

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1900hrs – Free Observing Session**

This will take place at the club's dark sky observing site at Bearna Wind Farm. All are welcome; whether experienced observers or complete beginners. If you have a telescope feel free to bring it, if not, pop along and share one of ours. Assemble at The Twelve Hotel, Bearna, and depart at 1845 hrs. As this event is weather-dependant a final decision will be made on Thurs. 26<sup>th</sup> Jan and posted on the club Facebook page.

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Jan. Trade Displays and Exhibition**

Running alongside the day's other events some of Ireland's largest sellers of astronomical equipment will have their wares on display. The hall will also host stands providing information on Dark Sky festivals, displays of astrophotography, information stands and more.

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1230 – 1400 Lunchtime Workshops**

For those interested in the more hands-on aspects of astronomy, the Club will run two workshops during the lunch break, dedicated to the more practical aspects of astronomy. This will also represent an ideal opportunity to ask any of those astronomy questions you always wanted to ask.

**Lecture Program – Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Jan.**

**0900 – 1000:** Registration

**1000 – 1015:** Opening Address and Welcome

**1015 – 1115: Exploring the Cosmos – The View from Hubble and Beyond.**  
Dr. Deirdre Coffey, Assistant Professor, School of Physics, UCD

**1115 – 1215: A Mayan Adventure in Historical Astronomy**  
Dr. David Asher, Armagh Observatory & Planetarium.

**1230 – 1400:** Lunch break and workshops

**1400 – 1500: An Introduction to Space Law and the Challenges It Faces**  
Dr. Zeldine O'Brien, Barrister & Lecturer.

**1500 – 1600: Robotic Exploration of the Solar System**  
Dr. Wesley Fraser, Queens University Belfast

**1600 – 1630: Tea & Coffee**

**1630 - 1730: The Patrick Moore Memorial Lecture: ET- Where are you?**  
Terry Moseley, Irish Astronomical Association.

**1730 – 1830:** Guided Tour of the NUIG Astrophysics Observatory

**1830 – 2000:** Astrofest Evening Meal

**2000 -** Fiendishly Difficult (only kidding) Table Quiz.

**Tickets:**

**Guests: €25. Club Members: €15. Students/OAP: €15 Children (U16): Free Evening Dinner: €30**

**Free For Festival Guests (of all ages) – Mobile Planetarium**

A special treat, and especially suitable for children, Big Bear Planetariums will be setting up their mobile dome and holding shows throughout the day. Shows are free for all Festival Guests.



**Special for Children (of all ages!) Space Art Workshop.**

Again free for Festival Guests, Astronomer, Artist and Educator Deirdre Kelleghan will hold a workshop on how to draw Astronomical images and an introduction to space art.



# Astrofest 2017

Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Jan – Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Jan