

keeping geoheritage to the front

Geological Survey Ireland

by: **Clare Glanville**

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Geological Survey Ireland is keeping geoheritage to the front - Geoheritage events attended and supported in 2024

European Geopark Network Spring Meeting – Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark, Turkey.

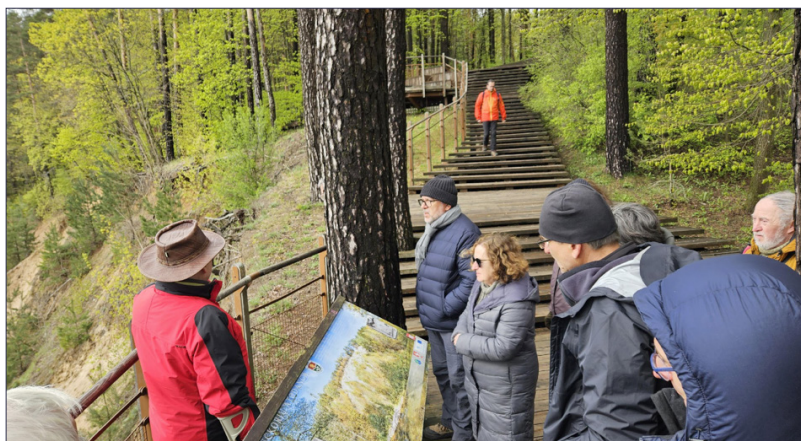
The European UNESCO Geoparks met from 5 to 9 March (2024) in Turkey's only geopark, Kula-Salihli. Members from 29 European countries exchanged views on new developments in the geopark network. Ideas were discussed and joint projects further developed in numerous thematic workshops. There was also the opportunity to make new contacts and think about possible cooperation projects with existing ones. Geological Survey Ireland was represented at the meeting as a member of the Burren Cliffs of Moher UGGp, along with representatives from all four UGGp's and one aspiring UGGp on the Island of Ireland and Geological Survey Northern Ireland.

The Kula-Salihli Geopark, which is located around 100 km east of Izmir, is characterised by its volcanic landscape and rich cultural heritage. The earth pyramids (fairy chimneys) found there are an extraordinary phenomenon.



Attendees of the 49th European Geoparks Network (EGN) Coordination committee meeting; Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark, Turkey

European GeoSurveys; Geological Heritage Expert Group Meeting – Lithuania.



Members of the EuroGeoSurveys expert group on geoheritage learn about a soft sediment exposure, geoheritage site in Vilnius, Lithuania.

The European GeoSurveys Expert Group on Geoheritage met in-person in Vilnius, Lithuania on the 22 & 23rd April 2024. The meeting included a field learning excursion to some of Lithuania's sites of geological heritage on the second day. The meeting was attended by 20 people, including 7 online participants. Ireland was represented by Clare Glanville of Geological Survey Ireland.

The meeting included proposals for collaboration with the Expert Groups on Urban Geology and Minerals. A series of on-line webinars run by the expert group were agreed for the forthcoming year, and a discussion on contributions to the EGS EGD1 geoheritage database was productive.

Irish UNESCO Global Geopark Forum – Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark, Co. Cavan & Fermanagh.

The Irish UNESCO Global Geoparks held their National Forum on the 7th and 8th of November 2024.

This event was hosted by Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark, a transnational geopark in Cavan and Fermanagh. There

was a meeting with presentations on the first day, followed by a field trip on the second day.

The theme of the event was “The Language of Landscape” and explored this topic through the lens of geoheritage with guest speakers Mr Liam Ó hAisibéil, Ms Anne O’Donoghue and Bruce Misstear speaking about topographical elements in Irish place-names, philanthropic funding for heritage and related challenges and Holy wells as part of our geoheritage, respectively.



Keynote Address:
Bruce Misstear

Guest Speaker:
Liam Ó hAisibéil

Guest Speaker:
Anne O’Donoghue

You are cordially invited to:

The Irish Geoparks Forum
Thursday 7 & Friday 8 November 2024
Slieve Russell Hotel, Co Cavan

Theme: The Language of Landscapes

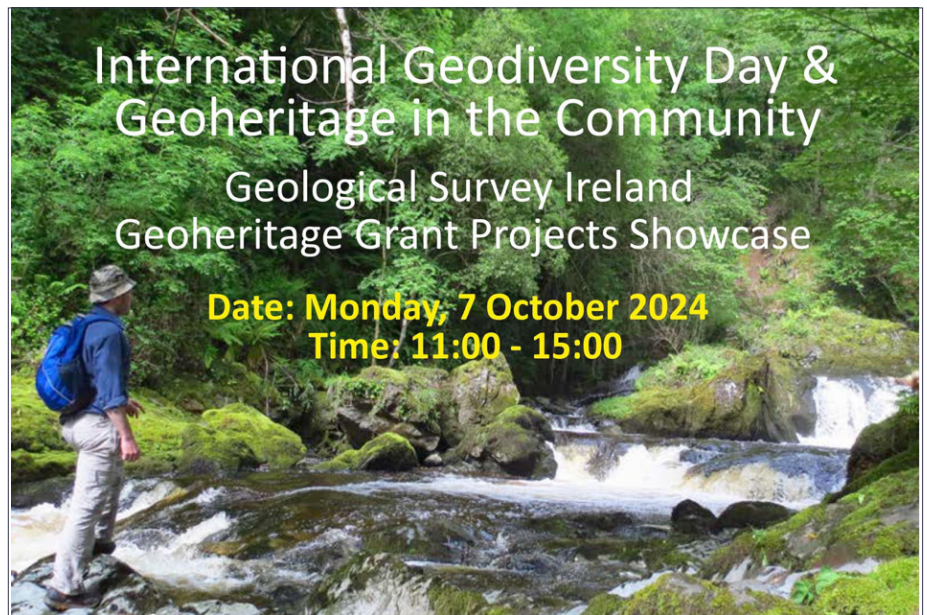
Book your
FREE Ticket by
Friday 1 November
2024



Geological Survey Ireland Geoheritage Grant Project Showcase - Dublin

In part to mark International Geodiversity Day and in part to celebrate geoheritage in the community, Geological Survey Ireland’s Geoheritage Programme hosted an event in Tom Johnston House / Beggars Bush on Monday, 7 October 2024, to celebrate Irish geoheritage. The day showcased the projects from around the country that were funded by our annual geoheritage grants over the last few years. Funded projects gave short, informal updates on products, interpretative boards, and other work they’ve done to make geology and geoheritage accessible to the public, while each project also had a stand area to display their work.

It was a successful, colourful and interesting event. There was great networking, sharing of ideas, enthusiasm, and many examples of geoheritage in the community supporting the Sustainable Development Goals’ (SDGs). Of striking interest was the number of follow on and subsequent community developments that had evolved as a result of the initially funded grant projects.



Advertisement image for Geological Survey Ireland’s geoheritage grant projects showcase event in October 2024, in association with International Geodiversity Day.

The Path from Mateo Tepe ProGEO and Native Americans

by: **Richard W. Stoffle** [rstoffle@arizona.edu]

Geologists and other Earth scientists are increasingly organizing to support the identification, interpretation, and protection of Geoplaces, Geotrails, and Geoscapes. There is, however, a largely untapped partnership awaiting in this effort from Native people who have celebrated geologically special places, trails, and landscapes for tens of thousands of years. Such places occupy culturally central positions in their ceremonies, education, and heritage. Our research team has argued based on a decade of field ethnography with Native people in North America that geologically special places have been, and continue to serve, as epistemological anchors in Native thought about the Earth.



Devils Tower has been recognized as geologically special for decades and is a U.S. National Monument. These protections derived from its geoh heritage and its scientific value. Our ethnographic analysis, however, argues that Mateo Tepe could be more completely understood, managed, and preserved if its deep cultural centrality were also recognized. This Geosite was recently added to the Second 100 IUGS Geological Heritage Sites. By including the geoh heritage of Native peoples in the Devil Tower story, it has become ecologically even more special and is now celebrated worldwide.

In a recent article, “Mateo Tepe or Devils Tower: Native and Tourist Differences in Geosite Interpretations,” the authors shared Native views of a place more commonly called Devils Tower.

ProGEO Symposium XIIth International

by: **ProGEO**

The International Association for the Conservation of Geological Heritage – ProGEO, the National Institute of Marine Geology and Geoecology – GeoEcoMar, the University of Bucharest and the Cimmerian Dobrogea Geopark are pleased to invite you to participate in the XIIth International ProGEO Symposium that will be held in Tulcea and Cimmerian Dobrogea Geopark, from 30th of September to 2nd of October 2025.

More details are available on the symposium website
www.progeo2025.com.

ProGEO will have a General Assembly this autumn. The date is October 2nd and will include election of President (elected separately), Executive secretary and all other officers in the executive committee, except Vice Presidents.

The executive secretary has now served for two terms and cannot be re-elected to this position and will therefore need replacement according to ProGEO articles.



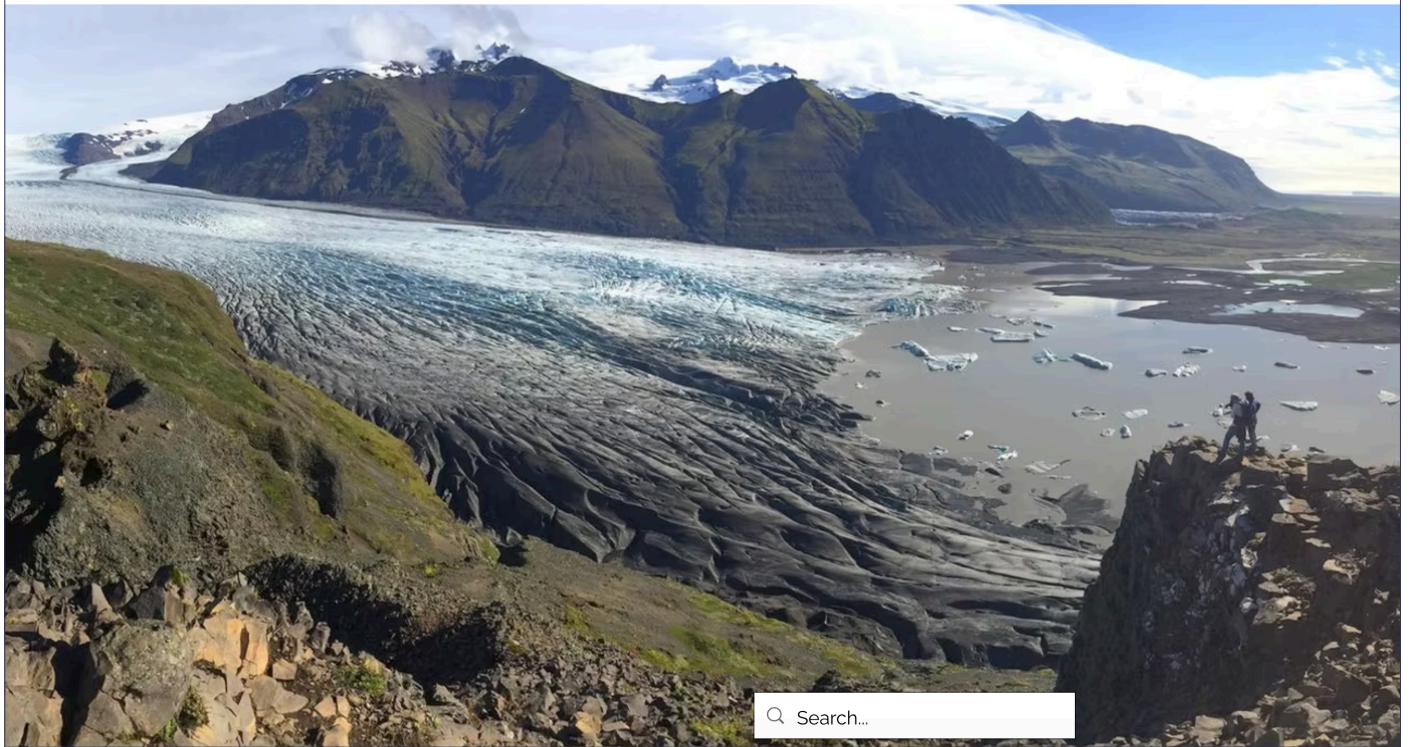
ProGEO “lunched” the new website.

Please take some time to explore and discover the new and improved features.



ProGEO

International Association for the
Conservation of Geological Heritage





Next issue of ProGEO NEWS (deadline)

September 15th, 2025

Please send contributions to ProGEO NEWS. Members are interested in things that happen all over the world, your experiences, activities, science, geosites, geoconservation and geotourism efforts!

september

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ProGEO NEWS are available in the ProGEO site (under publications) www.progeo.ngo

ProGEO NEWS issued with information about ProGEO and its activities.

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Please send your contributions (unformatted word file). Photographs, maps and figures should be sent as separated files (preferentially not included in the word file).

If longer texts are needed, please contact the editor.

ProGEO: international association for the conservation of geological heritage.

President: Kevin Page • Executive Secretary: Ewa Główniak • Treasurer: Sven Lundqvist.

Membership subscription: € 50 (including GEOHERITAGE journal), 25/yr.(without GEOHERITAGE journal). Institutional subscription: €185/yr.

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