BGS Open Day 2015
This year is the 200th anniversary of William Smith's groundbreaking geological map. You can visit William Smith in the Library! We also have activities by scientists working in polar exploration, atmospheric research, ecology, Earth observation and oceanography as part of the 50th anniversary celebrations of our parent organisation, the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC).

Speakers
A packed programme of presentations is taking place in the De La Beche conference suite, which you will find upstairs in the Red Zone. Look out for the programme, which will be posted prominently around the site.

Ticketed activities and tours
Tickets are available at the information point (see map overleaf). Please note that places are limited.

Technical Engineering Our engineers and scientists work closely together in these workshops to design and build bespoke laboratory and field equipment. (30 mins)

‘Geological landscaping’ of the Keyworth site A brief introduction to the geology of the Geological Walk, explaining the rationale behind the selection of the many featured rocks. www.bgs.ac.uk/geologicalwalk. (30 mins)

3D geology Fly through the landscape on a virtual 3D tour! GeoVisionary 3D visualisation software was developed jointly by Virtalis and the BGS. It is used around the world by geological surveys, mining companies and environmental researchers. (20 mins)

The core and rock storage halls These buildings, part of the National Geological Repository, are not to be missed. A vast storage facility housing over 550 km of drillcore as well as the Survey’s extensive collection of reference material from North Sea oil wells, rock specimens, fossils and minerals. Rocks collected by Charles Darwin from the Galapagos Islands and the first rocks collected from Antarctica will be on display. (30 mins)

Montserrat—seconds from catastrophe? An hour-long role-play based on real events that took place on the Caribbean island of Montserrat during a volcanic eruption. How would you manage this crisis? Suitable for Year 6 children to adults. (60 mins)

Creating EARTH-SHATTERING legends! Snail Tales will uncover the beliefs of ancient cultures about the causes of earthquakes... and then zip forward in time to explore what modern science tells us! Presented with a colourful array of storytelling techniques—including plenty of joining-in. Tickets in the morning only, just turn up in the afternoon. (45 mins)

Interactive displays and demonstrations
Green zone
The British Antarctic Survey, National Centre for Atmospheric Science and Centre for Ecology and Hydrology will join us here. Wear Antarctic kit, try dinosaur dancing and play giant snakes and ladders.

Red zone
Learn about tsunamis, volcanoes, earthquakes and marine life! This zone includes our School Seismology project which enables students to detect signals from large earthquakes happening around the world. Discover marine creatures with the National Oceanography Centre and find out how and why we map the sea floor. The William Smith map and fossils are upstairs in the Library.

Yellow zone
We have produced maps for 180 years, but we also provide lots of information and data online. We have apps that are used by geologists, consultants and gardeners—in fact anyone with an interest in geology. Find out more and learn how to access this rich store of information.

Magenta zone
2015 is the International Year of Soils. Find out what soil is made of, where we have surveyed soil, and learn about medical geology.

Orange zone
Discover how landslides and subsidence happen. Learn about shallow geohazards and monitoring the Earth using lasers and satellites—and see your laser image! The National Centre for Earth Observation will show you how they monitor Earth’s temperature from Space.

Purple zone
Human-driven biological, chemical and physical changes to the Earth’s system are so great, rapid and distinct that they may characterise an entirely new epoch—the Anthropocene. Learn more about it through our interactive displays, which include the secret life of your mobile phone. Then and roll up your sleeves and have a go at panning for ‘gold’!

Blue zone
This is where the London Volcano will be erupting! We also have lots of fun watery activities for you to try. Learn more about the water cycle and try our water-tasting challenge.