

European Geoparks Week in Marble Arch Caves UNESCO Global Geopark UK / IRELAND 2016

Dates of geoparks week: **20th May to 5th June**

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Further information: www.marblearchcavesgeopark.com

Category	Date	Activity / Event
	dd.mm.	
1. Geo & Geo	20th May	<p>'Stories from the MACGG: nearly 1 billion years in the making</p> <p>Join Dr Kirstin Lemon for an illustrated talk on the fascinating geology of the Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark. Discover a history dating back nearly 1 billion years as we discover about the hot deserts, tropical oceans and big freezes that have helped shape the magnificent landscapes of the Geopark. This event is being held in partnership with the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland.</p>
	30th May	<p>Marble Arch Caves – Fmaily Fun Day</p> <p>A jam-packed programme of events will take place throughout the day including an interactive family fossil & nature hunt, face painting as well as a variety of geologically themed arts and crafts activities.</p>
	4th June	<p>On the Footsteps of Martel</p> <p>In the summer of 1895, quiet hidden corners of the Fermanagh countryside received some unusual visitors when Edouard Martel, a French cave scientist, carried out an expedition to explore unknown caves in the hills around Florencecourt and Boho. Martel triggered further expeditions to Fermanagh by the Yorkshire Ramblers, a gentleman’s adventure club made up of tough cave explorers and mountaineers. Our exciting lecture brings alive this colourful, dramatic and often amusing story of the hidden Fermanagh underworld.</p>
2. Geo & Culture/Music/Literature/Arts	21 st May	<p>Exploring the Cliffs of Magho</p> <p>Come along and join Geopark staff for a guided walk along the Magho Cliff pathway leading from the shore road to the Magho Viewpoint. It will be well worth the effort of a 300m climb as the view from the top is arguably one of the best vistas on the island of Ireland and the cliffs are also home to some of the rarest flora and fauna within the Geopark.</p>
	22 nd May	<p>All Things Great and Small Expedition</p> <p>Highlighting the Geoparks wonderful biodiversity and heritage join local Geopark Guide Heather Bothwell for a series of convivial butterfly and bug hunts. Suitable for all ages.</p>
	22 nd May	<p>Bee Keeping Information Session</p> <p>A very special Beekeeping Information Event where local Geopark Guide Aidan Brady of Cavan Beekeepers Association will inform participants on beekeeping and honey making. This is an excellent opportunity to discover more about this important creature and will give an opportunity to all who attend to learn about keeping their own bees. Booking is essential. For bookings and more information please contact Aidan on +353 (0) 87 690 5898.</p>

	29 th May	<p>Geopark Wildflower Walk</p> <p>As part of Biodiversity Week celebrations join local Geopark Guide Andy King to explore some of the stunning wildflowers of the Geopark. Learn more about how our flora is linked to the landscape around us.</p>
	4 th June	<p>Geopark Dragonfly, Butterfly and Bug Hunt</p> <p>Highlighting the Geoparks wonderful biodiversity and heritage join local Geopark Guide Heather Bothwell for a series of convivial butterfly and bug hunt in the Geopark.</p>
	5 th June	<p>Burren in Bloom</p> <p>Join local Geopark Guide Bee Smith for this special biodiversity walk. Enjoy all the flowers as they burst into bloom.</p>
3. Geo & Education	May - June	<p>Schools Geopark Postcard Competition</p> <p>Given the success of last years event we are re-hosting the Geopark postcard competition. All primary school children in Counties Fermanagh and Cavan will be invited to participate in a competition to design a new postcard based on a geological theme for the Marble Arch Caves. The winning image will be used on a new postcard within the Marble Arch Caves Visitor Centre.</p>
4. Geo & EGN/GGN	28th & 29th May	<p>Geoparks on the Air</p> <p>Members of the Lough Erne Amateur Radio Club broadcast from the Marble Arch Caves contacting colleagues in Geoparks throughout Europe.</p>