

Abingdon-on-Thames at the heart of science

16th - 24th March 2019

The ATOM Festival of Science & Technology takes place 16th - 24th March 2019. As well as helping promote the Festival, and encouraging staff to take part, two major outreach opportunities exist for organisations wishing to communicate their activities, and allow people to do hands-on science.

The Science Market (Saturday, Mar 23) is a dynamic and inspiring collection of organisations, stands, demonstrations, live science and public engagement on the Abingdon Market Square from 10am 4pm. Participating organisations take a stall on the Square, and interact with visitors through information displays, science demos and individuals happy to chat to visitors about science. Visitors throughout the day are of all ages, from scientists and their families to people who have little experience of science.

ATOM can provide a table and gazebo on the day if required. **Sian Tedaldi** (of University of Oxford Department of Physics) is the Science Market Co-ordinator:

atom.science.market@gmail.com - email for an application form and to book your place.

The Family Science Fair (Sunday, Mar 24) is the grand finale of ATOM. It's a hands-on, lab-based science activity fair for the whole family which takes place at the Yang Science Centre in Abingdon. And it's free to attend. Featuring an impressive array of science organisations including Science Oxford, Curiosity Box, Bright Sparks Science, outreach groups from Oxford Brookes, Oxford University and Reading University, and local science companies.

The Family Science is more aimed at children, young people and their families. The Yang Centre also offers the highest quality school laboratory and science facilities, together with lab technicians on hand to assist. The opportunity is therefore to do more involved demonstrations which would be inappropriate to do outdoors, or where there were not lab facilities on hand.

Dr Jennifer Turner (of Bright Sparks Science) and **Jeremy Thomas** (of The Abingdon Science Partnership) co-ordinate the Family Science Fair. Email them on jenniferh@brightsparksscience.co.uk or jeremy.thomas@abingdon.org.uk

To keep up-to-date, visit on everything taking place, visit <u>www.atomfestival.org.uk/</u> - or like <u>facebook.com/ATOMSciFest/</u> and on twitter: <u>@ATOMSciFest</u>