



HM Government of Gibraltar

Ministry of Sports, Culture,
Heritage and Youth

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Calpe Conference commences on Thursday

This year's Calpe Conference – *Past Worlds: Neanderthal and Modern Human Response to Climate and Environmental Change* – will be officially launched this Thursday at 9 am by the Hon Steven Linares, Minister for Heritage. The conference, which will be held at the University of Gibraltar, brings together specialists from many fields of research. The Friday session will be dedicated to the Gibraltar Neanderthals and will summarise the research which contributed to our knowledge of its outstanding universal value and, ultimately, World Heritage Status.

Not all will be Neanderthals. The opening session on Thursday includes general issues, such as the impact of El Niño in Ancient Peru and a review of the archaeological record on fishing. This session will also include a specific paper on how people in Gibraltar coped with water shortages in the 19th and early 20th Centuries. The final day, Saturday, has more lectures on climate change impact in South America and this will be contrasted to southern Iberia. The closing lecture will be given by Professor Miguel Araujo, a leading biogeographer, who will ask the question “Does Biodiversity have a Future?”

Given the interdisciplinary nature of the conference, it promises to have something of interest to a wide audience, from ecologists to historians. Registration is now open at the Gibraltar Museum (Telephone 200 74289 or enquiries@gibmuseum.gi) and is free for local residents.

A copy of the full programme is attached.

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HM Government of Gibraltar • City Hall, John Mackintosh Square • Gibraltar GX11 1AA

t +350 20047592 (Centrex 2624) f +350 20047579 (Centrex 1989)

e mschy.info@gibraltar.gov.gi w gibraltar.gov.gi