



1863-2013 – Events programme for 2013

Date	Type of event	Title and summary description
Thu 7 March	Exhibition	<p><i>Citizen Science: 150 years of the Belfast Naturalists' Field Club</i> Ulster Museum, Belfast</p> <p>- evening preview for members, and opening by environmentalist and broadcaster Brian Black</p> <p>- open to the public from Fri 8 March to Sun 2 June (Museum closed Mondays)</p>
Tue 12 March	Dinner	<p><i>150th Anniversary Dinner</i> Reform Club, Belfast</p> <p>- guest speaker Jonathan Wright (Queen's University Belfast)</p>
Wed 10 April	Lecture	<p><i>City of Science: Victorian and Edwardian Belfast</i> lunchtime lecture series, organised by Queen's University Belfast, hosted by Ulster Museum, starting 1.00pm</p> <p>- No.1 Nuala Johnson (Queen's University Belfast) <i>Buildings and cultivating the exotic in nineteenth-century Botanic Gardens</i></p>
Wed 17 April	Lecture	<p><i>City of Science: Victorian and Edwardian Belfast</i> lunchtime lecture series, organised by Queen's University Belfast, hosted by Ulster Museum, starting 1.00pm</p> <p>- No.2 Greta Jones (University of Ulster) <i>Eugenics in Belfast</i></p>
Sat 20 April	Conference	<p><i>Irish Field Clubs: Past, Present and Future</i> 10.00am-4.00pm Ulster Museum</p> <p>- including launch of new Federation of Irish Field Clubs</p> <p>- speakers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Declan Doogue (Dublin Naturalists' Field Club) [introduction] <i>If we don't do it, who will?</i> • Diarmid Finnegan (Queen's University Belfast) <i>The Field Club Revolution: a Brief History</i> • David Allen (author of the 1976 classic <i>The Naturalist in Britain</i>) <i>A.G. More and his circle</i> • Michael Longley <i>Rambling with Raymond Piper</i> • Ken James <i>Ireland's Eye: photographer RJ Welch</i> • short presentations from participating clubs • discussion forum on the different approaches to field studies, ways to encourage cooperation among field clubs, to share our accumulated field knowledge and expertise and to initiate joint field projects

		- if you hope to attend, please email secretary@bnfc.org.uk before 1 March 2013
Wed 24 April	Lecture	<i>City of Science: Victorian and Edwardian Belfast</i> lunchtime lecture series, organised by Queen's University Belfast, hosted by Ulster Museum, starting 1.00pm - No.3 David Livingstone (Queen's University Belfast) - <i>John Tyndall and the winter of discontent</i>
Wed 1 May	Lecture	<i>City of Science: Victorian and Edwardian Belfast</i> lunchtime lecture series, organised by Queen's University Belfast, hosted by Ulster Museum, starting 1.00pm No.4 John Wilson Foster (Queen's University Belfast) [editor of <i>Nature in Ireland: A Scientific and Cultural History</i> 1997] title to be announced
Tue 7 May	Members' Night	<i>Table Quiz</i> Ulster Museum, Belfast - based on <i>Citizen Science: 150 years of the Belfast Naturalists' Field Club</i> exhibition and 2012 summer programme
Sat 11 May	Excursion	<i>Archaeology</i> Cranmore and Giant's Ring (1863 and 1913 excursions) – conductor Barrie Hartwell - Victorian style picnic tea
Sat 18 May	Excursion	<i>Zoology / Botany</i> Killough and Killard (1913 excursion) – conductors Catherine Bertrand (Butterfly Conservation NI) and Margaret Marshall
Tue 21 May	Reception	Sentry Hill, Newtownabbey - evening tour and reception given by Newtownabbey Borough Council
Fri 31 May – Mon 3 June	Field conference	<i>Federation of Irish Field Club's Weekend Field Conference</i> at Derrygonnelly Field Centre, Co. Fermanagh - first field meeting of new Federation of Irish Field Clubs: - Fri evening - arrival, informal get-together - Sat - Marble Arch and Cuilcagh Geopark – conductor to be announced - Sun - Correl Glen, Monawilkin National Nature Reserve, Lough Navar Forest Park - conductor Robert Northridge - evening mini-Conversazione - Mon - boat trip from Enniskillen to Devenish Island - conductor Claire Foley

Sun 9 June	Excursion	<i>General / Geology</i> Giant's Causeway, Co. Antrim - to photograph members on The Honeycombe [Middle Causeway], matching the famous photo taken on Thursday 11 June 1868 - geology tour - conductor Paul Lyle
Tue 18 June	Excursion	<i>Botany</i> Cavehill from Hightown Road (1888 and 1988 excursions) - conductor Roger Field
Sat 6 July	Excursion	<i>Botany / Archaeology</i> Kilbroney (1938 excursion) – conductors Graham Day and Claire Foley
Sat 3 August	Excursion	<i>Geology</i> Whitehead quarry, Co. Antrim (1863 excursion) - conductor Bernard Anderson
Autumn	Blue Plaque	Possible installation and unveiling of Blue Plaque for BNFC member Robert Bell (1864-1934), Harland & Wolff riveter and outstanding amateur naturalist
Autumn	Memorial restoration	Possible installation of replica of founder member Samuel Stewart's (c.1826-1910) missing gravestone plaque, Belfast City Cemetery – new cast to be taken from Rosamond Praeger's original plaster plaque, commissioned by the Field Club in 1911 and later donated to the City Museum & Art Gallery (now the Ulster Museum)
Autumn	Tree-planting	Possible planting of commemorative tree(s) – site to be identified
From March onwards	Recording project	Garden recording project – participating members to photograph their gardens and record species, repeated at intervals throughout the year

PRC 2 January 2013