



PRESS RELEASE

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Meet our scientists at Doors Open Day

From robots and smartphone microscopes to a marine touch tank and dinosaurs – all age groups are invited to a very special Doors Open Day at the Lyell Centre on Saturday 29th September.

Scientists from Heriot-Watt University and the British Geological Survey (BGS) will be on hand to chat about their amazing research at the special event in Edinburgh. The doors of the Lyell Centre will be thrown open as guests are treated to short talks as well as hands-on activities.

Budding scientists will be able to explore the lives of robots and get up close with sea beasties in a marine touch tank.

Dr Laura Wicks, Heriot-Watt University's Public Engagement Co-ordinator said: "This is sure to be a fun-packed day out for all the family.

"Scientists will be revealing their secrets and there will be the chance to discover what goes on behind the doors at the Lyell Centre.

"We're really glad to be working in partnership with BGS on such a superb event."

Co-Director of the Lyell Centre Tracy Shimmield, BGS, said: "We're delighted to welcome the public to the Lyell Centre on Doors Open Day and are looking forward to sharing our science with them.

"There will be a lot to learn about, and something for everyone."

The event is free and is suitable for all age groups. Talks and tours will be available and can be booked at the venue on the day.

This year's Doors Open Day event links into Heriot-Watt University's Year of Sea campaign – which is a year-long calendar of activity, spanning schools, the public, academia, industry collaborators, funders and policy makers.

Ends



Notes for Editors:

The Lyell Centre

The Lyell Centre is a joint collaboration between the British Geological Survey and Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, which builds on our individual and combined interdisciplinary expertise in land and marine conservation, geology and geoscience. Based at Heriot-Watt University's Edinburgh campus, the Lyell Centre strives to be one of Europe's leading centres for research and expertise in the earth and marine sciences.

British Geological Survey

The British Geological Survey (BGS) is a world leading applied geoscience research centre that is part of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) and affiliated to the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC). BGS core science provides objective and authoritative geoscientific data, information and knowledge to inform UK Government on the opportunities and challenges of the subsurface. It undertakes national and public good research to understand earth and environmental processes in the UK and globally. The BGS annual budget of approximately £60 million pa is funded directly by UKRI, as well as research grants, government commissions and private sector contracts. Its 650 staff work across the UK with two main sites, the head office in Nottingham and Lyell Centre, a joint collaboration with Heriot Watt University in Edinburgh. BGS works with more than 150 private sector organisations, has close links to 40 universities and sponsors about 100 PhD students each year. Please see www.bgs.ac.uk.

Doors Open Days

Doors Open Days is coordinated nationally by the Scottish Civic Trust. It runs throughout Scotland every September as part of European Heritage Days. For more information see www.doorsopendays.org.uk or www.scottishcivictrust.org.uk

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