EVENT	VENUE	TIME
RENDR Festival	Portview Trade Centre, Belfast	See Website	Bakineering Takes Flight	The MAC, Belfast	2pm
The Ultimate Bubble Show	Armagh Planetarium	Various - Check Website	Build Your Own Planet & Its Inhabitants	STArt Gallery, Dungannon	2pm
Innovation in Action: An Engineering Research Showcase	Ashby Building, QUB	9am - 3:30pm	Too Much Autonomy!	Computer Science Building, QUB	2pm
Mimi's Tiny Adventure	2 Royal Ave, Belfast	10am - 6pm	Creating Colour in Art	Ulster Museum, Belfast	2pm
Body MOT: Health Assessments from the NICOLA Study	NICRF, Belfast City Hospital	10am - 1pm	Pox, Plagues & Paupers: Horrible Histories of Belfast	Belfast City Hospital	2pm
Crafters of the Forge	Crafters of the Forge Patterson's Spade Mill, Templepatrick	10am, 12:30pm & 2:30pm	Wildlife Walk	Ulster Folk Museum, Cultra	2pm
What's in Your Pocket? The Secret Life of Smartphone Minerals!	School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, QUB	10am	Horrible Science with Nick Arnold! NISF Roadshow	Ardhowen Theatre, Enniskillen	3pm
Get Arty with Archaeology	Ulster Museum, Belfast	10am	From Movement to Magic: Real-Time Motion Capture & Visual Effects	QUB Capture Studio	3pm
Chemistry and the Celts	Ulster Museum, Belfast	11am, 1pm, 3pm	United & Unique: Separated by Geography, United by Community	Queen's Film Theatre, Belfast	4:30pm
Meet the Food Nerds!	Ulster University, Coleraine	11am & 2pm	Under Pressure: How Thomas Andrews Shaped Queen's, Science, & Belfast	The Great Hall, QUB	6:30pm
Pick Up A Pebble, Find A Fossil	Whitepark Bay, Ballycastle	11am	Hearts & Crafts	Medical Biology Centre, QUB	6:30pm
Bogland: Past, Present, Future	Ulster American Folk Park, Omagh	11am	Stargazing Evening	Armagh Planetarium	6:45pm
W5 on Tour: The Hunt - Extreme Existence NISF Roadshow	Ardhowen Theatre, Enniskillen	11am	Never Always Ever Was	Portico, Portaferry	7pm
From Ink to Impact: Scientific Heritage in Special Collections & Archives	McClay Library, QUB	11am, 2pm & 3:30pm	Tasting Notes: The Art and Science of Pairing Beer & Music	New Gate Arts Centre, Derry / Londonderry	7:30pm
An Anatomical Workshop on Respiration and Deglutition	MBC Building, QUB	12:30pm	Piseóg: Bad Luck of the Irish	The Playhouse, Derry / Londonderry	7:30pm
Wearable AI Adventure	Computer Science Building, QUB	12:30 pm	Vampirology with Kathryn Harkup	The MAC, Belfas	7:30pm
			An Evening with Dick Strawbridge	Ardhowen Theatre, Enniskillen	7:30pm
			Listen to the Land Speak: A Journey of Return	An Carn, Maghera	7pm

SATURDAY 14 FEBRUARY

CONNECTING THROUGH ARCHAEOLOGY

SOUTH DINING HALL,
QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY,
BELFAST

SAT 14 FEBRUARY
10AM
FREE

Experience flint knapping, blacksmithing and clay pot making, handle ancient artefacts with archaeologists, and discover ancestral skills and excavation stories—all in a fun, family-friendly setting at Queen's.

All Ages
SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



YE BIG RIDE

SKETRICK CASTLE,
KILLINCHY

SAT 14 FEBRUARY
10AM & 2PM
£65

Join a Valentine's Day Ye Big Ride Pedal & Picnic! Explore Strangford Lough on a guided electric bike tour, enjoying stunning views, castles, and monastic sites. Stop for an artisan picnic at Nendrum, hear local history, and experience an adventure with wind in your hair.

14 Yrs + & Parents/Guardians
ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



FAMILY FUN DAY AT NI-HPC

THE CUBE, QUEEN'S
STUDENT UNION

SAT 14 FEBRUARY
10AM - 2PM
FREE

Understand more about AI and supercomputing at the NIHPC open day with interactive demos, STEM activities, and showcases revealing how Northern Ireland's fastest computer powers breakthroughs in science, health, climate, and more.

All Ages
HEALTH & THE HUMAN BODY



CANCER RESEARCH CENTRE OPEN DAY

JOHNSTON CANCER
RESEARCH CENTRE,
BELFAST

SAT 14 FEBRUARY
10AM
FREE

Step inside the Johnston Cancer Research Centre to explore lab life, meet researchers, try hands-on experiments, and learn how cutting-edge work at Queen's advances cancer prevention, treatment, and inspires future scientists.

All Ages
HEALTH & THE HUMAN BODY



GEOLOGY ROCKS IN THE MOURNES

CARRICK LITTLE TOP
CAR PARK

SAT 14 & SUN 22
FEBRUARY
9AM - 4PM
£70

Hike the trail and journey back in time on this hands-on geology adventure in the Mourne—an immersive, day-long blend of hiking, history, science and nature guaranteed to excite.

14 Yrs +
ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



SYNTH HACKATHON

SONIC ARTS RESEARCH
CENTRE, BELFAST
SAT 14 & SUN 15
FEBRUARY

9:30AM - 5PM
FREE

Join a two-day, hands-on workshop with Noise Guaranteed to design and build unique electronic instruments. All materials provided—just bring your passion for sound. No experience needed.

14 Yrs +
ART & SCIENCE



DNA IN A DAY

W5, BELFAST
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
10AM
£15

Unlock the mysteries of your DNA in this immersive "DNA in a Day" workshop. Over six hours, explore human genetics through hands-on experiments including DNA isolation, PCR, and gel electrophoresis.

All Ages
HEALTH AND THE HUMAN BODY

DREAMING OF RHYTHM: A SCIENTIFIC EXPLORATION OF DRUMMING PERFORMANCE

OH YEAH MUSIC CENTRE,
BELFAST

SAT 14 FEBRUARY
10AM - 12 NOON
FREE

Explore the physical, social, and psychological benefits of rock drumming. Morning talks and live demonstrations reveal cutting-edge research, while afternoon drop-in sessions invite everyone young and old to meet the team, connect, and have a go at drumming.

14 Yrs +
ART & SCIENCE





FUN WITH FOSSILS

CARRICKFERGUS MUSEUM
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
10AM
FREE

Create your own fossil replica in this hands-on workshop using plaster of Paris and moulds. Learn about East Antrim's rich fossil heritage from experts and take home your own ammonite or sea urchin fossil inspired by local finds.

5 Yrs + & Parents/Guardians
 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



LOVE BUG HOTEL

START GALLERY, DUNGANNON
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
10AM & 2PM
£20

In this Valentine's Day workshop, children will sculpt their very own "love bugs" and create a vibrant, artistic miniature world where their bugs can live in harmony.

All Ages
 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



SLIEVE GULLION GEO-HIKE

SLIEVE GULLION, MEIGH
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
10AM - 4PM
£40

Witness Slieve Gullion's dramatic geology on a guided hike, discovering a volcanic conduit, the world's first ring dyke, a 5,000-year-old passage tomb, and myths like Fionn Mac Cumhaill's legendary exploits.

14 Yrs +
 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



QUB PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY DAY

THE GREAT HALL, QUB
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
10:30AM - 3:30PM
FREE

Explore the frontiers of physics with space activities, Northern Lights demos and solar viewing, then dive into atomic-scale research, lasers and futuristic materials—hands-on fun for all ages in astronomy and beyond.

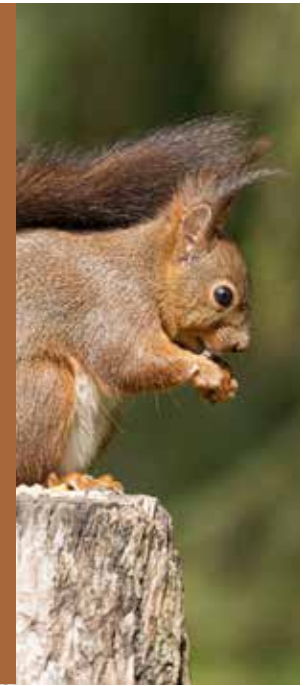
All Ages
 PHYSICS & MATHS

QUEEN'S BIOLOGY SHOWCASE

SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES, QUB
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
10:30AM - 1:30PM
FREE

Discover how life on Earth offers clues to life beyond at Queen's Biological Sciences Showcase. Meet researchers and creatures, explore footprints, insects, DNA and more through interactive exhibits, talks and hands-on activities.

All Ages
 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



ROCKET SCIENCE FOR BEGINNERS: AN IDIOT'S GUIDE

LANYON BUILDING, QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
10AM, 12PM & 2PM
FREE

An introduction to rocket science from the ground up, featuring a talk and live demo exploring amateur rocketry and the principles that make rockets fly and land. Get hands-on with air and water-powered rockets to experience the simplest form of rocket engines in this fun, interactive session.

12 Yrs +
 SPACE & ASTRONOMY



NEST QUEST: NATURE'S MASTER BUILDERS

HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE AND GARDENS
SAT 14 & 21 FEBRUARY
10:30AM, 12:15PM & 2PM
FREE WITH ADMISSION TO THE CASTLE

Step into the secret world of birds, explore nests, tracks, and eggs, and try building your own with natural materials. A hands-on outdoor workshop blending biology, engineering, and creative problem-solving.

All Ages
 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



MOUNT STEWART'S AMAZING MICROCLIMATE

MOUNT STEWART, NEWTOWARDS
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
10:30AM & 1:30PM

£3 (PRICE INCLUDES ENTRY TO MOUNT STEWART)

Explore Mount Stewart's exotic gardens on a 2.5 km walk with the National Trust and University of Bristol, discovering how climate data informs the sustainability of plants facing storms, sea level rise, and extreme weather.

14 Yrs +
 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



SARC MOBILE

VARIOUS LOCATIONS
ROUND BELFAST -
CHECK WEBSITE

SAT 14 & SUN 15
FEBRUARY
FREE

Experience immersive audio-visual soundscapes with the SARC Mobile at surprise Belfast locations. Designed by Professor Pedro Rebelo and the Sound Space Environment team, small groups can explore live and pre-recorded multichannel recordings.

14 Yrs +

ART & SCIENCE

FUTURE HEROES: HEALTHCARE THROUGH SIMULATION

KN CHEUNG SK CHIN
INTERSIM CENTRE, QUB
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
11AM & 2PM
£3.50

Discover the surprising Step into Queen's InterSim Centre and experience life as a healthcare hero! Families can try ageing suits, use real clinical equipment, and explore teamwork and skills in this fun, hands-on session.

All Ages

HEALTH & THE HUMAN BODY



A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO THE SCIENCE OF COMPOST

HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE
& GARDENS
SAT 14 & 21 FEBRUARY
11AM & 1:30PM
£20.80

Learn the science of composting and healthy soil at Hillsborough Castle. Explore pH, texture, soil organisms, and the carbon-to-nitrogen ratio. Tour the Walled Garden, compost yard, and gardeners' base, with hands-on activities. This outdoor event is suitable for beginners.

14 Yrs +

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE

DISCOVER THE UNIVERSE IN 3D

BLACK BOX, BELFAST
NERVE CENTRE,
DERRY~LONDONDERRY
SAT 14 & SAT 21
FEBRUARY
11AM, 2PM AND 4PM
£5

Step into space like never before with The Cosmos: A 3D Journey Through Space, a breathtaking visual and narrated experience from the NI Space Office and partners. Explore the birth of stars, galaxies and new missions in this inspiring, curriculum-linked show for all ages.

All Ages

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



SOLVING THE PUZZLE OF MEMORY

CIRCUSFUL, BELFAST
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
11AM
£5

Discover how memories form and explore memory techniques in this talk using blindfold Rubik's cube solving. Learn practical exercises, tips, and scientific principles to boost short-term memory and retention.

14 Yrs +

HEALTH & THE HUMAN BODY



HOW BAD ARE BANANAS?

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY,
BELFAST
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
11AM - 2PM
FREE

Join Queen's Sustainability Team for a fun, interactive game exploring the environmental impact of everyday choices and encouraging reflection on consumption, waste, and planetary effects.

All Ages

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY: AN EXPLORATION OF STONE TOOLS

CARRICKFERGUS MUSEUM
AND CIVIC CENTRE
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
11AM
FREE

Archaeologist Scott Ingram leads a workshop on stone tool identification and analysis. Learn to spot worked flint, understand knapping, uncover historical insights, and watch a live demonstration by an expert flintknapper.

12 Yrs +

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE

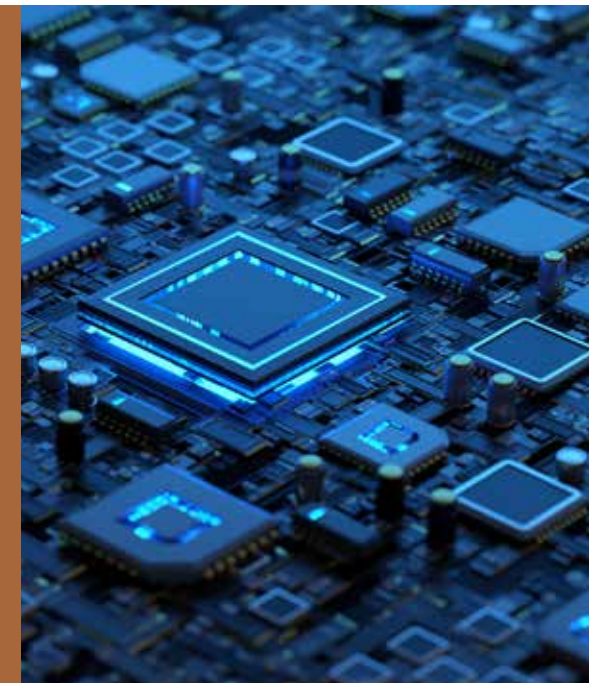
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE & THE COMPUTING THAT DRIVES IT

COMPUTER SCIENCE
BUILDING, QUB
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
11AM
FREE

Find out how AI shapes daily life, from social media to ChatGPT. This session covers AI principles, vulnerabilities, and the high-performance computing and energy demands powering these technologies.

12 Yrs +

TECHNOLOGY & AI





BUILD THE UNIVERSE!

LANYON BUILDING, QUB
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
11:30AM & 2PM
FREE

Come along and build the Universe! Ever wondered what a black hole actually looks like? Or why does the sun have layers? In a creative journey taking you from the centre of the Earth to the edge of a black hole, we will explore how astronomers see the Universe via art! In this workshop you will draw, sculpt and discover the inner workings of the cosmos.

All Ages

SPACE

LEFT, RIGHT, AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN:

THE SCIENCE OF HANDEDNESS

SEAMUS HEANEY
CENTRE, QUB
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
11AM & 2PM
£2

Why are some people left-handed, and why do we often confuse left and right? Clinical Professor Gerry Gormley explores handedness and spatial orientation with interactive demos, audience participation, and neuroscience insights.

12 Yrs +

HEALTH & THE HUMAN BODY



LOVE YOUR HEALTH: HOW SCIENCE TACKLES DISEASE

WELLCOME-WOLFSON
INSTITUTE FOR EXPERIMENTAL
MEDICINE, QUB
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
1PM
FREE

Join WWIEM scientists for an interactive look at cutting-edge healthcare research. Explore vision, kidney, heart, and lung disease studies, and discover microbes and the immune system through hands-on demos and activities.

All Ages

HEALTH & THE HUMAN BODY



BOG GOTHIC: BOGLANDS IN IRISH LITERATURE

CRESCENT ARTS
CENTRE, BELFAST
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
12PM - 2:30PM
£30 & £25 CONCESSION

Explore the mysterious influence of bogs on Irish literature in this reading and writing workshop. Study excerpts of bog-inspired texts and engage in creative exercises inspired by these iconic landscapes.

18 Yrs +

ART & SCIENCE



BMS CHILL: THE SCIENCE OF SOUND AND CALM

CRESCENT ARTS
CENTRE, BELFAST
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
1:30PM & 3:30PM
£5

Experience the calming and energising power of music at a relaxed CHILL concert by Belfast Music Society. Sensory-friendly performances explore sound's effects on mind and body in a welcoming, flexible environment.

0-14 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

ART & SCIENCE

MINI MOON

THE BLACK BOX,
BELFAST
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
1PM
£5

Mini Moon is an awesome club for children from the disabled and/or neurodiverse community who like to party and have a good time. It brings people together to enjoy a colourful, social gathering in a relaxed and friendly space. We will have Bricks4Kidz with a science lego workshop for you to enjoy.

0-10yrs + parents

ENGINEERING & ROBOTICS



PAINTING WILDLIFE AND NATURE WITH GOUACHE

CRESCENT ARTS
CENTRE, BELFAST
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
12PM - 3PM
£35 & £30 CONCESSION

Designed for all skill levels, this session will guide you through the basics of using gouache paint—learning techniques like layering, blending, and colour mixing—through the fun and inspiring subject of wildlife.

14 Yrs +

ART & SCIENCE

COLIN STAFFORD-JOHNSON

ULSTER MUSEUM,
BELFAST
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
2PM
£10

An inspiring conversation with Kathy Clugston exploring Colin's past and his beautiful Wild Garden project. Discover how his creative vision has transformed nature, art and memory, sharing stories of growth, resilience and the joy of cultivating wild spaces.

14 Yrs +

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE





CELL EXPLORERS

WELLCOME-WOLFSON INSTITUTE FOR EXPERIMENTAL MEDICINE, QUB

SAT 14 FEBRUARY
1:30PM, 2:30PM, 3:30PM
£2

Step inside the world of cell science! Explore how researchers study human cells to understand disease and develop treatments, with hands-on activities, lab tours, and a glimpse of real medical research.

All Ages

HEALTH & THE HUMAN BODY



QUB EXPERIMENTAL MEDICINE ADVANCED IMAGING CORE FACILITY TOUR

WELLCOME-WOLFSON INSTITUTE FOR EXPERIMENTAL MEDICINE, QUB

SAT 14 FEBRUARY
2PM & 3PM
FREE

Explore the hidden world of microscopic life with microscopy demos and fluorescent samples. Learn techniques like confocal, multiphoton, and electron microscopy, and discover WWIEM research on eye disease, cancer, and more.

12 Yrs +

HEALTH & THE HUMAN BODY



FROM GREY WOLVES TO GREY SQUIRRELS

ULSTER MUSEUM, BELFAST

SAT 14 & 15 SUN FEBRUARY
2PM
FREE

Join us for a 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.

All Ages

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



WHY QUEEN'S? WHY 1845?

EMELEUS LECTURE THEATRE, QUB

SAT 14 FEBRUARY
2PM
FREE

Explore the origins of Queen's University Belfast and why Queen's College was founded in 1845. Three historians reveal the story through political, social, and intellectual perspectives, uncovering the forces that shaped its foundation and early development.

14 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY

LIVING AUTOPSY

CRESCENT ARTS CENTRE BELFAST
SAT 14 FEB, 7.30PM

THE PLAYHOUSE, DERRY
SUN 15 FEB, 2PM
£12

Pathologists Rebecca Hassard and Rossa Inglis demonstrate a post-mortem using a live actor. Learn about instruments, procedures, organ examination, tests, and the role of pathologists in determining causes of death.

14 Yrs +

HEALTH & THE HUMAN BODY



DEADLY DINNER

THE WALLED CITY BREWERY, DERRY~LONDONDERRY
SAT 14 FEBRUARY
7PM

£65 + BOOKING FEE

Join chemist Dr Kathryn Harkup for an evening of food and fascination. Enjoy a LegenDERRY welcome drink, three-course dinner by Michelin-trained chef Tufty Moran, and curated drink pairings with each course.

14 Yrs +

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

SUMMIT SCIENCE: HOW DIVIS HELPED MEASURE THE EARTH

DIVIS AND THE BLACK MOUNTAIN, BELFAST

SAT 14 FEBRUARY
1:30PM
FREE - BOOKING REQUIRED

Discover how Divis Mountain helped measure the Earth 200 years ago in the geodesy quest. Join experts Keith Lilley and Ken Stewart on a guided walk exploring historic surveys and modern mapping techniques.

14 + (with parent/guardian)

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



HISTORICAL WRECK TOUR

BALLYCASTLE MARINA (MEETING POINT)

SAT 14 & 21 FEBRUARY
2:30PM
£70

Embark on a seafaring journey along the Causeway Coast to explore the rich maritime history of its many shipwrecks. Travel around Rathlin Island with expert guides sharing stories of treasure, tragedy, smuggling, and war, from World War wrecks to the legendary Spanish Armada galleass Girona.

All Ages

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



NATURE LOVERS CANOODLING

CASTLE ISLAND, ENNISKILLEN

SAT 14 FEBRUARY
6PM
£40

Relish a tranquil paddle around Enniskillen, the distinctive island town of Ireland, followed by a delightful coffee, tea, or soft drink, complemented with romantic treats at the Castle Island café.

18 Yrs +

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



LOVE TO DEATH: CRIMES OF PASSION OF IRELAND

THE SUNFLOWER, BELFAST

SAT 14 FEBRUARY
7:30PM
£12

Historian Andrew Johnston presents a Valentine's talk on Irish crimes of passion, exploring jealousy, rage, and despair in violent acts, "heat of passion" defenses, and the psychology, biology, and social context behind them.

18 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY

AT A GLANCE

SATURDAY

14 FEBRUARY

EVENT	VENUE	TIME
The Ultimate Bubble Show	Armagh Planetarium	Various - Check Website
SARC Mobile	Various Locations - Check Website	Check Website
Geology Rocks In The Mournes	Carrick Little Top Car Park	9am - 4pm
Synth Hackathon	Sonic Arts Research Centre, Belfast	9:30am - 5pm
The Skills of our Ancestors & Connecting Through Archaeology	South Dining Hall, QUB	10am
DNA in a Day	W5, Belfast	10am
Johnston Cancer Research Centre Open Day	Johnston Cancer Research Centre, Belfast	10am
Crafters of the Forge	Patterson's Spade Mill, Templepatrick	10am, 12:30pm & 2:30pm
Mimi's Tiny Adventure	2 Royal Ave, Belfast	10am - 6pm
Ye Big Ride	Sketrick Castle, Killinchy	10am & 2pm
Dreaming of Rhythm: A Scientific Exploration of Drumming Performance	Oh Yeah Music Centre, Belfast	10am - 4pm
Slieve Gullion Geo-Hike	Slieve Gullion, Meigh	10am - 4pm
Family Fun Day at NI-HPC	Queen's Student Union, Belfast	10am - 2pm

EVENT	VENUE	TIME
Rocket Science for Beginners: An Idiot's Guide	Lanyon Building, QUB	10am, 12pm, 2pm
Fun with Fossils	Carrickfergus Museum	10am
Love Bug Hotel	STArt Gallery, Dungannon	10am & 2pm
Queen's Biology Showcase	School of Biological Sciences, QUB	10:30am - 1:30pm
QUB Physics and Astronomy Day	The Great Hall, QUB	10:30am - 3:30pm
Nest Quest: Nature's Master Builders	Hillsborough Castle and Gardens	10:30am & 1:30pm
Mount Stewart's Amazing Microclimate	Mount Stewart, Newtownards	10:30am & 1:30pm
Future Heroes: Healthcare Through Simulation	KN Cheung SK Chin InterSim Centre, QUB	11am & 2pm
W5 on Tour: The Hunt – Extreme Existence NISF Roadshow	Roe Valley Centre, Limavady	11am
Cutting Edge Technology: An Exploration of Stone Tools	Carrickfergus Museum	11am
Solving The Puzzle of Memory	Circusful, Belfast	11am
Artificial Intelligence & the Computing that Drives It	Computer Science Building, QUB	11am
A Beginner's Guide to the Science of Compost	Hillsborough Castle & Gardens	11am & 1:30pm

EVENT	VENUE	TIME
How Bad are Bananas?	Queen's University, Belfast	11am & 2pm
Future Heroes: Healthcare Through Simulation	KN Cheung SK Chin InterSim Centre, QUB	11am & 2pm
Left, Right, and Everything In Between: The Science of Handedness	Seamus Heaney Centre, QUB	11am & 2pm
Build the Universe!	Lanyon Building, QUB	11:30am & 2pm
Discover the Universe in 3D	Nerve Centre, Derry / Londonderry	11am, 2pm & 4pm
Painting Wildlife and Nature with Gouache	Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast	12pm
Bog Gothic: Boglands in Irish Literature	Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast	12pm
Mini Moon	The Black Box, Belfast	1pm
Love Your Health: How Science Tackles Disease	Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine, QUB	1pm
Summit Science: How Divis Helped Measure the Earth	Divis and the Black Mountain, Belfast	1:30pm
BMS CHILL: The Science of Sound and Calm	Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast	1:30pm & 3:30pm
The Science behind the Sticks	Oh Yeah Music Centre, Belfas	1:30pm & 3pm
Cell Explorers	Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine, QUB	1:30pm, 2:30pm, 3:30pm

EVENT	VENUE	TIME
Bakineering Takes Flight	New Gate Arts Centre, Derry / Londonderry	2pm
Colin Stafford Johnson	Ulster Museum, Belfast	2pm
From Grey Wolves to Grey Squirrels	Ulster Museum, Belfast	2pm
Why Queen's? Why 1845?	Elemeus Lecture Theatre, QUB	2pm,
Advanced Imaging Core Facility Tour	Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine, QUB	2pm & 3pm
Historical Wreck Tour	Ballycastle Marina (Meeting Point)	2:30pm
Horrible Science with Nick Arnold! NISF Roadshow	Roe Valley Centre, Limavady	3pm
Nature Lovers Canoodling	Castle Island, Enniskillen	6pm
Love to Death: Crimes of Passion of Ireland	The Sunflower, Belfast	7:30pm
Deadly Dinner	The Walled City Brewery, Derry / Londonderry	7:30pm
Living Autopsy	Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast	7:30pm
Dick Strawbridge in Conversation	Hillsborough Castle & Gardens	7:30pm

Schools & Educators

Discover our vibrant Schools & Educators Programme, featuring over 40 inspiring events designed to spark curiosity and a love of learning. With activities tailored to all Key Stages and abilities, there's something for every student.

From hands-on workshops to expert-led talks, explore creative ways to bring science to life and enrich the classroom experience.



Discover
More



SUNDAY
15 FEBRUARY

QUANTUM 2.0: "SPOOKY" PHYSICS TO REVOLUTIONARY TECHNOLOGIES WITH JIM AL-KHALILI

THE WHITLA HALL, BELFAST
SUN 15 FEBRUARY
2PM

£12 / £10 CONCESSION

Physicist and broadcaster Jim Al-Khalili explores a century of quantum mechanics, its profound impact on science and technology, and the emerging world of Quantum 2.0, where superposition and entanglement are driving breakthroughs in computing, sensing, and secure communication.

14 Yrs +

PHYSICS & MATHS

matrix. **IOP**
Institute of Physics



THE SECRET LIFE BENEATH OUR FEET

ARDNAVALLY SCOUT
CENTRE, BELFAST

SUN 15 FEBRUARY
10:30AM & 2PM

£8

Discover the hidden world beneath the soil in this interactive Forest School session. After enjoying Julia Donaldson's *Superworm*, children dig, investigate worm tunnels, examine soil, and explore how tiny creatures keep nature healthy.

3 Yrs +

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



MUSIC FOR BABIES TO RAVE & SLEEP TO

OH YEAH MUSIC CENTRE,
BELFAST

SUN 15 FEBRUARY
11AM - 12:30PM

£12

Electronic-music lovers big and small can join Graham Smyth for a live performance of *Music For Babies To Rave And Sleep To*, exploring how electronic music is made, enjoying a micro-rave, a soundtracked nap, and hands-on synth fun.

0-5 & Parents/Guardians

ART & SCIENCE



THREE SECONDS ON THE MOON

SONIC ARTS RESEARCH
CENTRE, QUB

SUN 15 FEBRUARY
11:30AM

£2

Neil Armstrong changed the world with "one small step," and a universe of sounds was hidden within it. Dr Trevor Agus explores the auditory and linguistic phenomena in these three seconds, revealing the remarkable ways our ears and brains interpret sound to make sense of the world around us.

14 Yrs +

ART & SCIENCE



COLOUR THEORY FOR KIDS

CRESCENT ARTS
CENTRE, BELFAST
SUN 15 FEBRUARY
10AM & 11AM

£8

Join artist Leah Davis for a kids' workshop on colour theory! Mix primary colours, explore mark-making, and enjoy a fun, creative session with paint and materials encouraging play and imagination.

0 - 5 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

ART & SCIENCE



ULSTER MUSEUM ASTROFEST

ULSTER MUSEUM,
BELFAST

SUN 15 FEBRUARY
10:30AM - 4PM

FREE - DROP IN

Reach for the stars with the Ulster Museum and Irish Astronomical Association! Enjoy a stardome tour, learn astrophotography, handle real meteorites, and quiz astronomers on your biggest space questions.

6 Yrs +

SPACE & ASTRONOMY



PADDLE BACK IN TIME

WHITEROCK - NENDRUM
| STRANGFORD LOUGH

SUN 15 FEBRUARY
10AM

£50

Paddle Back in Time offers a guided kayak tour to Mahee Island along historic smuggling routes. Explore Nendrum's monastic ruins, uncover Strangford Lough's heritage through maps, and enjoy outdoor adventure combining movement, history, and discovery.

14 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



BLUEPRINTS: HOW MATHEMATICS SHAPES CREATIVITY WITH MARCUS DU SAUTOY

THE WHITLA HALL,
BELFAST

SUN 15 FEBRUARY
12PM

£10 / £8

Explore how maths and creativity intertwine across art, architecture and nature as Marcus du Sautoy reveals the mathematical structures shaping human imagination. Drawing on his new book *Blueprints*, he uncovers patterns, symmetry and the creative mindset behind artistic and mathematical discovery.

14 Yrs +

PHYSICS & MATHS

matrix.





THE GREAT ALIEN HUNT!

CRESCENT ARTS CENTRE, BELFAST
SUN 15 FEBRUARY
12PM

£9 / £7

Learn all about space travel, alien planets and life beyond Earth. Learn facts about the solar system, galaxies and the universe, and, most importantly, the answer to the question: "Are we really alone?" Dr Matt Bothwell is the public astronomer at the Institute of Astronomy, University of Cambridge.

6 Yrs +

SPACE & ASTRONOMY



THE SIGNS ON THE STREETS: INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE WALKING TOUR

ALBERT CLOCK, BELFAST
(MEETING POINT)

SUN 15 FEB 10:30AM
& FRI 20 FEB 2PM

£16

This fascinating walking tour uncovers the traces of Belfast's 1800s industrial boom, exploring how linen, shipbuilding, whiskey, printing and engineering shaped the city's growth from small town to industrial powerhouse.

14 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



BEHIND THE SEAMS WALKING TOUR

NEW GATE ARTS CENTRE,
DERRY~LONDONDERRY
(MEETING POINT)

SUN 15 FEBRUARY
2PM

£12

Join David from Derrie Danders on a Behind the Seams walking tour exploring shirt factories, shipyards, railways and whisky distilleries that shaped the city, finishing with a cuppa and bickies.

14 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



RASPBERRY PI DIGITAL MAKER DAY

NERVE CENTRE
BELFAST, W5 LIFE,
BELFAST

SUN 15 FEBRUARY
1:30PM - 5PM

FREE

Get hands-on with coding and digital making with the Raspberry Pi Foundation! Try unplugged activities, join a Code Club session, create your own tech projects and even send code to space at this free maker day.

9-14 Yrs

TECHNOLOGY & AI

V IS FOR VENOM: AGATHA CHRISTIE'S CHEMICALS OF DEATH

CRESCENT ARTS CENTRE,
BELFAST

SUN 15 FEBRUARY

7PM

£12

Discover how Agatha Christie used poisons in her plots as Kathryn Harkup explores fourteen toxins, their chemistry, criminal history and detectability, blending Christie's fiction with real crime and forensic science.

14 Yrs +

CHEMISTRY & MATERIALS



DOMINATION: THE FALL & RISE OF AN EMPIRE WITH ALICE ROBERTS

THE WHITLA HALL,
BELFAST

SUN 15 FEBRUARY

4:30PM

£26 / £24

Join Professor Alice Roberts on a journey through the rise of Christianity and fall of the Roman Empire. From South Wales to Constantinople, she uncovers archaeological clues, challenging history and revealing how faith spread across a collapsing empire.

14 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



MUSSEL MEMORY WITH CAITLIN KENNEDY

SONIC ARTS RESEARCH CENTRE, QUB

SUN 15 FEBRUARY
1:30PM

£2

Explore the Ballinderry riverbed and discover endangered freshwater pearl mussels, whose long lives reveal Northern Ireland's industrial past and the importance of protecting life beneath the surface through restoration efforts.

14 Yrs +

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



RIVERS & STARS

OM DARK SKY, OMAGH

SUN 15 FEBRUARY

5PM

£8

Discover the wonders of native rivers and their creatures! Little explorers will learn about Irish river species and craft their own river animals indoors. Then enjoy a guided walk to Davagh Water and, as night falls, explore the Milky Way in Northern Ireland's only Dark Sky Park.

6 - 11 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

SPACE & ASTRONOMY



KARAOKE AND SIGNEOKE

SONIC ARTS RESEARCH CENTRE, QUB

SUN 15 FEBRUARY

2:30PM

FREE

Experience the return of the over-specced Sonic Lab karaoke, featuring signeoke and sign-language interpreted performances. Singers and signers take to a massive 3D sound system with expert sound and lighting support.

12 Yrs +

ART & SCIENCE

AT A GLANCE SUNDAY 15 FEBRUARY

EVENT	VENUE	TIME	EVENT	VENUE	TIME
SARC Mobile	Various Locations - Check Website	Check Website	Blueprints: How mathematics shapes creativity with Marcus du Sautoy	Whitla Hall, QUB	12pm
Colour Theory	Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast	10am	Raspberry Pi Digital Maker Day	Nerve Centre, Belfast (W5)	1:30pm - 5pm
Paddle Back in Time	Whiterock - Nendrum	10am	Mussel Memory	SARC, QUB	1:30pm
Crafters of the Forge	Patterson's Spade Mill, Templepatrick	10am, 12:30pm & 2:30pm	From Grey Wolves to Grey Squirrels	Ulster Museum, Belfast	2pm
Ulster Museum Astrofest	Ulster Museum, Belfast	10:30am - 4pm	Behind the Seams Walking Tour	New Gate Arts Centre, Derry (Meeting Point)	2pm
The Secret Life Beneath Our Feet	Ardnavalley Scout Centre, Belfast	10:30am & 2pm	Living Autopsy	The Playhouse, Derry / Londonderry	2pm
Industrial Heritage Walking Tour - The Signs on the Streets	Albert Clock (Meeting Point)	10:30am	QUANTUM 2.0 with Jim Al-Khalili	Whitla Hall, QUB	2pm
Music for Babies to Rave and Sleep To	Oh Yeah Music Centre, Belfast	11am	Karaoke and Signeoke	SARC, QUB	2:30pm
Learning About Learning Across NI	New Gate Arts, Derry / Londonderry	11am	Domination: The Fall & Rise of an Empire with Alice Roberts	Whitla Hall, QUB	4:30pm
Three Seconds on the Moon	SARC, QUB	11:30am	Rivers & Stars	OM Dark Sky, Omagh	5pm
The Great Alien Hunt	Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast	12pm	V is for Venom: Agatha Christie's Chemicals of Death	Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast	7pm

MONDAY 16 FEBRUARY

NOT QUITE THE MENSA QUIZ

THE BLACK BOX, BELFAST
MON 16 FEBRUARY
7PM
£3 PER PERSON

Test your brainpower at 'Not Quite The Mensa Quiz'! Join us for a fun-filled evening of hard(ish) science trivia, mind-bending questions, and plenty of laughs. Grab your team, order a drink, and see if you've got what it takes to be almost brilliant. Prizes, surprises, and good vibes guaranteed!

Max 6 people per team.

18 Yrs +

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION



THE SCIENCE OF STEPS

ULSTER UNIVERSITY
MON 16 (DERRY)
WED 20 (BELFAST)
FRI 20 (COLERAINE)
6:45PM
FREE

Explore how step counts, speed and timing affect health as experts debunk myths and share new research. Interactive tasks help you compare averages, try walking intensities and rethink your steps.

12 Yrs +

HEALTH AND THE HUMAN BODY

CALL THE MIDWIFE! A BRIEF HISTORY OF PREGNANCY & CHILDBIRTH

THE GREAT HALL,
QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY
BELFAST
MON 16 FEBRUARY
7PM
£10

Historian Dr Robyn Atcheson explores how people once detected or avoided pregnancy and why childbirth was perilous, revealing centuries of evolving practices and displaying fascinating, sometimes frightening, historical medical instruments from across traditions to illuminate women's medical experiences over time.

12 Yrs +

HEALTH AND THE HUMAN BODY



PAINTING THE COSMOS

START GALLERY,
DUNGANNON
MON 16 FEBRUARY
4PM
£20

Children sculpt and paint planets, stars and celestial objects, creating a colourful collaborative solar system for the gallery, plus a mini version to take home—sparking creativity and cosmic imagination.

8 - 12 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

ART & SCIENCE

HOW FAR CAN WE FLY?

ULSTER UNIVERSITY,
BELFAST
MON 16 FEBRUARY
6:30PM
FREE

Join Carl Robertshaw to explore the science, art and nature of kites. A multidisciplinary designer, his work spans performance, engineering and major productions, working with artists such as Björk and Kylie Minogue, to the Super Bowl and London Olympics and productions including Stranger Things: The First Shadow.

14 Yrs +

ART & SCIENCE



SHOCKING: THE UNTOLD HISTORY OF PSYCHIATRY AND HOMOSEXUALITY IN NORTHERN IRELAND

THE BLACK BOX, BELFAST
MON 16 FEBRUARY
7PM
£6

This talk uncovers Northern Ireland's evolving attitudes to same-sex desire, charting how psychiatry sought to diagnose, control and "cure" it through confession, classification and harmful treatments. Through intimate stories of resistance and resilience, it reveals how queer people challenged moral panic and the authority of science, refusing to be erased.

18 Yrs +

BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR



AT A GLANCE

MONDAY

16 FEBRUARY

EVENT	VENUE	TIME
How Far Can We Fly?	Ulster University, Belfast	6:30pm
The Science of Steps	Ulster University, Derry / Londonderry	6:45pm
Painting the Cosmos	STArt Gallery, Dungannon	7pm
Call the Midwife! A Brief History of Pregnancy & Childbirth	The Great Hall, QUB	7pm
Not Quite the Mensa Quiz	The Black Box, Belfast	7pm
Shocking: The Untold History of Psychiatry and Homosexuality in NI	The Black Box, Belfast	7pm

TUESDAY

17 FEBRUARY

FAMELAB NI FINAL

THE BLACK BOX,
BELFAST
TUES 17 FEBRUARY
7PM
FREE

Join our host Emer Maguire and experience the thrilling showcase of scientific talent and communication at FameLab Northern Ireland's live final, featuring finalists competing with charm, scientific expertise, and innovation in a three-minute window.

18 Yrs +

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

matrix. ALMAC



JURASSIC ARTS: STOMP, SKETCH & SCULPT

START GALLERY,
DUNGANNON
TUES 17 FEBRUARY
4PM

£20

Travel back to the Mesozoic Era! In this workshop, children use recycled materials to build and decorate a giant dinosaur for the gallery. They'll also sculpt their own mini dino to take home, a fun reminder of their Triassic, Jurassic or Cretaceous adventure.

8 - 12 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

ART & SCIENCE



LISTEN TO THE LAND SPEAK: A JOURNEY OF RETURN (FILM)

AN CARN MAGHERA;
ENNISKILLEN HOTEL;
YARN BALLYCASTLE
FRI 13, TUES 17TH
& SAT 21ST FEBRUARY
7PM

£7

Listen to the Land Speak: A Journey of Return is an RTÉ documentary by the late Manchán Magan exploring the deep connection between Irish identity, landscape, and mythology.

18 Yrs +

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



CELEBRATING SIMON: INSPIRING FUTURES IN ONE HEALTH

SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL
SCIENCES, QUB
TUES 17 FEBRUARY
7PM

FREE

Celebrate the life and work of Professor Simon Doherty, highlighting his scientific contributions and commitment to the One Health approach, which integrates human, animal, and environmental health. The event features a Q&A Session.

14 Yrs +

HEALTH & THE HUMAN BODY



TREE NURSERY OPEN MORNING

9 SOCIAL ECONOMY
VILLAGE, BELFAST
TUES 17 FEBRUARY
11AM
FREE

Visit the Native Tree & Wildflower Nursery and discover how local volunteers grow trees and wildflowers from seed collected by the Belfast Hills Partnership. Enjoy guided tours, learn propagation techniques, meet the team, and pot your own native tree to take home

12 Yrs +

CLIMATE & SUSTAINABILITY



EXPRESS YOURSELF SOCIAL CAFE

THE BLACK BOX,
BELFAST
TUES 17 FEBRUARY
2PM
FREE

The Express Yourself Social Café is a weekly creative meetup for adults, especially D/deaf, disabled or neurodivergent participants. Join us this week for an inclusive, hands-on science workshop designed to spark curiosity and connection.

18 Yrs + Carers

ART & SCIENCE



THE GREAT WEATHER EXPERIMENT

YMCA BELFAST, THE
GLADE FOREST SCHOOL
TUES 17 & WED 18
FEBRUARY
3PM
£10

Children become weather scientists as they explore air movement, wind in nature and simple ways to measure it. They build wind machines, test flying designs and use playful clues to track and understand wind across the forest.

6 - 11 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE

IRELAND VS. THE WORLD: A CHEESE TASTING SHOWDOWN

OUT OF OFFICE BREWING,
BELFAST
TUES 17 FEBRUARY
7:30PM
£35

World Cheese Award judges Patrick McGuigan and Johnny McDowell will lead an evening of mouthwatering exploration of global and local cheesemaking. Discover how Ireland's artisan producers rival the world's best, learn the secrets of cheese judging, and taste your way through stories of heritage, skill, and flavour.

18 Yrs +

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY

17 FEBRUARY

EVENT	VENUE	TIME
Tree Nursery Open Morning	9 Social Economy Village, Belfast	11am
Express Yourself Social Cafe	The Black Box, Belfast	2pm
The Great Weather Experiment	YMCA Belfast, The Glade Forest School	3pm
Jurassic Arts: Stomp, Sketch & Sculpt	STArt Gallery, Dungannon	4pm
Listen to the Land Speak: A Journey of Return (Film)	Enniskillen Hotel, Yarn, Ballycastle	7pm
Celebrating Simon: Inspiring Futures in One Health	School of Biological Sciences, QUB	7pm
FameLab - NI Final	The Black Box, Belfast	7pm
Ireland vs. The World: A Cheese Tasting Showdown	Out of Office Brewing, Belfast	7:30pm

WEDNESDAY

18 FEBRUARY



CLIMATE CREATION: COLLAGE AND ZINES IN A CHANGING WORLD

CRESCENT ARTS CENTRE, BELFAST
WED 18 FEBRUARY
1:30PM
FREE

Explore creative responses to climate change by transforming dry facts into art. Together, we'll make zines and collages, reimagining data to engage with environmental change in imaginative, thought-provoking ways.

14 Yrs +
CLIMATE & SUSTAINABILITY



BEHIND THE SCENES CONSERVATION TOUR

HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE
WED 18 & THURS 19 FEBRUARY
1:30PM
£20.80

Discover how Hillsborough Castle preserves furniture, paintings, silverware, and clocks. Join David Orr for behind-the-scenes access, meet skilled specialists, and learn the conservation techniques that care for the castle's historic collections.

14 Yrs +
ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



DIG, BRUSH AND DISCOVER

START GALLERY, DUNGANNON
WED 18 FEBRUARY
4PM
£20

Junior archaeologists, dig into adventure! Children create mini excavation kits with 'ancient' bones and artefacts, practice observation and documentation, and take home their kits—a hands-on treasure of history and imagination.

8 - 12 Yrs + Parents/Guardians
ART & SCIENCE

BEHIND THE SCENES NATURAL SCIENCE COLLECTIONS

ULSTER MUSEUM, BELFAST
WED 18 FEBRUARY
1PM
FREE

Discover how natural science museum collections reveal past species, ecosystem health, and conservation insights. Far from static, these specimens are dynamic research hubs, continually expanding our understanding of biodiversity and the natural world.

10 Yrs +
SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



THE SCIENCE OF PERFORMANCE

ST MARY'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, BELFAST
WED 18 FEBRUARY
7PM
£22

In high performance sport, what gives individuals, coaches and teams the competitive edge? Multi All-Ireland winning coach Paddy Tally and Dr. Ciarán Kearney, Chartered Sport Psychologist with Team Ireland for Paris 2024, co-host a panel of special guests and experts to unlock the science of performance.

14 Yrs +
BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR

THE LOST GIRLS OF AUTISM

PLAYHOUSE DERRY, THE CRESCENT, BELFAST
WED 18 & THURS 19 FEBRUARY
7:30PM
£12 / £10

Why has autism long been seen as male? Professor Gina Rippon reveals how girls have been misdiagnosed or overlooked, explores masking behaviors, and calls for inclusive understanding, challenging outdated models and reshaping perceptions of neurodiversity.

14 Yrs +
BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR



FROM SHIP'S GALLEY TO FAMILY KITCHEN: HOW FOOD DEFINED THE 1ST WORLD WAR

HMS CAROLINE, BELFAST
WED 18 FEBRUARY
6PM
£10

Step aboard HMS Caroline with historian Ian Miller to explore how food, health, and nutrition shaped life at sea and ashore, from sustaining sailors to coping with rationing and shortages.

14 Yrs +
SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY

WILD IRELAND: AN EVENING WITH THE ARTIST AND HIS SCIENTIST SIDEKICK

BALLYMONEY TOWN HALL
WED 18 FEBRUARY
6:30PM - 8:30PM
£10

Join artist Julian Friers and scientist Dr Mike Simms at Ballymoney Museum's Wild Ireland exhibition. Explore wildlife past and present, discovering the creatures, landscapes, and scientific stories that inspired the paintings.

All Ages
ART & SCIENCE





TASK MASTER LEGO

ULSTER UNIVERSITY,
DERRY/LONDONDERRY
WED 18 FEBRUARY
6:30PM - 8PM
FREE

Experience LEGO like never before at Taskmaster LEGO! Families tackle timed challenges testing creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving, guided by Ulster's expert lecturers. Expect laughter, wild inventions, and prizes in this high-energy event!

All Ages

ENGINEERING & ROBOTICS

TENX9

THE BLACK BOX,
BELFAST
WED 18 FEBRUARY
7:30PM
FREE

In this special Tenx9 storytelling event, nine people share ten-minute true tales exploring how science shapes their lives. Popular and first-come, first-served—submit your story at tenx9.com/submissions.

18 Yrs +

ART & SCIENCE



OUR PERFECTLY IMPERFECT MEMORIES

CRESCENT ARTS
CENTRE, BELFAST
WED 18 FEBRUARY
7PM
£12 / £10

Psychologists Ciara Greene and Gillian Murphy explore how human memory is reconstructed, not preserved, revealing the science behind false recollections, ethical questions of memory manipulation, and surprising benefits of flexible memory.

14 Yrs +

BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR



SHAPING A REGIONAL OBESITY MANAGEMENT SERVICE

CHECK WEBSITE FOR DETAILS
WED 18 FEBRUARY
12PM
FREE

Join the discussion on Northern Ireland's 2026 Obesity Management Service. Share your views with healthcare professionals, policymakers, and the public to help shape a service that meets adults' needs and community priorities.

18 Yrs +

HEALTH AND THE HUMAN BODY

Beyond the Bridge,
Carrick-a-Rede Causeway Coastal Route

Just
a small step away,
there's a break
to suit everyone



Northern
Ireland
Embrace
a Giant
Spirit



Book your next giant adventure at
discovernorthernireland.com

AT A GLANCE

WEDNESDAY

18 FEBRUARY

EVENT	VENUE	TIME
The Magical World of Quantum	Ulster University, Belfast	11am - 3pm
Shaping a Regional Obesity Management Service		12pm
Behind the Scenes – Museum Natural Science Collections	Ulster Museum, Belfast	1pm
Behind the Scenes Conservation Tour of Hillsborough Castle	Hillsborough Castle & Gardens	1.30pm
Climate Creation: Collage and Zines in a Changing World	Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast	1.30pm
The Great Weather Experiment	YMCA Belfast, The Glade Forest School	3pm
Dig, Brush and Discover	STArt Gallery, Dungannon	4pm
From Ship's Galley to Family Kitchen: How Food Defined the 1st World War	HMS Caroline, Belfast	6pm
Task Master LEGO	Ulster University, Derry / Londonderry	6:30pm
Wild Ireland at Ballymoney: An Evening with the Artist and his Scientist Sidekick	Ballymoney Town Hall	6:30pm
The Science of Performance	St Mary's University College, Belfast	7pm
The Science of Steps	Ulster University, Belfast	6:45pm
Our Perfectly Imperfect Memories	Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast	7pm
The Lost Girls of Autism with Gina Rippon	The Playhouse, Derry / Londonderry	7:30pm
Tenx9	The Black Box, Belfast	7:30pm

THURSDAY

19 FEBRUARY

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE MAP-MAKERS WALKING TOUR WITH MARK DOHERTY

OUTDOORS - STARTS AT THE GATES OF QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY

THURS 19 FEBRUARY

2 PM

£8

Join historian Mark Doherty on a 90-minute walk exploring Irish map-making history, from the first Ordnance Survey to University-area maps, meet pioneering cartographers, and get hands-on with historic maps.

14 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



BEYOND THE HORIZON: THE NEXT LEAP IN ASTRONOMY

LAMOUR LECTURE THEATRE, QUB

THURS 19 FEBRUARY

7 PM

FREE

High in the Chilean Andes, the Vera C. Rubin Observatory houses the world's largest digital camera. Professors Mario Jurić and Meg Schwamb showcase its mission, Solar System exploration, and public participation.

All Ages

SPACE & ASTRONOMY



BRICKS & MORTAR: THE SCIENCE OF BUILDING RESTORATION

TEMPLEMORE BATHS, BELFAST

THURS 19 FEBRUARY

7 PM

£9

Learn about the science behind the restoration of historic buildings in Northern Ireland with Consarc Conservation at a special talk hosted at Templemore Baths Heritage Centre, a historic Victorian corporation bath house.

16 Yrs +

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF PHARMACY

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY, QUB

THURS 19 FEBRUARY

7 PM

FREE

Discover how Queen's School of Pharmacy improves health through research, new medicines, medical devices, and patient care. Experience practical experiments, immersive activities, and insights into training the next generation of pharmaceutical scientists.

All Ages

HEALTH & THE HUMAN BODY



ILLUMINATE THE MYSTERIES OF THE DEEP

START GALLERY, DUNGANNON

THURS 19 FEBRUARY

4 PM

£20

Dive into the Pelagic Zone, where glowing creatures light up the deep! Children explore bioluminescent marine life, create a collaborative gallery of sparkling sea creatures, and craft a mini glowing creature to take home.

8-12 Yrs

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE

THE 24TH SIR BERNARD CROSSLAND LECTURE

THE GREAT HALL, QUB

THURS 19 FEBRUARY

5:30 PM

FREE

Business Engagement at QUB and Engineers Ireland present the 2026 Sir Bernard Crossland Lecture, featuring UCD President Professor Orla Feely on "Engineering the Future: delivering through disruption," honoring the late Sir Bernard Crossland.

18 Yrs +

ENGINEERING & ROBOTICS



POWERING THE 1ST WORLD WAR: HMS CAROLINE ENGINE ROOM TALK & TOUR

HMS CAROLINE, BELFAST

THURS 19 FEBRUARY

6 PM, 6:45 PM & 7:30 PM

£10

Step into HMS Caroline's Engine Room to explore how Sir Charles Parsons' steam turbines powered WWI battleships and transformed naval engineering. Learn about his daughter, Rachel Parsons, a pioneering engineer. Surrounded by original engines from the Battle of Jutland, this talk reveals the people, power, and progress shaping the 20th century.

16 Yrs +

ENGINEERING & ROBOTICS



WHY SCIENCE? A CONVERSATION

CRESCENT ARTS CENTRE,
BELFAST
THURS 19 FEBRUARY
6 PM
FREE

Join Dr. Caoimhe Archibald, Northern Ireland's Minister for the Economy, and Professor Helen McCarthy, the Executive's first Chief Scientific and Technology Adviser with Professor Victoria Simms, for a fireside chat on STEM, sharing their careers, experiences, and passion for science and innovation.

14 Yrs +

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

matrix.



EXPERIMENTAL MEDICINE AND MUSIC WITH HIVE CHOIR

SONIC ARTS RESEARCH CENTRE, BELFAST.

THURS 19 FEBRUARY

7:30 PM

£9

Explore medical research through song. In collaboration with Queen's Wellcome-Wolfson Institute, they perform improvised, electronic-enhanced pieces on immunology, infection, vision, and vascular medicine in the immersive Sonic Lab.

14 Yrs +

ART & SCIENCE

IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT THE MEDALS: THE HIDDEN LESSONS FROM HIGH PERFORMANCE SPORT

ULSTER UNIVERSITY,
BELFAST

THURS 19 FEBRUARY

CHECK WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

Sport Northern Ireland and Ulster University present a panel on mental health in sport, exploring athlete and coach wellbeing, challenging performance-focused approaches, with insights from leading experts in research, policy, and practice.

14 Yrs +

BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR



Department for the
Economy
www.economy-ni.gov.uk

An Roinn

Geilleagair

Apprenticeships

DEPARTMENT FOR ECONOMY'S APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMMES

For a full list of frameworks please visit our NI Direct area using this QR Code

The Department for the Economy funds two Apprenticeship Programmes;

- Apprenticeship NI (Level 2 and 3)
- Higher Level Apprenticeships (Level 4 – 7)

There are many science-based vocational areas to choose from, including Life Sciences, Engineering and Pharmaceuticals.

TO MAKE IT HAPPEN



www.nidirect.gov.uk/
campaigns/apprenticeships

**NI 2-6 FEB
APPRENTICESHIP
WEEK 2026**

The Department also runs the NI Apprenticeship Week, a festival of events to find out more about apprenticeships and register with potential employers and education providers.

62. THURSDAY 19 FEBRUARY

AT A GLANCE

THURSDAY

19 FEBRUARY

EVENT	VENUE	TIME
Behind the Scenes Conservation Tour of Hillsborough Castle	Hillsborough Castle & Gardens	1:30pm
In the Footsteps of the Map-Makers Walking Tour with Mark Doherty	Queen's University, Belfast (Meeting Point)	2pm
Illuminate the Mysteries of the Deep	STart Gallery, Dungannon	4pm
Sir Bernard Crossland Lecture	The Great Hall, QUB	5:30pm
Powering the 1st World War: HMS Caroline Engine Room Talk & Tour	HMS Caroline, Belfast	6pm, 6:45pm & 7:30pm
Why Science? - A Fireside Chat	Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast	6pm
Beyond the Horizon: The Next Leap in Astronomy	Lamour Lecture Theatre, QUB	7pm
Bricks & Mortar: The Science of Building Restoration	Templemore Baths, Belfast	7pm
The Wonderful World of Pharmacy	School of Pharmacy, QUB	7pm
A Look At The Stars, A Step Back Through Time	Ott Car Park, Hilltown	7pm
The Lost Girls of Autism with Gina Rippon	Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast	7:30pm
HIVE Choir present: Experimental Medicine + Experimental Music!	SARC, QUB	7:30pm
It's Not Just About the Medals: The Hidden Lessons from High Performance Sport	Ulster University, Belfast	See Website

FRIDAY

20 FEBRUARY

ULSTER UNIVERSITY- RATHLIN ISLAND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE: HUMAN LIBRARY

RATHLIN ISLAND
FRI 20 FEBRUARY
11:30AM
FREE

Rathlin LIVE invites you to “borrow a person” instead of a book. Meet Ulster University researchers and residents, hear stories, share insights, and explore unique experiences shaped by Rathlin Island and research.

18 Yrs +
ENVIRONMENT & THE NATURE



MID-LIFE NUTRITION FOR MENOPAUSE

THE LINEN HALL,
BELFAST
FRI 20 FEBRUARY
1PM
£5

From mood swings to brain fog, menopause can be challenging. Nutritional Therapist Jane McClenaghan shares science-backed lifestyle and diet tips to help women eat well, stay strong, and thrive through midlife.

16 Yrs +
HEALTH & THE HUMAN BODY

THE MEDICAL HISTORY OF THE BELFAST CHARITABLE SOCIETY | CLIFTON ST CEMETERY TOUR

CLIFTON HOUSE, BELFAST
(MEETING POINT)
FRI 20 & SAT 21
FEBRUARY
2PM (20TH) & 10AM (21ST)
£12.50

Explore 18th- and 19th-century Belfast's medical history on a guided Clifton Street Cemetery tour. Discover pioneering surgeons, philanthropists, and their contributions, alongside epidemics, bodysnatching, and the darker side of medicine.

18 Yrs +
SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY

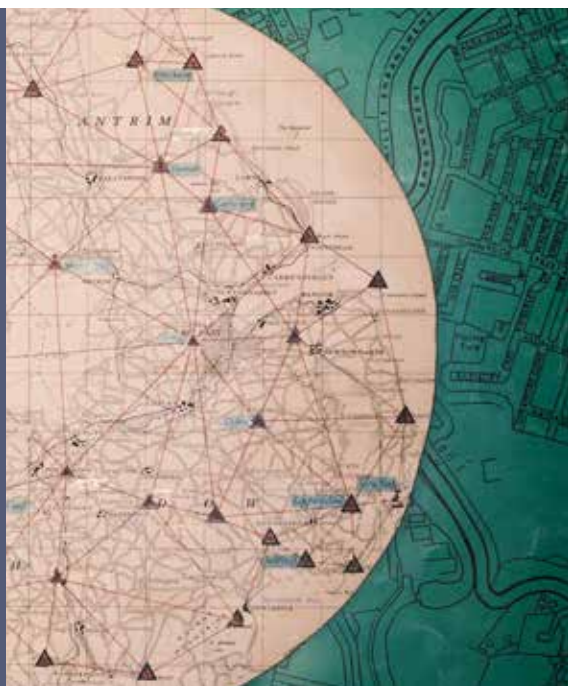


MAPS & MEMORIES

2 ROYAL AVENUE, BELFAST
FRI 20 FEBRUARY
1PM - 5:30PM
FREE - DROP-IN

Step into Maps & Memories' Cartography Corner to explore 200 years of mapping, memory, and place. Enjoy postcards for Mountain Memories, discover Ireland's first Ordnance Survey, hunt historic benchmarks, and join the Map Mingle, celebrating maps and heritage with experts and the community.

All Ages
SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



THIS WAY UP: WHEN MAPS GO WRONG (AND WHY IT MATTERS)

THE BLACK BOX,
BELFAST
FRI 20 FEBRUARY
7:30PM
£13

The Map Men showcase the very best wrong maps, ancient, decades-old, and brand new. Join a journey into cartographic chaos and mappy mishaps, where inaccuracies become entertaining, proving that sometimes the worst maps are the most fascinating.

18 Yrs +
ENVIRONMENT & NATURE





MAP MAKERS

START GALLERY,
DUNGANNON

FRI 20 FEBRUARY
4 PM

£20

Become a cartographer for a day! Young scientists create 3D maps using mixed media and recycled materials, bringing landscapes, cities, landmarks—or entirely new worlds—to life, limited only by their imagination.

8-12 Yrs

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE

F*CKUP NIGHTS BELFAST

OH YEAH CENTRE,
BELFAST

FRI 20 FEBRUARY
7 PM

£12

Failure is universal and worth celebrating! At F*ckup Nights, speakers share their biggest professional missteps with honesty and humour. Expect raw stories, hard-won lessons, great company, cold beers, and a refreshing reminder that mistakes make us stronger.

18 Yrs +

AI & TECHNOLOGY



A DISH BEST SERVED COLD?

EXPLORING THE FASCINATING PSYCHOLOGY OF REVENGE

THE GREAT HALL, QUB

FRI 20 FEBRUARY

7 PM

£5

What drives revenge? Queen's University psychologists explore its evolutionary roots, role in film and TV, and recent research, revealing a bold experiment showing how humiliation—not just anger—can spark acts of vengeance.

18 Yrs +

BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR



ONSCREEN CHEMISTRY: THE PORTRAYAL OF CHEMICAL SCIENCE IN FILM & TV

DAVID KEIR BUILDING,
QUB

FRI 20 FEBRUARY
6:30 PM

FREE

Explore the chemistry behind film and TV, discovering how science inspires art and shapes storytelling. This engaging lecture, hosted by the Royal Society of Chemistry NI and Queen's University Belfast, reveals science as a character.

12 Yrs +

CHEMISTRY & MATERIALS



STARGAZING AT HMS CAROLINE

HMS CAROLINE,
BELFAST

FRI 20 FEBRUARY

TIMES VARIOUS -
CHECK WEBSITE FOR
DETAILS

£15

Join Museums at Night inside HMS Caroline's immersive stargazing dome. Enjoy talks on the Royal Navy's celestial navigation, explore the ship after hours, and experience an evening of astronomy, heritage, and adventure.

18 Yrs +

SPACE & ASTRONOMY

W5 LATE: CSI NIGHT

W5, BELFAST

FRI 20 FEBRUARY

7 PM

£17

W5 Late invites adults to an after-hours adventure! Solve a mysterious death, try real forensic techniques, explore 250+ exhibits, climb, play, and unwind with drinks in a thrilling, hands-on evening.

18 Yrs +

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION



AT A GLANCE FRIDAY 20 FEBRUARY

EVENT	VENUE	TIME
Ulster University–Rathlin Island Knowledge Exchange: Human Library	Rathlin Island	11:30am
Maps & Memories	2 Royal Avenue, Belfast	1pm - 5:30pm
Mid-Life Nutrition for Menopause	The Linen Hall, Belfast	1pm
The Medical History of the Belfast Charitable Society Clifton St Cemetery Tour	Clifton House, Belfast (Meeting Point)	2pm
Pox, Plagues & Paupers: Horrible Histories of Belfast	Belfast City Hospital	2pm
Industrial Heritage Walking Tour - The Signs on the Streets	Albert Clock (Meeting Point)	2pm
Map Makers	STart Gallery, Dungannon	4pm
Onscreen Chemistry: The Portrayal of Chemical Science in Film & TV	David Keir Building, QUB	6:30pm
Stargazing Evening	Armagh Planetarium	6:45pm
The Science of Steps	Ulster University, Coleraine	6:45pm
F*ckup Nights Belfast	Oh Yeah Centre, Belfast	7pm
A Dish Best Served Cold? Exploring the Fascinating Psychology of Revenge	The Great Hall, QUB	7pm
W5 Late	W5, Belfast	7pm
This Way Up: When Maps Go Wrong (and Why it Matters)	The Black Box, Belfast	7:30pm
Stargazing at HMS Caroline	HMS Caroline, Belfast	Check Website

SATURDAY 21 FEBRUARY

FOYLE SCIENCE SHOWCASE

FOYLE ARENA,
DERRY~LONDONDERRY

SAT 21 FEBRUARY

10AM - 5PM

FREE

Enjoy a full day of discovery at the Foyle Science Showcase, featuring hands-on experiments, exciting shows, robotics demos and interactive exhibits. Including activities from W5, Loughs Agency, CCA, NI Water, Nerve Centre, All State, ISRC and Bat Conservation. Enjoy our live show Chemistry and the Celts with Scientific Sue. There's inspiration for all ages in a fun, family-friendly celebration of science.

5-14 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

matrix.



FAMILY TREASURE CHEST

START GALLERY,
DUNGANNON

SAT 21 FEBRUARY

10AM & 2PM

£20

Step into a world of stories as children design and decorate their own treasure chests, filling them with drawings and keepsakes that celebrate family, culture, or adventures—creating a colourful, imaginative heirloom to cherish.

All Ages

ART & SCIENCE



THE DOG IN ME

ST COLUMB'S PARK,
DERRY~LONDONDERRY

SAT 21 FEBRUARY

10AM - 3PM

FREE

Discover why positive reinforcement training is humane, effective, and strengthens the human-dog bond. Then enjoy a display team demonstration featuring reward-based group routines, individual skills, and a final joint performance.

All Ages

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



MARITIME MILE PHOTOGRAPHY TOUR

SOUND YARD, BELFAST
(MEETING POINT)

SAT 21 FEBRUARY

10:30AM

£15

This photography tour will take you along Belfast's historic waterfront, with stops at Sound Yard and the Great Light. The tour will also include Belfast Buoys, Hamilton Dock, SS Nomadic and not forgetting some of the best viewpoints along Belfast's iconic waterfront.

16 Yrs +

ART & SCIENCE



UNCOVER THE MYSTERIES OF CAVE SCIENCE

MARBLE ARCH CAVES,
ENNISKILLEN

SAT 21 FEBRUARY

9AM

£12

Embark on a family adventure exploring the science of caving. With hands-on activities, a guided showcave walk, and live demos from expert Sean Corrigan, discover how science reveals and protects our underground worlds.

7 Yrs+ & Parents/Guardians

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



DIGITAL TAPESTRY

MARKET CENTRE,
STRABANE

SAT 21 FEBRUARY

10:30AM

FREE

Join drop-in workshops to help create a digital community tapestry. All ages can sketch, design, and contribute images or words, which will be digitally transformed, professionally printed, and exhibited.

All Ages with parents/guardians

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



ORIENTEERING AT THE PLANETARIUM

ARMAGH PLANETARIUM

SAT 21 & SUN 22
FEBRUARY

11AM, 12PM, 1PM, 2PM,
3PM

£2

Discover the grounds of Armagh Planetarium as you navigate your way through checkpoints and tackle fun science questions along the way. Everyone who completes the course will receive a certificate of achievement!

All Ages

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE

ROBOTS AT WORK: TRANSFORMING FACTORIES AND HEALTHCARE

ULSTER UNIVERSITY,
BELFAST

SAT 21 FEBRUARY

10AM - 3PM

FREE

Discover how robotics is transforming manufacturing and healthcare. See collaborative robots, autonomous vehicles and 3D printers in action, try precision controls, and explore ultrasonic testing, digital twinning and intelligent systems shaping the future.

All Ages

ENGINEERING & ROBOTICS





HEDGE SCHOOL / PLANT LAB

BANK OF IRELAND,
ROYAL AVENUE,
BELFAST

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
12PM, 1PM & 2PM
£5

Explore how soil, plants, and the unknown can guide us through an uncertain future. Through hands-on experiments, discover what nature teaches about resilience, innovation, and survival in a changing world.

16 Yrs +

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



AWESOME ORNITHOLOGY - AO LET'S GO!

EVAN'S WOOD, CLABBY

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
11AM
FREE

Discover why birds sing, what they communicate, and how their songs shape ecosystems. This talk includes a hands-on demo of apps and tools to help you identify bird song in gardens and on nature walks.

12 Yrs +

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



S.O.S! SAVE OUR STUFF

CARRICKFERGUS
MUSEUM

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
11AM
FREE

Learn the science of preservation with conservator Vikki McCartney. Explore how light, temperature, humidity, and pests affect objects, try cleaning techniques on museum pieces, and receive expert advice on your own treasured items.

18 Yrs +

ART & SCIENCE

MAPPING MEMORIES: TRACING BACK THROUGH TIME

NAVAN CENTRE & FORT,
ARMAGH

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
11AM & 2:30PM
£2

Explore how your favourite places in the ABC Borough have transformed through time. Using historic maps and hands-on detective skills, participants uncover hidden stories beneath their feet in an engaging session blending geography, science and history—ideal for curious minds of all ages.

6 - 11 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



NI'S HIDDEN DEPTHS - AN EXPLORATION OF OUR MARINE LIFE

ULSTER MUSEUM, BELFAST
SAT 21 FEBRUARY
11AM

FREE

Join the QML team for a virtual dive into Northern Ireland's marine habitats, exploring decades of imagery from 1970s photography to modern 4K, and discovering remarkable underwater creatures from the familiar to the truly strange.

12 Yrs +

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



VOLCANIC BLAST

DELAMONT COUNTRY
PARK, KILLYREAGH
DELAMONT COUNTRY
PARK, KILLEAGH
SAT 21 FEB

CASTLEWELLAN
FOREST PARK
SUN 22 FEB

FREE

Learn about the fiery past of the Mourne, join in on a fun filled day of geology themed crafts and lava!

6 - 11 Yrs & Parents/Guardians

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



THE AMAZING BODY OLYMPICS

ULSTER UNIVERSITY,
COLERAINE

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
12PM
FREE

Test reflexes, strength, and stamina at The Amazing Body Olympics! Try hands-on challenges, measure reaction time, grip, balance, and heart recovery, and learn how biomedical scientists use these results to study health and performance.

6 Yrs +

HEALTH & THE HUMAN BODY



CLIMATE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

MBC, QUB

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
1PM
FREE

Step into 2035 at the Climate Emergency Department! Explore the future of healthcare as doctors face challenges from rising temperatures and extreme weather and see how you can help tackle this new reality.

10-14 Yrs + & Parents/Guardians

HEALTH & THE HUMAN BODY

BEHIND THE SEAMS EXPERIENCE

THE WALLED CITY BREWERY, DERRY~LONDONDERRY (MEETING POINT)

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
11AM
£30

Join Derrie Danders for a walk through Derry/Londonderry's industrial past—from shirt factories to shipyards, railways, and distilleries—ending at Walled City Brewery with soup, stout bread, and stories from Shirt Tales NI.

14 Yrs +
SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



COLOURFUL OCEANS

ULSTER MUSEUM, BELFAST

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
10AM & 11AM

£7

Discover the hidden beauty of microscopic marine organisms as you bring them to life with colour. This workshop combines art and science, offering a relaxing and educational experience that celebrates the wonders of the ocean's tiniest creatures.

All Ages
ENVIRONMENT & NATURE

HACK TO THE FUTURE

ULSTER UNIVERSITY, BELFAST

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
9AM - 9:30PM

FREE

matrix.

Matrix NI presents an opportunity to 'Hack to the Future' as a coder, creative, policymaker to create real world solutions to current challenges. Participate as an individual/team navigating 'world scenarios' culminating in a pitched presentation to an expert panel who will decide who has created the best hack to the future based on Matrix foresight reports.

18 Yrs +
SCIENCE COMMUNICATION



BEHIND THE SCENES AT ULSTER FOLK MUSEUM - NATURE CONSERVATION

ULSTER FOLK MUSEUM, CULTRA

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
1PM

£13.50

Go on a behind the scenes walk. Discover woodland restoration, pollinator projects, invasive species management, and hidden gems including an ancient souterrain and 700-million-year-old rock formation. Connect with nature uniquely.

14 Yrs +
ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



LANDLINES: FUTURE STORIES FROM FERMANAGH'S FIELDS

THE WORKHOUSE, ENNISKILLEN

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
2PM

FREE

Join Genene Hunter and Lucy Beattie to explore science storytelling in the JUSTLANZ case study. Hear stories envisioning Lough Erne's 2050 food and farming future, blending creativity, art, and science.

14 Yrs +
BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR

CAN GEOLOGY SAVE THE WORLD?

WITH CHRIS JACKSON

ULSTER MUSEUM, BELFAST

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
1:30PM

£5

Geologist Chris Jackson invites you to rethink geology's impact on everyday life. Journey through billions of years of Earth's history and discover how geologists address social, environmental, and economic challenges shaping the 21st century.

12 Yrs +
SCIENCE COMMUNICATION



♥ YOU

BELFAST SCHOOL OF ART

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
11AM-3PM

FREE

Discover the hidden heart in this hands-on workshop! Children will create a paper and collage model, exploring how the heart tirelessly pumps blood and oxygen around the body.

6 - 11 Yrs & Parents/Guardians
ART & SCIENCE

LOOK CLOSER: SCREENINGS & MINI LAB WORKSHOPS

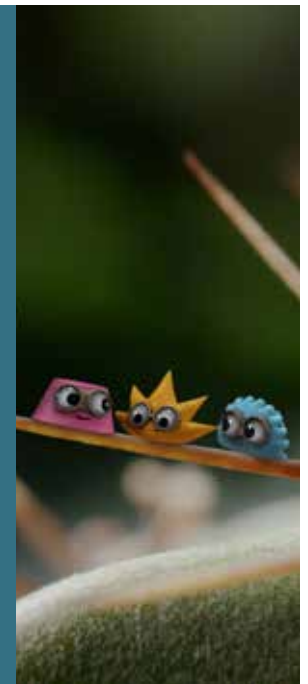
NEW GATE ARTS CENTRE, DERRY~LONDONDERRY

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
10:30AM, 12PM & 2PM

FREE

Join little explorers for *Look Closer and Discover Nature!* Watch Tiny Wonders on the big screen, then explore hands-on Mini Lab Zones with Ulster University scientists using real microscopes. Bring curiosities to examine!

All Ages
ART & SCIENCE



MAPPING IRELAND: JOE MAHON IN CONVERSATION WITH PROF KEITH LILLEY AND DR FRANCES KANE

ULSTER MUSEUM,
BELFAST

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
3PM

£5

Join UTV's Joe Mahon with Professor Keith Lilley and Dr Frances Kane to mark 200 years since the Ordnance Survey's first mapping of Ireland.

11 Yrs +

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION



MAPS & MEMORIES ART WORKSHOP: MARVELOUS MAP MAKERS

ULSTER MUSEUM,
BELFAST

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
1PM

FREE (BOOKING REQUIRED)

Create your own mystical map and hear tales of Ireland's 200-year mapping history. Learn to read maps, draw symbols, and use your imagination to design a unique world starting at Divis Mountain.

5 Yrs + & Parent/Guardian

ART & SCIENCE



FORAGING AFLOAT

STRANGFORD LOUGH
ACTIVITY CENTRE

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
10AM

£89

Join Rory for a Strangford Lough kayaking tour, exploring islands, castles, and wildlife. Then enjoy a foraging workshop with ecologists David and Celia, sampling local flavours and cooking fireside with Chef Celia Spouncer.

14 Yrs +

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE

GREEN CRIME: INSIDE THE MINDS OF THE PEOPLE DESTROYING THE PLANET, AND HOW TO STOP THEM

CRESCENT ART CENTRE,
BELFAST

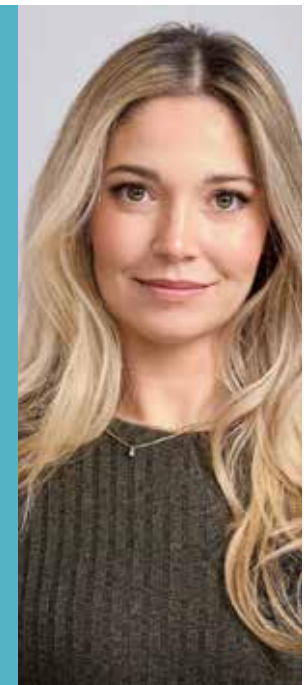
SAT 21 FEBRUARY
3PM

£15

Criminal psychologist Dr. Julia Shaw explores environmental crimes—from oil spills and emissions scandals to wildlife trafficking. Drawing on Green Crime, she examines offenders' psychology and the scientists, activists, and investigators working to protect our planet's future.

14 Yrs +

BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR



YOUR LIFE IS MANUFACTURED WITH TIM MINSHALL

CRESCENT ARTS CENTRE,
BELFAST

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
1PM

£8



RUBIK

We live surrounded by manufactured products. Tim Minshall explores how manufacturing has shaped our lives and the natural world, revealing its profound impact and potential to guide us toward a sustainable, equitable, and more conscious future.

12 Yrs +

ENGINEERING & ROBOTICS

GENERATION HOPE

ULSTER MUSEUM,
BELFAST

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
10AM - 5PM

FREE

Generation Hope empowers young people to stand up for the future, connecting with scientists, activists and creatives through talks, workshops and storytelling to explore big planetary challenges, bold solutions and build skills for meaningful climate action.

16 - 24 Yrs

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION



SCI-FI SNOBBERY

THE BLACK BOX
BELFAST

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
8PM

£13

Join Jamie Gallagher and Simon Watt to debate the greatest sci-fi film ever. Explore classics and hidden gems, weigh science versus cinematic merit, and vote along using your smartphone.

18 Yrs +

ART & SCIENCE



MOON WALK AT OM

OM DARK SKY, OMAGH
SAT 21 FEBRUARY

6PM

£10

Join OM's astronomy team in Davagh Forest for a moonlit walk through the Sperrins. Explore Northern Ireland's only Dark Sky Park, capture lunar views from the Observatory, and learn about our Moon.

All Ages

SPACE & ASTRONOMY

AT A GLANCE

SATURDAY 21 FEBRUARY

EVENT	VENUE	TIME	EVENT	VENUE	TIME
Uncover the Mysteries of Cave Science	Marble Arch Caves, Enniskillen	9am	Behind the Seams Experience	The Walled City Brewery, Derry / Londonderry (Meeting Point)	11am
Robots at Work: Transforming Factories and Healthcare	Ulster University, Belfast	10am - 3pm	Hedge School / Plant Lab	Bank of Ireland, Royal Avenue, Belfast	2pm, 1pm, 2pm
The Dog In Me	St Columb's Park, Derry / Londonderry	10am - 3pm	The Amazing Body Olympics	Ulster University, Coleraine	12pm
Foyle Science Showcase	Foyle Arena, Derry / Londonderry	10am - 5pm	Colourful Oceans: Microscopic Marine Life	Ulster Museum, Belfast	10am & 11am
Generation Hope	Ulster Museum, Belfast	10am - 5pm	A Taste for Change: Exploring the NI Food Strategy Framework	St Georges Market, Belfast	12pm
Family Treasure Chest	STart Gallery, Dungannon	10am & 2pm	Climate Emergency Department	MBC, QUB	1pm
Foraging Afloat	Strangford Lough Activity Centre	10am	Volcanic Blast	Delamont Country Park, Killyreagh	1pm
The Medical History of the Belfast Charitable Society Clifton St Cemetery Tour	Clifton House, Belfast (Meeting Point)	10am	Behind the Scenes at Ulster Folk Museum - Nature Conservation	Ulster Folk Museum, Cultra	1pm
Play & Learn with Numbers!	Ulster Museum, Belfast	10:30am	Maps & Memories Art Workshop: Marvelous Map Makers	Ulster Museum, Belfast	1pm
Digital Tapestry	Market Centre, Strabane	10:30am	Your Life is Manufactured with Tim Minshall	Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast	1pm
Maritime Mile Sound & Light Photography Tour	Sound Yard, Belfast	10:30am	Can Geology Save the World? with Chris Jackson	Ulster Museum, Belfast	1:30pm
Nest Quest: Nature's Master Builders	Hillsborough Castle and Gardens	10:30am & 1:30pm	Pox, Plagues & Paupers: Horrible Histories of Belfast	Belfast City Hospital	2pm
Look Closer: Screenings & Mini Lab Workshops	New Gate Arts Centre, Derry / Londonderry	10:30am, 12pm, 2pm	Landlines: Future Stories from Fermanagh's Fields	The Workhouse, Enniskillen	2pm
Astropark Orienteering	Armagh Planetarium	11am - 3pm	Historical Wreck Tour	Ballycastle Marina (Meeting Point)	2:30pm
Discover the Universe in 3D	Black Box	11am, 2pm & 4pm	Mapping Ireland: Joe Mahon in conversation with Keith Lilley & Frances Kane	Ulster Museum, Belfast	3pm
NI's Hidden Depths - An Exploration Of Our Marine Life	Ulster Museum, Belfast	11am	Green Crime with Julia Shaw	Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast	3pm
Awesome Ornithology - AO Let's Go!	Evan's Wood, Clabby	11am	Moon Walk at OM	OM Dark Sky, Omagh	6pm
A Beginner's Guide to the Science of Compost	Hillsborough Castle & Gardens	11am & 1:30pm	Listen to the Land Speak: A Journey of Return (Film)	Yarn, Ballycastle	7:30pm
Mapping Memories: Tracing Back Through Time	Navan Centre & Fort, Armagh	11am & 2:30pm	Sci-Fi Snobbery	The Black Box, Belfast	8pm
S.O.S! Save Our Stuff	Carrickfergus Museum	11am			

SUNDAY

22 FEBRUARY

DINOSAURS! WITH BEN GARROD

ULSTER MUSEUM, BELFAST
SUN 22 FEBRUARY
1PM
£12/10

Join Prof Ben Garrod for a thrilling prehistoric adventure as he uncovers the deadliest dinosaurs that once roamed exactly where you stand. This interactive, laugh-filled family show pits parents against kids in a fast-paced battle of dino knowledge—bigger, bolder, and more entertaining than ever.

All Ages
ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



SPLISH, SPLASH, SCIENCE!

QUARRIES FARM, BANGOR
SUN 22 FEBRUARY
10:30AM & 2PM
£8

Dive into puddles and raindrops with playful outdoor water science! Enjoy a story, explore puddles, floating, sinking, melting ice and pond life through hands-on, nature-based experiments for curious young explorers.

3 Yrs +
ENVIRONMENT & NATURE

PADDLE BACK IN TIME – TRADERS, PILGRIMS AND VIKINGS OF THE RIVER QUOILE

STRANGFORD LOUGH
ACTIVITY CENTRE, KILLINCHY
SUN 22 FEBRUARY
10AM
£50

Paddle Back in Time on a guided kayak tour of the River Quoile, exploring early settlements and Inch Abbey while uncovering how maps, place names, and medieval records reveal the river's centuries of history.

14 Yrs +
SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



EXPLORE AND CREATE

ULSTER TRANSPORT MUSEUM, CULTRA
SUN 22 FEBRUARY
11AM - 4PM
£12

Explore local inventions from the heart cart to the DeLorean, alongside transformative technologies like the steam engine. Get hands-on with creative craft stations or help build the Big Bridge in the Rail Gallery.

All Ages
ENGINEERING & ROBOTICS



NUMBERS & LANGUAGE

ULSTER MUSEUM, BELFAST
SUN 22 FEBRUARY
10AM - 12PM
FREE

A hands-on interactive workshop for parents and children with activities focusing on child development like early mathematics skills, language development, and literacy. Children can take part and parents can try out ideas and be partners in play!

3-7 yrs with parent/guardian
SCIENCE COMMUNICATION



OPEN SOUND LAB

SONIC ARTS RESEARCH CENTRE, QUB
SUN 22 FEBRUARY
1PM
FREE

Step inside the Open Sound Lab for an interactive dive into music technology. Experiment with DJ decks, electronic instruments, and Ableton Link, experience the creativity of JAM 4, and explore multiple stations designed to inspire hands-on soundmaking and collaboration.

12 Yrs +
ART & SCIENCE

WATER WONDERS ON THE LAGAN

BELFAST BARGE (NEXT TO WATERFRONT HALL)
SUN 22 FEBRUARY
11AM - 3PM
FREE (DROP IN)
SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

Step aboard the historic barge on Belfast's River Lagan for a journey through our waterways past and future. This drop-in event brings water science to life with engaging workshops, thought-provoking talks, and interactive demonstrations.

All Ages
ENVIRONMENT & NATURE





A GIANT MILLING MACHINE AT CASTLE WARD

CASTLE WARD,
STRANGFORD
SUN 22 FEBRUARY
1:30PM

FREE, WITH ADMISSION TO CASTLE WARD

A watermill is a living machine, using the power of water to drive cogwheels and millstones that turn grain into flour. Visit Castle Ward Corn Mill to see and hear this centuries-old technology in action — a simple, effective marvel of engineering.

All Ages

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY

BI: THE HIDDEN CULTURE, HISTORY AND SCIENCE OF BISEXUALITY

THE BLACK BOX,
BELFAST
SUN 22 FEBRUARY
2PM
£12 / £10

Psychological scientist and bestselling author Dr Julia Shaw traces the personal and scientific journey behind Bi, blending memoir, research, and cultural history. She examines identity, attraction, legal struggles, and the search for a “bi gene,” offering a compelling, insightful celebration of bisexual resilience and understanding.

14 Yrs +

BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR



A TASTE FOR CHANGE: EXPLORING THE NORTHERN IRELAND FOOD STRATEGY FRAMEWORK

ST GEORGES MARKET,
BELFAST

SAT 21 FEBRUARY
12-3PM

FREE

Join A Taste for Change, an immersive three-course experience exploring food, health, climate, and community in Northern Ireland. Hear from local growers, enjoy a guest chef's dishes, and shape a sustainable food future.

16 Yrs +

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



Department of
Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs

ARE YOU REALLY THE DOCTOR?: MY LIFE AS A BLACK DOCTOR IN THE NHS

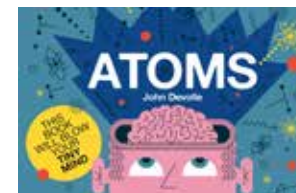
CRESCENT ARTS CENTRE,
BELFAST
SUN 22 FEBRUARY
4PM

£12 / £10

Matt Hutchinson shares an unfiltered, often funny account of life as a Black doctor in the NHS, tracing his journey from medical school to hectic hospitals. He highlights immigrant healthcare workers' vital contributions and the unique challenges faced by non-white patients navigating the system.

14 Yrs +

HEALTH AND THE HUMAN BODY



DRAW YOUR UNIVERSE

ULSTER MUSEUM,
BELFAST
SUN 22 FEBRUARY
2PM
£10

John Devolle presents Big Science for Little Minds: ATOMS and HUMANS, followed by a creative workshop to draw or collage your own universe, exploring planets, creatures, plants — and yourself made of atoms!

4 Yrs +

ART & SCIENCE

PADDLE WITH A PURPOSE

STRANGFORD LOUGH
ACTIVITY CENTRE
SUN 22 FEBRUARY
1:30PM
£45

Paddle with a Purpose on the River Quoile, collecting litter, learning local history, and playing the 'Rubbish Game'. Canoe or kayak to Inch Abbey, enjoy s'mores and hot chocolate, and discover Leave No Trace principles.

All Ages

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY

22 FEBRUARY

EVENT	VENUE	TIME
Geology Rocks In The Mournes	Carrick Little Top Car Park	9am - 4pm
Paddle Back in Time – Traders, Pilgrims and Vikings of the River Quoile	Strangford Lough Activity Centre, Killinchy	10am
Splish, Splash, Science!	Quarries Farm, Bangor	10:30am & 2pm
Designing Tomorrow with Roundview: A Hands-On Journey to Sustainability	Ulster museum, Belfast	10:30am-3.30pm
Water Wonders on the Lagan	The Belfast Barge	11am - 3pm
Astropark Orienteering	Armagh Planetarium	11am - 3pm
Learning About Learning Across NI	Ulster Museum, Belfast	11am
Explore and Create	Ulster Transport Museum, Cultra	11am - 4pm
Open Sound Lab	SARC, QUB	1pm
Dinosaurs! With Ben Garrod	Ulster Museum, Belfast	1pm
Paddle with a Purpose	Strangford Lough Activity Centre, Killinchy	1:30pm
A Giant Milling Machine at Castle Ward	Castle Ward, Strangford	1.30pm
Bi: The Hidden Culture, History and Science of Bisexuality with Julia Shaw	The Black Box, Belfast	2pm
Bi: The Hidden Culture, History and Science of Bisexuality with Julia Shaw	Ulster Museum, Belfast	2pm
Draw Your Universe	Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast	4pm

ONGOING + EXHIBITIONS

STEM STORYTIME

VARIOUS LOCATIONS
ONGOING THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL
TIMES - SEE WEBSITE
FREE

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.

All Ages
CHEMISTRY AND MINERALS



MAPS, ART, SCIENCE, HISTORY

ARTISANN GALLERY,
BELFAST
ONGOING THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL
11AM - 5.30PM
(WED TO SAT)
FREE

This exhibition explores how artists and scientists use maps to reinterpret Earth and space. Blending art, science, and history, it showcases innovative cartographic works by Shauna Fox, Karen Daye-Hutchinson, Aisling O'Beirn, Chris Wilson, Alan Fitzsimmons, and Bartley.

All Ages
ART & SCIENCE

THE INVENTION CONVENTION

W5, BELFAST
ONGOING THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL
TIMES - SEE WEBSITE
FREE, WITH ADMISSION TO W5

This half-term, W5 hosts the Invention Convention! Join our team of lively "experts" as they explore the science behind history's greatest inventions, with help from young inventors like you!

All Ages
TECHNOLOGY & AI



INVENT IT!

W5, BELFAST
ONGOING THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL
TIMES - SEE WEBSITE
FREE, WITH ADMISSION TO W5

Step into the world of inventing at our Invention Station! Drop-in and design your very own creation using K'Nex! Will you build a blazing buggy, a teetering tower, or something the world has never seen before? The only limit is your own imagination.

All Ages
ENGINEERING & ROBOTICS



KUBO THE ROBOT

VARIOUS LIBRARIES
ACROSS NI
ONGOING THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL
TIMES - SEE WEBSITE
FREE

Start your coding journey with our friendly robot, KUBO. A fun, interactive introduction to coding with KUBO, the little robot with a big personality!

All Ages
TECHNOLOGY & AI



OAK STORIES

FLORENCE COURT
HOUSE AND GARDENS
ONGOING THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL
11AM - 4PM
FREE

Oaks are ecosystem heroes, supporting more species than any other plant genus. As "keystone species," they sustain diverse life within their environment. From tiny acorns, oaks can live over 1,000 years, with every part holding value. Like the National Trust, each mighty oak has many special stories to tell.

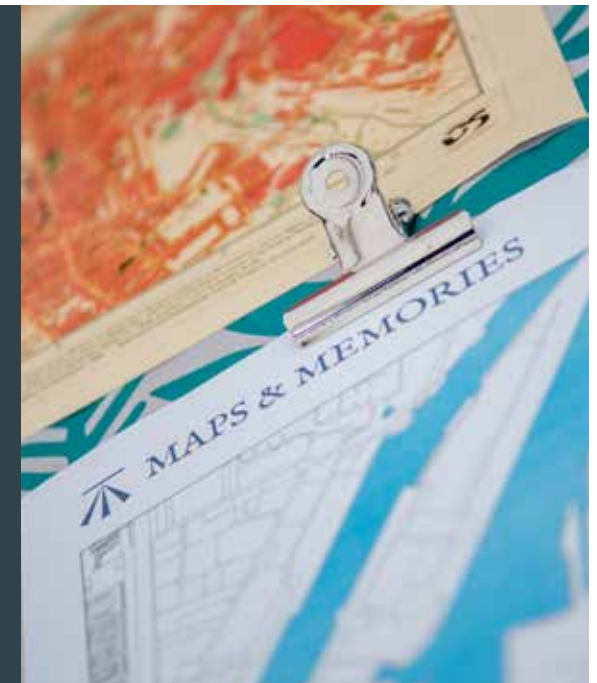
All Ages
ENVIRONMENT & NATURE

MAPS & MEMORIES EXHIBITION

2 ROYAL AVENUE
WED 11 FEBRUARY -
SUN 22 FEBRUARY
TIMES - SEE WEBSITE
FREE

Mark 200 years since the Ordnance Survey's detailed mapping of Ireland. Explore its history and legacy, contribute to the Maps & Memories postcard project, and join mapping events at 2 Royal Avenue with NI Science Festival and partners.

All Ages
SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY





FUTURE ISLAND ISLAND

VARIOUS LOCATIONS
CHECK WEBSITE
FOR DETAILS
TIME TBC
£ VARIOUS

Step into Future Island-Island and explore how co-created, design-led research is shaping a greener, more resilient Northern Ireland. Funded by the Arts & Humanities Research Council, this engaging event features interactive demos, short talks, and creative sessions with the team behind the project.

All Ages

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



LEGO® EXHIBITION

CRESCENT ARTS CENTRE
THURS 12 -
SUN 15 FEBRUARY
TIMES - SEE WEBSITE
£7.50

Explore our hands-on LEGO® exhibition with a Mini-Figure® Hunt, quizzes, games, a Creation Station, and even LEGO® Batman. Enjoy interactive displays, plus a new LEGO® Mario® course to try with your own character.

7 Yrs +

ENGINEERING & ROBOTICS



CLIMATE FRESK

VARIOUS LOCATIONS
ONGOING
THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL
TIMES - SEE WEBSITE
FREE

Climate Fresk is an interactive workshop exploring climate change. Through collaborative activities, participants uncover its causes, impacts, and solutions, discovering meaningful actions for individuals, communities, and businesses—perfect for beginners and experts alike.

All Ages

CLIMATE & SUSTAINABILITY

A SPACE FOR SCIENCE ON RATHLIN ISLAND

VARIOUS LOCATIONS
CHECK WEBSITE
FOR DETAILS
CHECK WEBSITE
FOR DETAILS
£ VARIOUS

Enjoy a family day out or Valentine's weekend on Rathlin, Northern Ireland's only inhabited offshore island. Experience a festival of science, art, heritage, and community with lighthouse tours, wildlife walks, talks, crafts, marine activities, and local sustainability insights.

All Ages

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE



LUMI X NISF

QUEEN'S FILM THEATRE,
BELFAST
ONGOING
THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL
TIMES - SEE WEBSITE
£ VARIOUS

Chosen by Queen's Film Theatre's passionate young programming team of 18-26 year olds join the LUMI Programmers at NISF for a selection of unforgettable films that explore the worlds of science-fact and science-fiction.

Age Various

ART & SCIENCE



BED AND SOIL

ULSTER MUSEUM,
BELFAST
ONGOING
THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL
10AM - 5PM
FREE

Bed and Soil, a new Ulster Museum art intervention by Hannah Casey-Brogan, responds to extinct Lough Neagh plants. This large-scale collage reflects on environmental harm while offering a gesture of hope and renewal.

All Ages

CLIMATE & SUSTAINABILITY

MAPS & MEMORIES - BENCHMARK TRAILS

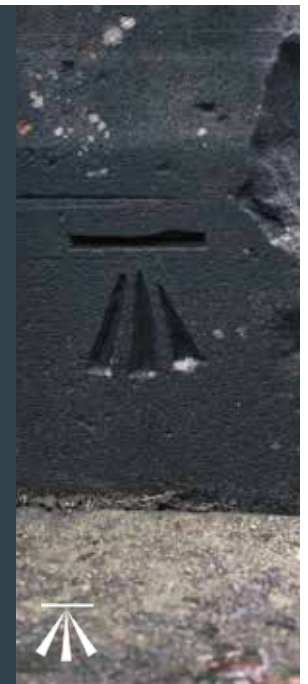
2 ROYAL AVENUE
& ULSTER MUSEUM,
BELFAST AND
DERRY-LONDONDERRY
ONGOING
THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL
TIMES - SEE WEBSITE
FREE

Step into the world of early map-makers as you explore the Benchmark Trail. Seek out historic benchmarks around Belfast and Derry-Londonderry, uncover their stories, and share your discoveries with #benchmarktrail.

As part of *Maps and Memories* funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

All Ages

SOCIETY, CULTURE & HISTORY



AT A GLANCE ONGOING THROUGHTOUT THE FESTIVAL

EVENT	VENUE	TIME
Oak Stories	Florence Court House and Gardens	11am - 4pm
Invent It!	W5, Belfast	See Website
Maps, Art, Science, History	ArtisAnn Gallery, Belfast	11am - 5:30pm
The Invention Convention	W5, Belfast	See Website
LEGO® Exhibition	Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast	See Website
Future Island Island	Various Locations	See Website
STEM Storytime	Various Locations	See Website
Climate Fresk	Various Locations	See Website
LUMI X NISF	Queen's Film Theatre, Belfast	See Website
Bed and Soil	Ulster Museum, Belfast	10am - 5pm
A Space for Science on Rathlin Island	Rathlin Island	See Website
Maps & Memories - Benchmark Trails	2 Royal Avenue & Ulster Museum, Belfast	10am - 5pm
Maps & Memories Exhibition	2 Royal Avenue, Belfast	10am - 5pm
KUBO The Robot	Various Locations	See Website

MAPS & MEMORIES



Maps & Memories is a two year community heritage project that marks 200 years since the first mapping survey began on Divis Mountain by the Ordnance Survey. These early efforts laid the foundations for how we understand land, ownership, identity & geography across the island today - with continued cultural, political & scientific significance.

Explore our programme and website to learn more about the project, how to get involved, and the events running throughout this year's Festival and beyond.



MAPS & MEMORIES IS MADE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST



Department for
Communities

An Roinn
Pobal

Department für
Commonities

**WHY
SCIENCE?**

**NI
SCIENCE
FESTIVAL
.COM**