

Inaugural Tom Keane AGMET Lecture

'A half-century of weather forecasting in Ireland'

Presented by Gerald Fleming



The Tom Keane AGMET Lecture Series

This event, organised jointly by the [AGMET](#) Group and the [Irish Meteorological Society](#), is to launch the Tom Keane AGMET Lecture Series. Tom, who sadly passed away last year, was a founder of the AGMET Group in 1984. The ongoing Tom Keane lecture series is an attempt to commemorate Tom's influence on Irish agrometeorology and his passion for education.

The Inaugural Tom Keane AGMET Lecture

The Inaugural Tom Keane Lecture will be given by Met Éireann's Head of Forecast Division, Gerald Fleming, with a talk entitled **'A half-century of weather forecasting in Ireland'**

This talk will consider how weather forecasting has evolved since the early days of AGMET – from charts that were plotted and analysed by hand, through the explosion of data from weather satellites, the automation of surface weather observations, and on to the “computing revolution” that brought us Numerical Weather Prediction. Where farmers once had to pay rapt attention to the “weatherman” after the Nine O'clock News, now weather information is on-tap 24hrs a day. The presentation will dwell not just on the changes, but the challenges that these changes have brought in their wake.



Gerald Fleming is Head of Forecast Division for Met Éireann, the Irish Meteorological Service. He took out B.Sc and M.Sc degrees in Experimental Physics before joining Met Éireann in 1980. For most of his 37 years with Met Éireann he has worked as a weather forecaster and a weather broadcaster. For the World Meteorological Organisation he has been Chair of the Open Programme Area Group on Public Weather Services for the past decade, and is a member of the Management Group of the Commission for Basic Systems. He has lectured extensively, and conducted many training courses, on weather communication and related matters. Among his publications, he is chapter author of the joint World Bank / WMO / Climate Services partnership publication “Valuing Weather and Climate; - Economic Assessment of Meteorological and Hydrological Services”.

Lecture Venue

The talk will be held in the lecture theatre of the main reception building, National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin 9.

Direction to the National Botanic Gardens:

The National Botanic Gardens are located in Glasnevin, Dublin 9. A map and directions are available at <http://www.botanicgardens.ie/educ/gettingthere.htm> . The following buses serve the area: [4](#), [9](#) and [83](#) and the nearest train station is [Drumcondra](#) (a 15 minute walk away).

Parking:

The National Botanic Gardens car park will be specially opened for the event. Charges apply. Entrance is via Botanic Road.

Registration:

The event is free to attend but registration is essential. You can obtain your free ticket at <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/the-inaugural-tom-keane-agmet-lecture-tickets-36187816734>

Tea and Coffee:

Tea and coffee will be provided in advance of the talks i.e. from 6:30pm – 7:00pm outside the lecture theatre.

Guided Tour of the National Botanic Gardens:

There is an option of a guided tour of the National Botanic Gardens. The professionally guided tour will last approximately 45 minutes and will cost €5. ***For those who wish to go on the tour please book your place by letting info@agmet.ie know in advance.*** Payment can be made at the reception desk on the day. The tour will start from the reception desk in the main building at 17:40.

We look forward to meeting you on the day

Queries to keith.lambkin@met.ie

AGMET



The AGMET Group in association with the Irish Meteorological Society
Announces the Inaugural Tom Keane AGMET Lecture
'A half-century of weather forecasting in Ireland' presented by Gerald Fleming

Venue: National Botanic Gardens lecture theatre

Date: Tuesday 5th Sep 2017

Time: 5:30pm – 8.30pm

5:30 pm **Optional Tour of National Botanic Gardens**

6:30 pm **Registration, Tea/Coffee**

7:00 pm Welcome from the IMS Declan Murphy – Overview IMS, EMS 2017 (5 min)

7:05 pm AGMET Group overview Tamara Hochstrasser – History and overview (10 min)

7:15 pm National Botanic Gardens Felicity Gaffney – History and current activities (15 min)

7:30 pm Tom Keane Lecture Gerald Fleming – Guest speaker (30 min)

8:00 pm Presentation to Tom Keane's family (5 min)

8:05 pm Bronze medal talk Winner of Bronze medal (10 min)

8:15 pm Presentation of Bronze medal (5 min)

8:20 pm Concluding Remarks Keith Lambkin (5 min)

8:30pm **Ends**