Circular 2: September 2013

Welcome to the geological event of the year….

The GEO-Gathering 2013

19-20th October, Menlo Park Hotel, Galway

Ireland has hosted a national initiative, ***The Gathering 2013***, to invite the international Irish community to return home to meet their friends and family in 2013. The initiative captured the public imagination and a huge range of community, heritage and specialist events happened: www.thegatheringireland.com

To celebrate the contribution of Irish geoscientists to the advancement of geosciences internationally in exploration, palæontology, geo-policy, mining, hydrogeology, engineering, geo-tourism and finance across academia, society and business, four of Ireland's leading geoscience organisations have arranged a unique **Geo-Gathering** event over the weekend of **19-20th October 2013** at the **Menlo Park Hotel in Galway.** With expert speakers and presentations, discussions, dinner, music and chats on Day 1, crowned by a wonderful field trip on Day 2, you'll be guaranteed a memorable experience!

On **Saturday 19th October**, the speakers of excellence, all linked to Ireland in one way or other, include:

- **Mr. Koen Verbruggen**, recently appointed Director of the Geological Survey of Ireland;
- **Prof. Murray Hitzman**, Colorado School of Mines USA;
- **Prof. Derek Briggs**, Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History USA;
- **Dr. Eibhlín Doyle**, Principal Geologist, Exploration& Mining Division;
- **Dr. Maeve Boland**, Director of Geoscience Policy, American Geosciences Institute;
- **Mr. Dale Hendrick**, Hendrick Resources, Canada;
- **Mr. Kevin Quinn**, Tullow Oil, Africa;
- **Mr. Adrian Black**, NewExco, Australia;
- **Mr. Christian Schaffalitzky**, Eurasia Mining, London, UK.

On Saturday evening, meet friends at a **Drinks Reception and Dinner** for chats & traditional music.

On **Sunday 20th October**, there will be a field trip to the UNESCO recognised ***Burren and Cliffs of Moher GeoPark***, led by the GeoPark's geologist **Dr. Eamon Doyle**, see http://www.burrengeopark.ie/

YOU are invited to attend, whether you live/ work/ study in Ireland - (then or now!) - to catch up with colleagues and friends of old from Ireland and all over the world in October.

To book the Geo-Gathering (options of conference, dinner and/or field trip) and accommodation, please visit:
http://www.igi.ie/news/geo-gathering-2013.htm

For information on Menlo Park: http://www.menloparkhotel.com
General info on accommodation, places and things to see or do: http://www.discoverireland.com

The Geo-Gathering - Be Part of It!

Institute of Geologists of Ireland

IRELAND'S GEO-GATHERING

PROGRAMME: Day 1: Saturday 19th October 2013

Menlo Park Hotel, Galway City
Walter Macken Suite

Time	Topic	Speaker
08.30am	Registration & Welcome	Tea & Coffee
9.30am	Welcome & Opening Address	**Mr. Koen Verbruggen** Director Geological Survey of Ireland
9.45am	Six Decades of World Exploration... and Why I Am Looking for Gold in Ireland	**Mr. Dale Hendrick** Hendrick Resources, Canada
10:30am	Economic Value of Exploration & Mining in Ireland: Results of the Indecon Study 2013	**Dr. Eibhlín Doyle** Exploration & Mining Division, Dept. Communications, Energy & Natural Resources
11:15am	**Tea & Coffee**	
11.40am	The Cambrian Explosion	**Prof. Derek Briggs** Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History USA
12.20pm	Advocating for the Geosciences: What is an Irish geologist doing on Capitol Hill?	**Dr. Maeve Boland** Director, Geoscience Policy, American Geosciences Institute
1:00pm	**Lunch**	
2.00pm	Induced Seismicity Potential of Energy Technologies	**Prof. Murray Hitzman** Colorado School of Mines, USA
2.40pm	Tullow Oil: The Keys to Success	**Mr. Kevin Quinn** Tullow Oil – Asia /South America
3.20pm	**Coffee**	
3.45m	20 Years of Nickel Discoveries in Western Australia	**Mr. Adrian Black** Newexco Services, Australia
4.25pm	Concluding Remarks... and the Future of Irish Geology	**Mr. Christian Schaffalitzky** Eurasia Mining, London, UK
5.00pm	**CLOSE OF SESSIONS**	
7.00pm	**Drinks Reception**	**All welcome!**
8.00pm	**DINNER, MUSIC & CHAT**	**Until late @ Menlo Park Ballroom**

Institute of Geologists of Ireland

IRELAND'S GEO-GATHERING

PROGRAMME: Day 2: Sunday 20th October 2013
FIELD TRIP TO THE BURREN & CLIFFS OF MOHER GEOPARK

LEAVING 09.15am sharp from Menlo Park Hotel

Time	Activity	Leader
09.00am	**All aboard the Bus/ Cars!!**	
10.15am	**Arrive Ballyvaughan Pier** **BURREN & CLIFFS OF MOHER GEOPARK** **Co Clare** *Localities to be visited will depend on weather*	**Meet Dr. Eamon Doyle** Chief Geologist, Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark http://www.burrengeopark.ie/
1.00pm	**LIGHT LUNCH AT** **CLIFFS OF MOHER VISITOR CENTRE**	**Soup & Sandwiches / Tea/ Coffee** *Note: @ own cost*
2.00pm	**Continuation of FIELD TRIP** **BURREN & CLIFFS OF MOHER GEOPARK**	**Dr. Eamon Doyle** Chief Geologist, Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark
4.00pm	**END OF FIELD TRIP**	**Depart the Burren by bus/ car** **Return to Galway/ Menlo Park via Ballyvaughan to cars/ trains/ buses**

Institute of Geologists of Ireland

IRELAND'S GEO-GATHERING

LIST OF SPEAKERS

	Mr. Koen Verbruggen is a geology graduate and has an MSc in Petroleum Geology, both from UCD. He spent 15 years in the resource industry, briefly in Oil & Gas exploration and the majority of the time working in mineral exploration, mostly for Irish junior exploration companies. He worked and lived for several years, in Canada, Australia, Mexico, Cuba and various parts of Africa. In 2000, Koen joined the Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI), working first in Minerals, thereafter in Information Management, and then in the Marine Geology programme, where he co-managed the flagship INFOMAR Project. More recently, Koen has been involved in all aspects of GSI management, working closely with the GSI's parent Department – the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, and in the role of Acting Director since April 2012. Koen was appointed Director of GSI in January 2013.
	Prof. Murray Hitzman had been the Charles Fogarty Professor of Economic Geology at the Colorado School of Mines since 1996. He has B.A. degrees in both Anthropology and Geology from Dartmouth College (1976), an M.S. in Geology from the University of Washington (1978), a Ph.D. in geology from Stanford University (1983), and a certificate in Environmental Management from George Washington University (1995). He is a Registered European Geologist, a Certified Professional Geologist, and a Registered Environmental Manager. Dr. Hitzman worked in the minerals industry worldwide from 1976 to 1996. Working for Chevron he was largely responsible for the Lisheen Zn-Pb-Ag deposit discovery in Ireland. He worked in Washington D.C. (1993-1996) as a policy analyst on natural resources, environmental, and energy issues in both the U.S. Senate and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. He served as head of the Department of Geology and Geological Engineering from 2002 to 2007 and as interim director of the Colorado Energy Research Institute from 2002 to 2004. He was President of the Society of Economic Geologists from 2005-06. He is active with the National Research Council (NRC) of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and is currently member of the NRC Committee on Geological and Geotechnical Engineering.
	Dr. Eibhlín Doyle worked in minerals exploration and development from 1979 through to 1999, with Barymin, Conroy Petroleum and Natural Resources (later to become Arcon) with whom she discovered the Galmoy zinc-lead deposit in Co. Kilkenny, with BHP where she was the company's exploration manager for Ireland. She joined the Geological Survey Ireland in 1999 and had responsibilities for the Groundwater, Marine and Minerals Sections. In 2009 she was appointed to lead the Technical staff of the Exploration and Mining Division of the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources which regulates the minerals industry in Ireland. Eibhlin lead the EMD team who commissioned Indecon to carry out a report on the value of the minerals sector to the Irish economy in 2012.
	Prof. Derek Briggs, G. Evelyn Hutchinson Professor of Geology and Geophysics at Yale University, has been Director of the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History since 2008. Derek earned his BA at Trinity College, Dublin, and his PhD at the University of Cambridge. He was awarded the Royal Dublin Society/Irish Times Boyle Medal in 2001, was elected an honorary Member of the Royal Irish Academy in 2003, and received an honorary D.Sc. from Trinity College, Dublin in 2010. Derek joined the Yale faculty in 2003. Except for a one-year term from 2001-2002 as a Visiting Professor at the University of Chicago, Derek's prior appointments were in the UK. From 1985-2002 he was in the Department of Earth Sciences at the University of Bristol, serving as chair from 1997-2001. Derek's primary research interest is in the preservation and evolutionary significance of exceptionally preserved fossils. He has made significant contributions to our understanding of the history of life, including the Cambrian 'explosion' when all the major groups of animals appeared in the oceans nearly 500 million years ago. More recently his research group has reconstructed the original colours of feathered dinosaurs and fossil insects. He has published around 300 scientific articles and several books including Evolution (with N.H. Barton and others, Cold Spring Harbor Press, 2007). He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1999. Since Derek came to Yale its graduate school in Paleontology has risen to be ranked first in the US News list.

IRELAND'S GEO-GATHERING
LIST OF SPEAKERS

	Dr. Maeve Boland is the Director of Geoscience Policy at the American Geosciences Institute, an umbrella organization for 50 geoscience societies and organizations with about a quarter of a million members in the United States. Her path to AGI started at Trinity College, Dublin, with B.A. and M.Sc. degrees in geology. She then worked in mineral exploration and petroleum data analysis before spending 6 years in the Industrial Minerals Section of the Geological Survey of Ireland. Since moving to the United States, Maeve earned her Ph.D. in geology from Colorado School of Mines where she is still a member of the research faculty. Maeve spent a year working on energy and environment policy in the office of Senator Byron Dorgan from North Dakota as the American Geophysical Union Congressional Science Fellow, 2009-10. She followed this with two years as an AAAS Executive Branch Science and Technology Policy Fellow in the Energy and Mineral Resources Programs at the U.S. Geological Survey, before moving to AGI in 2013.
	Mr. Kevin Quinn works for Tullow Oil and joined the company in 1987 shortly after it was founded. He holds a degree in Natural Sciences (Geology) from Trinity College Dublin and a Master of Science in Petroleum Exploration from Aberdeen University. He started his career working in the North Sea and offshore Ireland before moving back to Dublin to join Tullow. Kevin worked as an exploration geologist in Tullow's operations in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe before moving to Syria as Country Manager. This was followed by postings to Egypt and India before eventually returning to Ireland in 2001. As Head of the Dublin office he worked as Business Unit Manager for Asia and South America. Following a major oil discovery by Tullow in Ghana, Kevin moved to Accra to join the leadership team and oversee first oil production and other significant discoveries. Earlier this year he moved to join Tullow Oil in London and now works in the Investor Relations Team.
	Mr. Dale Hendrick, P. Eng. has many decades of mining experience. Following a 25 year career with Kerr Addison Mines (a 10-million ounce Au producer), Dale formed Dale M. Hendrick & Associates in 1989 to provide technical and financial consulting services and for over 20 years has demonstrated an excellent track record of providing advice to both junior and senior mining companies as well as institutional investors. He has served as a director and senior officer with a number of public limited companies over his long career. He is a Life Member of the Canadian Institute of Mining & Metallurgy and was awarded a CIM Fellowship in 1999. He is also a Life Member of the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC).
	Mr. Adrian Black is a mining and exploration geologist with many years experience in the minerals industry. He completed a Diploma in Mineral science at Athlone regional College in 1974 and worked initially with the Northgate Group for 3 years as a field assistant before commencing a Mining Geology degree at Leicester University from 1977-80. In June 1999 with support from OMA he formed the service company; Newexco with Bill Amann. The objective was to retain the nucleus of the formidable exploration team from the Outokumpu Group while providing quality exploration and mining consultancy and contracting to companies in Western Australia and worldwide. In 2003 and 2004 Newexco discovered of the T1 and T5 nickel sulphide deposits at Flying Fox for Western Areas in the WA Forrestania Greenstone Belt. Another major high grade nickel deposit "Spotted Quoll" was discovered by the Newexco team in 2007. The in-ground value of Spotted Quoll exceeds 3 billion dollars. These deposits are world class and rank among the highest grade and most profitable nickel mines currently being exploited in Australia. The Newexco team of geophysicists led by Bill Amann have been key components in the new Sirius Resources discovery at Nova and Bollinger, the Resource here is 14.6 Mt @ 2.2% Ni and 0.9% Cu, the story continues to unfold.
	Mr. Christian Schaffalitzky has over 35 years experience in minerals exploration and was the founder and principal of the geological consultancy CSA Group. Christian co-established Ivernia West PLC, where he led the exploration, discovery and development of the Lisheen zinc deposit in Ireland. Currently he is active in precious and base metals minerals exploration and development in Russia and the former Soviet Union. He is chairman of Kibo Mining plc and an independent director on the boards of several other mineral companies. Christian is a well known independent thinker and stimulator of ideas.

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