

Dear Geographers,

Feeling impatient? Can't wait to have your geography degree in hand to go out into the work and make your mark? Well you don't have to wait, there's a general election around the corner. Make sure to get stuck into the politicians when they arrive at your door – demand action on issues of justice, sustainability, planning, rural futures and the health of the planet. Then **vote** (please don't think voting is an ineffective means of driving change – just look at the US and GB to see how powerful it is).

RESEARCH highlights

One of Geography's doctoral researchers, Kate Flood [@irishboglife](#), is hosting a community mapping workshop on Jan 25th on the heritage & future of Abbeyleix Bog. Read all about it at [laois-nationalist.ie](#)

Dr Maura Farrell is in Paris this week at a Ruralization event looking at why when we try to ensure *sustainability* and *generational renewal* we must not forget the economic aspect. The loss of farming is a big loss for the entire society. See link for more on the proposed CAP objective [Viable farm income](#)

Of note around Geography this week

Check out the incredible artwork of our very own Gordon Bromley at

[The Art of Science](#)

In his own words ...

"Beyond the science, these places are also highly moving, psychologically. Between bouts of coring bogs, chiselling glacial erratics, and mapping moraines, I let my mind wander the same landscapes but on a different plane, and with different tools - pens, pencils, and, watercolour.

I derive my inspiration from the shapes I encounter, knowing that within even the darkest, most ancient rock face resides a history of titanic dynamism, that ice can crush, and that the forces of nature continue to shape our lives in every way imaginable."

The Department has developed a brand-new BSc with our colleagues in the Science Faculty - [BSc in Geography and Geosystems](#), beginning Sept 2020. Graduates of this programme will be trained in human-environment relationships with a focus on the spatial dynamics of the natural world and the sustainable management of our natural resources.

Upcoming talks

G is for Gold: the story of ancient goldwork in Galway

Dr Mary Cahill

Town Hall Theatre, 1:10pm to 1:50pm, Thursday Jan 23rd

See a link to full programme here: [Spring Lunchtime Lecture Series 2020](#)