

EGN Week 2012

Name of Geopark: Geopark Shetland

Dates of geoparks week: 7th – 15th July 2012

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Further events will be added to this list. Visitors can find an up-to-date programme with details of event times and booking information at www.shetlandnaturefestival.co.uk

Motto of geoparks week: Explore Geopark Shetland...

*** Events with a particular geological focus.**

Category	Date	Activity / Event
1. Geo & Geo	7th July	Excursions, museum-visits, activities at geosites Noss National Nature Reserve Open Day Family friendly fun, including guided walks, rock pooling, face painting and other children's activities, all in the spectacular setting of Noss National Nature Reserve. Additional info: A free bus will run from Bressay ferry terminal to the Noss car park. Last bus leaves Noss car park at 1630.
	8th July	A walk to the Arctic* At 450m, Ronas Hill is the highest point in Shetland. Freezing temperatures and fierce winds are still shaping the land and Arctic plants cling to the hillside – remnants of a time when Shetland lay in the grip of ice. This full day guided walk will take in everything from plants and birds to geology and geomorphology. Eshaness Coast guided walk* Explore the spectacular Eshaness coastline with Geopark Shetland. Once, an ancient volcano spewed out lava and ash to form the rocks of Eshaness. Now, 350 million years later, Atlantic storms have carved them into a spectacular array of cliffs, stacks, geos and caves. Braewick Beach guided walk* Join Geopark Shetland to discover granite that formed deep in the Earth, striped sandstones from a long vanished lake and lava from Shetland's violent volcanic past!

	<p>10th July</p>	<p>Hermaness Guided Walk</p> <p>With its stunning coastline and spectacular seabird colonies, Hermaness National Nature Reserve is a must-see for any visitor to Shetland. Get up close and personal with Puffins and experience sensory overload as you see, hear and smell the reserve's huge Gannet colony.</p> <p>Keen on Flowers?*</p> <p>From a distance, the Keen of Hamar may appear to be a barren moonscape, but take a closer look and you'll discover an array of wild flowers amongst the shattered stones. Learn about Unst's fascinating geology and encounter some of Britain's rarest flowers, including Edmondston's Chickweed, which grows nowhere else in the world.</p>
	<p>11th July</p>	<p>Gorie Guided Walk</p> <p>Join us on a guided walk to in the stunning surroundings of Gorie, Bressay. You will see a range of Shetland's diverse wildlife, including seabirds, moorland breeding birds and flowers.</p>
	<p>12th July</p>	<p>Neapaback Guided Walk</p> <p>With its relatively low-lying coastline, Yell is much better known for its Otters than its seabirds. However, the relatively unknown Neapaback is easily accessible and holds impressive numbers of Guillemots, Razorbills, Kittiwakes and Puffins. There are plenty of wild flowers on the way and, who knows, you might even see an Otter too!</p> <p>Otter Spotting</p> <p>For most visitors to Shetland, Otters are high on their list of things to see, but the elusive nature of these animals means that many people leave disappointed. This walk will not guarantee you a sighting but will show you how to search for Otters and recognise the signs of their presence yourselves.</p> <p>On The Bog!</p> <p>Join RSPB for a guided birdwatching walk through moorland and blanket bog in Yell – enjoy the call of nature on the bog!</p>
	<p>13th July</p>	<p>Hare Today, Gone Tomorrow?</p> <p>This moorland walk from the burn of Lunklet will scale the peak of Scallafield which offers spectacular views of Shetland, before descending to the Valley of Kergord and the Weisdale Mill. We'll be keeping an eye out for flowering plants, moorland breeding birds and Mountain hares.</p>

	<p>14th July</p>	<p>Sumburgh Head Seabird Spectacular</p> <p>Sumburgh Head RSPB reserve is a wonderful place to experience a variety of seabirds. Helpful guides will be on hand with telescopes and binoculars to show you the seabirds that breed and you can learn how to look for and identify whales and dolphins. You never know what is going to happen – so make sure you come along and experience the drama of this spectacular seabird colony.</p> <p>Everything you wanted to know about sea mammals and seabirds but were afraid to ask!</p> <p>Sumburgh Hotel is the hub for our South Mainland day, and we've got a lot going on in there for you. We'll have display of whale bones, children's activities, viewing screens, conservation information and more. So, if you've ever wondered what a whale's rib looks like or how to make a pompom puffling – come along!</p> <p>Fossil Fish and Devonian Dunes*</p> <p>Join Geopark Shetland on a walk from South Voe to the Pool of Virkie. Search for fossil fish and see amazing Devonian sand dunes that formed nearly 400 million years ago when Shetland was near the Equator!</p> <p>Sumburgh Guided Walk</p> <p>Starting at Sumburgh Hotel, you'll walk to Grutness, up to Compass Head and on to Sumburgh Head RSPB Reserve, before returning to Sumburgh Hotel. This area is not just famous for its wildlife, it also has an amazing history: World War II structures can be seen, there are shipwrecks, aeroplane wrecks, Iron Age forts, and lots more.</p>
<p>2. Geo & Culture/Music/Literature/Arts</p>	<p>11th July</p> <p>12th July</p>	<p>Links with art and archaeology</p> <p>Hot Rocks! - Experimental archaeology at the Bressay burnt mound *</p> <p>4000 years ago Bressay residents used hot rocks to heat water at this enigmatic Bronze Age monument, but what was it for? Bathing? Brewing? Tanning? Cooking? Join Geopark Shetland and Bronze Age Bressay to see ancient technology in action and explore the possibilities.</p> <p>It's Moine and it's Gneiss!*</p> <p>Join Geopark Shetland to celebrate the beauty and variety of Yell's rocks through geo-art activities that everyone can enjoy.</p>

3. Geo & Education	<p>8th July</p> <p>10th July</p> <p>11th July</p> <p>13th July</p> <p>14th July</p>	<p>Activities to encourage lifelong learning within the family</p> <p>Go Wild With Your Child - Wellie Walk</p> <p>Would you like to find a carnivorous plant? Or how about try to catch a long-bodied long-distance travelling fish? Well, why not join us on a walk down to the local burn and we'll see what plants, fish and other wildlife we can discover.</p> <p>When Continents Collide*</p> <p>Join Geopark Shetland for family fun on Norwick Beach - the site of an ancient collision. At this picturesque spot an ocean floor was thrust onto the edge of a continent over 400 million years ago!</p> <p>Go Wild With Your Child - Wild about Haroldswick</p> <p>Join the RSPB warden on a natural treasure hunt around Haroldswick</p> <p>Butterfly Feeders - Children's Workshop</p> <p>Make a butterfly feeder to put in your garden, window box or plant pot.</p> <p>Wild About Town</p> <p>Lerwick is packed full of wildlife for families to discover. We're going to look to the skies, under rocks, in the sea and in trees to see how many species of bird, animal and plant we can record.</p> <p>Go Wild With Your Child - Tremendously Good! Who said Shetland has no trees! Meet Shetland Amenity Trust's woodlands team to learn about the fascinating work they are doing to look after Shetland's native trees and then join the RSPB to explore the wonderful woods of Weisdale.</p> <p>It's a Bug's Life</p> <p>Come along and have a peerie hock about da Crofthouse Museum for peerie creepy crawlies. Grab a magnifying glass and see if you can find etterkaspas, slaters, skurdies, drummers or klocks. Make your own bug too!</p> <p>Go Wild With Your Child - Sumburgh Seabird Safari</p> <p>Can you bag Sumburgh's BIG SIX- guillemot, puffin, fulmar, shag, razorbill, kittiwake?</p>
4. Geo & EGN/GGN	<p>13th July</p>	<p>Activities promoting the Geopark idea and the EGN</p> <p>Rock Roadshow*</p> <p>Shetland has more geological diversity than any other area its size! Discover it for yourself with rocks and images from all over Geopark Shetland. Find out how they tell the story of Shetland's 3 billion year geological journey...</p>

