



# PRESS RELEASE

23 September 2019

## Meet our scientists at Doors Open Day

**Robots, marine creatures and dinosaurs will all be featuring at Doors Open Day at the Lyell Centre in Edinburgh on Saturday 28 September 2019.**

The doors of the Lyell Centre will be thrown open as guests are treated to tours around buildings and short talks as well as hands-on activities. Scientists from the British Geological Survey (BGS) and Heriot-Watt University will be on hand to chat about their amazing research at the Edinburgh event. Budding scientists will be able to explore the lives of robots and get up close to sea beasts in the marine touch tank and there will be a mix of talks, from tales about diving to the bottom of the oceans to solutions to the world's food crisis.

Sandra McArthur, public engagement co-ordinator at Heriot-Watt University, said: 'We can't wait to welcome visitors to the Lyell Centre again. Building on the success of the last few years, this is sure to be a fun-packed day out for all ages.'

'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 the BGS on this superb event.'

Dr Tracy Shimmiel, director of the Lyell Centre, said: 'We're delighted to welcome the public to the Lyell Centre on Doors Open Day. There will be something for all ages and lots to learn. We are excited to be sharing our science stories.'

The event is free and is suitable for all age groups. Talks and tours can be booked in advance or in person on the day.

[Click here for further info.](#)

The Lyell Centre is a strategic partnership between the British Geological Survey and Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, which builds on their 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.

This year's Doors Open Day event links into Heriot-Watt University's Year of Health campaign. This is a year-long calendar of activities spanning schools, local communities, academia, industry collaborators, funders and policymakers to show how their research is contributing to the future of healthy people, healthy homes, healthy society and a healthier planet.

**\*Ends\***



**For further details or to arrange media interviews please contact:**

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**Notes for Editors**

**The Lyell Centre**

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**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 per annum 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. The 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](http://www.bgs.ac.uk).

**Heriot-Watt University**

Heriot-Watt is a specialist, pioneering university with a global presence, world-renowned innovative research, and highly employable graduates. [www.hw.ac.uk](http://www.hw.ac.uk)

**Doors Open Days**

Doors Open Days are coordinated nationally by the Scottish Civic Trust. They run throughout Scotland every September as part of European Heritage Days. For more information see [www.doorsopendays.org.uk](http://www.doorsopendays.org.uk) or [www.scottishcivictrust.org.uk](http://www.scottishcivictrust.org.uk).