



P R E S S R E L E A S E

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TALKING SCIENCE

As we fast approach the end of 2001, Westlakes Research Institute looks forward to the last lecture in this year's series - which will take place on Tuesday 11 December with Dr David Knight from Newcastle University asking the question 'Is there life in the Universe?' It also reflects on a very successful lecture series that is free of charge and accessible to members of the general public. Our lectures have attracted over *** people to ** events here in West Cumbria, providing stimulating, authoritative talks on topical and exciting themes for today's enquiring mind. WRI have been instrumental in bridging the knowledge gap, enabling the West Cumbrian community to satisfy its thirst for knowledge.

The Institute, works with Northern based Universities and local scientific/technological Societies to deliver a programme of free public lectures in a bid to raise awareness of the role of science in today's society. Previous lecture topics have included 'the Cause and Consequences of Global Warming', the Hubble Space Telescope, Science and Society and an insight into Forensic Science.

Wendy McBain, Outreach Co-ordinator for the Institute said "these lectures provide an opportunity for local people to hear more about science and it has been encouraging to see an increase in the number of 6th formers from local schools coming along, some of whom are considering a career in science. We hope this will continue throughout next year."

A detailed programme of next years lectures is available to members of the public on request, along with details of the first in a number of debates we will be hosting - Preservation: The enemy of

progress? For more information please contact Mrs Wendy McBain on telephone number 01946 514112 or fax your request to 01946 514150.

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