This is a conference to celebrate 200 years since the birth of the Manx marine scientist Edward Forbes, featuring presentations on current marine science and conservation in the Isle of Man and insights into Forbes' life and achievements. The conference is jointly hosted by the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture, Manx National Heritage and the Isle of Man Natural History and Antiquarian Society.

Registration rates:

- Early registration (book before the end of Jan) - £45
- Late registration (if booked in Feb) - £70
- Early one day registration (if booked before the end of Jan) - £20
- Late one day registration (if booked in Feb) - £30

All the above include lunch on Friday and Saturday.

- Early afternoon registration Thursday - £10
- Late afternoon registration Thursday - £15

Concessions are available for full time students and unwaged – get in touch for more details.

To register go to: https://eventbrite.co.uk/event/15076951568/

For more information contact Fiona Gell on 01624 695738 or email fiona.gell@gov.im
Programme

Thursday 12 February

2.00 – Introduction

2.10 - Welcome from Edmund Southworth, Director of Manx National Heritage.

Session 1 – Edward Forbes and the history of the marine environment


3.00 – Paul Weatherall, Manx National Heritage – The Manx Marine Environment: as represented in the Manx National Heritage Library & Archive collections.

3.20 – Dr Philippa Tomlinson, DEFA/Curragh Environmental Consultancy – Exploring marine environmental history through archaeology.

3.40 - Refreshments

4.10 – Ivor Rees, Bangor University – Forbes’ southwestern biogeographic zone in the Irish and the enigmatic indicator bivalve Callista chione.

4.30 – Graihagh Hardinge, Natural History Museum and University of Southampton – Edward Forbes and the deep sea: Paving the way for jellyfish research in the Irish Sea and beyond.

4.50 – Session summary/discussion

5.00 - Close

Friday 13 February

9.15 - Introduction

9.20 - Welcome from Hon Richard Ronan, Minister of Environment, Food and Agriculture

9.25 am – Professor Steve Hawkins, University of Southampton - Long-term changes in marine biodiversity and ecosystems in a biogeographic boundary zone first defined by Forbes - the British Isles and Ireland.

Session 2 – Marine science and fisheries management

10.10 – Dr Isobel Bloor, Bangor University – The role of marine science in developing sustainable fisheries for the Isle of Man.

10.30 – Fikret Ondes, Bangor University – The catch characteristics and population structure of the brown crab (Cancer pagurus) fishery in the Isle of Man

10.50 - Sam Dignan, Bangor University – The Fisheries Management Zone in Ramsey Marine Nature Reserve.

11.10 – Refreshments
11.40 – Guy Sutton – Baie ny Carrickey Closed Area - A fishermen’s perspective.

12.00 – Dr Pieter-Jan Schon AFBI, Northern Ireland – Spawning migration patterns and abundance trends of herring around the Isle of Man.

12.30 – Dr Michael Teare – 19th century fishing industry entrepreneurs in Peel.

12.50 – Session summary/discussion.

1.00 – Lunch.

**Session 3 - Marine Science and Management**

2.00 – Dr Kev Kennington, DEFA – Marine Monitoring in Manx Waters – Implications for Fisheries and Marine Conservation Management.

2.20 – TBC

2.40 – Kate Hawkins, Manx National Heritage - The Calf Manx Shearwater Recovery Project: are we winning?

3.00 – Dr Karen Galtress, DEFA – Diadromous fish of the Isle of Man.

3.20 – Refreshments

3.50 – Dr Stuart Jenkins, Bangor University – Intertidal ecology in the Isle of Man. TBC


4.30 – Dr Peter Duncan, DEFA – Manx Pectinids – the lesser known scallops.

4.50 – Session summary/discussion.

**Saturday 14 February**

9.15am- Introduction

9.20am -Welcome from Frank Cowin (TBC), Isle of Man Natural History and Antiquarian Society.

**Session 4 – Marine Biodiversity**

9.25 – Dr Les Noble, Aberdeen University – Basking shark genetics in Manx waters and beyond.

10.10 – Jackie Hall, Manx Basking Shark Watch - Manx Basking Shark Watch’s Research Findings 2005-2014: Facilitating informed basking shark conservation locally and globally

10.30 – Graham Hall, Manx Basking Shark Watch - Shark tagging innovation

10.50 – Rowan Henthorn, Manx Basking Shark Watch - Basking Sharks: Why here, and what now?

11.10 – Refreshments
11.40 – Tom Felce, Manx Whale and Dolphin Watch – Risso's dolphins of the Isle of Man

12.00 – Bryony Manley, Manx Whale and Dolphin Watch – Underwater eavesdropping: A first use of C-PODs in Manx waters to investigate porpoise and dolphin presence.

12.20 – Session summary/discussion

12.30 - 13.30 Lunch

13.30 – Dr Richard Hartnoll - One crab leads to another: Port Erin to Ascension Island and back again.

Session 5 - Public engagement in marine science and conservation

14.10 – Dr Fiona Gell, DEFA – Marine Protected Areas in the Isle of Man.


14.50 - Dr Jan Gledhill, DEFA/Manx Wildlife Trust – “OMG that’s properly scruffy!” - Encouraging the next generation of naturalists – reflections on marine education in schools.

15.10 – Refreshments.

15.40 – Tony Glen, Seasearch – Seasearch Isle of Man – an overview.

16.00 – Dr Lara Howe, Manx Wildlife Trust – Small shark tagging in Manx waters.

16.20 - Bill Dale, Beach Buddies – Dreams can come true - we can change the world.

16.40 - Session summary/discussion

17.00 - Close