

The Extraordinary Life and Legacy of William Thomson, Lord Kelvin: Absolute Zero Hero

World Refrigeration Day now marks the birthday of William Thomson, Lord Kelvin, on the date of his birth, 26th June. This year, 2024, is the 200th anniversary of his birth in Belfast.



To celebrate World Refrigeration Day 2024, the Institute of Refrigeration Ireland is pleased to present a series of events celebrating the life and work of Lord Kelvin, William Thomson of Belfast. The events will take place in the newly redeveloped 'The Kelvin' building on the site at College Square East in Belfast where William Thompson was born.

The events centre around a talk on the extraordinary life and legacy of the man who became known as Lord Kelvin, whose name is forever associated with refrigeration and the temperature scale used to pinpoint Absolute Zero, the lowest possible temperature in the universe.

Timetable of Events

- 1.30 p.m. – 2.30 p.m. Welcome and light lunch at The Kelvin building, College Square East**
- 2.00 p.m. Official Launch of the day's events by Ms. Margaret Rafter, IRI Events Chair.**
- 2.05 p.m. Release of *The Illustrious Life of Lord Kelvin* picture book, translated into English from the original Spanish as published in Mexico in 1965. Mr. Don Hoban, IRI Technical Committee chair. A copy will be given to each attendee.**
- 2.10 pm. Screening of the vintage 1946 B&W film on "Kelvin Master of Measurement" In The Kelvin conference room (40 minutes). Popcorn and drinks included!**
- 3.00 – 4.30 Talk on *The Extraordinary Life and Legacy of William Thomson, Lord Kelvin: Absolute Zero Hero* and virtuoso in the areas of mathematics, electricity, telegraphy, hydrodynamics and heat transfer. Declan Fitzmaurice, IRI**
- 4.30 p.m. Presentation of a piece of Kelvin's transatlantic cable of 1866 by Martin O'Brien, Technological University of Ireland and IRI President**
A unique piece of the first successful transatlantic telegraph cable which ran from Ireland to Canada will be given to one attendee drawn from those attending.
- 4.35 p.m. Lord Kelvin, first president of the International Electrotechnical Commission**
Jonathan Quigley of National Standards Authority of Ireland will mark the occasion representing the IEC. Kelvin was appointed first President of the IEC at their inaugural meeting in 1906 on the day of his 80th birthday, 26th June, now World Refrigeration Day!
- 4.40 p.m. Closing address by Miriam Rodway, CEO of the Institute of Refrigeration UK, marking World Refrigeration Day 2024**



This webinar is free to attend (subject to seating capacity) but registration is required.

To attend please register through the IRI website www.iri.ie