



MEDIA RELEASE

Ref: 007DN : gravity fields

Release date: 1 March 2012



Isaac Newton festival set for national stage

A national festival is being funded by SKDC as a 21st century exploration of the scientific discoveries of Grantham's most famous son - Sir Isaac Newton.

Gravity Fields launches on September 21 for eight days of events including theatre and science shows and a science and culture symposium in multiple locations including Harlaxton Manor, Belton House and Newton's birthplace at Woolsthorpe Manor in Colsterworth.

It's an imaginative and creative festival to explore Newton's scientific discoveries and his life, involving not only international scientists and science history academics but also artists of international repute.

The council investment includes ambitious plans to bring the National Portrait gallery to exhibit locally, a magical luminary light show and a spectacular procession through Grantham as a festival finale.

In fact Grantham could be quite literally transformed, using unused retail space to temporarily create an apothecary shop, a Royal Mint and the sort of alchemy laboratory of which Newton would be proud.

An education and community programme will begin in the summer term and there will be a programme of school visits and events during Festival week.

SKDC hopes the festival, to take place every two years, will build on Grantham's link with Newton in a similar way that Stratford successfully exploits the birthplace of Shakespeare and the small town of Hay on Wye is now a leading literary festival.

SKDC Leader Cllr Linda Neal said: "Our investment in Gravity Fields as a festival is a major commitment to the district, our culture and arts investment and we are confident that it will prove a major draw. It will help put the district on the map as a place to visit and do business, which can only build as the Festival develops."

ENDS

For more details contact Rosemary Richards SKDC's festival co-ordinator
rosemary@rosaproductions.co.uk

-ends-

For media enquiries:

Email the SKDC communications team at pr@southkesteven.gov.uk or phone
01476 406498 or 406440.