



NEW YEAR LECTURE

Costing the Earth?

Prof. Iain Stewart (Univ. Plymouth)



Iain Stewart has recently presented two major TV series on the BBC
Climate Wars and
Earth-The Power of the Planet

Thursday 22nd January, 2009

**Walton Lecture Theatre, Arts Block,
Trinity College Dublin, 8.00pm**

All welcome, admission free

Costing the Earth?

Our human history is deeply rooted in the planet we live on. In a new BBC series 'How Earth Made Us', I'll examine how our civilisation is founded in the rocks underfoot, as shiny metals were forged into swords and ploughshares, precious stones became the prizes of glittering imperial conquests, and ancient carbon fuelled modern global furnaces. And yet, many of the gravest threats that humanity faces in the 21st century loom from an ever more uncertain and predictable natural world. In this talk I'll explore how, as geologists seek to be viewed as stewards rather than exploiters of Planet Earth, a key question arises: will it be the well being of our human economy or the integral functioning of the Earth economy that will become the normative value guiding the global community into the future?