Athy Heritage Centre - Museum Presents

25 - 28 Oct 2019

19th Annual

Ernest Shackleton Autumn School

Lectures - Exhibitions - Film - Drama - Dinner - Excursion
THE SHACKLETON MUSEUM

Opening in October 2021 the Shackleton Museum will tell the story of Ireland’s legendary explorer. The 300 year old Town Hall will be transformed into a world-class visitor experience dedicated to Ernest Shackleton.

Shackleton’s epic adventures will be brought vividly to life using the latest technology combined with a unique collection of polar artefacts. Join the crew of Endurance in an astounding escape from their ice-bound ship, a journey that would take them almost a year, with no man left behind. Try your hand at life in the Antarctic and see how you got what it takes to follow ‘the Boss’ to a frozen hell and back!

The new development will also see the creation of a dedicated research wing including facilities for archive storage and study which will be available to Polar scholars across the globe.

PLASTIC FREE AUTUMN SCHOOL

Our environment is at its most fragile in the extreme areas of the Globe. Polar Regions act as a barometer of the health of our planet … and the signs are not encouraging. From climate to sea levels to food chains, the frozen areas of the planet are key players in our everyday existence. The Shackleton Autumn School brings together the Polar Regions, science and the environment, along with perspectives of history and human spirit. So, we asked ourselves what initiatives could we take in response to the increasing evidence that our environment is suffering?

We have set a target for 2019 to establish the Shackleton Autumn School as a ‘Plastics Free’ event. We have nominated a ‘Plastics Auditor’ to ensure every reasonable opportunity is taken towards our goal.

If you have any suggestions as to how we might further our environmental objectives, please feel free to let the organising committee know.

FRIDAY 25th October

‘A Master Class with a Master Sculptor’
Athy Heritage Centre – Museum

10.00am Sculptor Mark Richards, who created Athy’s acclaimed Shackleton statue, will conduct a workshop with Leaving Certificate Art students from Coláiste Lorcán, Castledermot and Ardscoil Na Trionóide, Athy.

Official Opening & Exhibition Launch
7.30pm Performed by Frank Taaffe, Chairman Shackleton Museum.

Book Launch Athy Heritage Centre - Museum
8.00pm In association with Methuen publishers, the Shackleton Autumn School is pleased to host the launch of Andy Dickinson’s latest publication Shackleton and His Stowaway.

Daily Exhibition Athy Heritage Centre - Museum
Saturday & Sunday 10.00am - 5.00pm
Bank Holiday Monday 10.00am - 2.00pm

“Quest – Shackleton’s Last Expedition”

The exhibition focuses on Sir Ernest Shackleton’s final expedition to the Antarctic. The exhibition is complemented by artefacts from the Museum’s own and private collections.
**SATURDAY 26th October**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker or Details</th>
<th>Admission</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.00am</td>
<td><strong>“Bransfield and the Discovery of Antarctica”</strong></td>
<td>Jim Wilson</td>
<td>€10</td>
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<td>10.50am</td>
<td>TEA/COFFEE</td>
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<td>11.20</td>
<td><strong>“Tales from the Polar Book Room”</strong></td>
<td>Paul Davies</td>
<td>€10</td>
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<td>12.10</td>
<td><strong>“Silent Witness - the Arctic and Climate Change.”</strong></td>
<td>Dirk Notz</td>
<td>€10</td>
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<td>1.00pm</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.30pm</td>
<td><strong>“Shackleton and the South Pole of the Moon”</strong></td>
<td>David Whitehouse</td>
<td>€10</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.20pm</td>
<td>TEA/COFFEE</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.50pm</td>
<td><strong>The Endurance Diary Inquiry.</strong></td>
<td>Leading experts attempt to fill in the back story of an Endurance crew-member's diary which surfaced on BBC's 'Antiques Roadshow' over 100 years after it was written. Nicki Jemphrey presents for further analysis a mysterious Endurance diary which her father acquired over 40 years ago. Polar experts Bob Burton, Philippa Wordie (whose grandfather James Wordie was a member of Shackleton's Endurance expedition) and Jonathan Shackleton have spent the Summer reviewing the diary and will present their opinions on its provenance.</td>
<td>€10</td>
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<td><strong>Dinner</strong></td>
<td>The Green Barn, Burtown House, Athy</td>
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<td>8.00pm</td>
<td>Autumn School Dinner</td>
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<td>€40</td>
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**SUNDAY 27th October**

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<tr>
<td>10.00am</td>
<td><strong>“A Matter of Time – How Greenwich Meantime came to rule the World”</strong></td>
<td>Juliana Adelman</td>
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<td>10.50am</td>
<td>TEA/COFFEE</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.20</td>
<td><strong>“The Rescue from Elephant Island – The Full Story ”</strong></td>
<td>Bob Burton</td>
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**Film**

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<tr>
<td>3.30pm</td>
<td><strong>The Flight of the Eagle</strong></td>
<td>This Oscar nominated film tells the story of S. A. Andrée's Arctic balloon expedition of 1897, an ill-fated effort to reach the North Pole. The film stars Max von Sydow as S.A. Andrée, Sverre Anker Ousdal as Knut Frænkel and Göran Stangertz as Nils Strindbeg. Directed by Jan Troell</td>
<td>€10</td>
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**Cultural Evening**

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<td>8.00pm</td>
<td><strong>‘Shackleton and his Stowaway’</strong></td>
<td>Shackleton and his Stowaway is based on the real events of the legendary Endurance expedition to Antarctica. It follows the misfortunes of an 18 year old stowaway who sneaks aboard Endurance. Initially in awe of Shackleton he becomes disillusioned when Endurance is crushed in the ice. A production of the Stolen Elephant Theatre Company Written by Andy Dickinson.</td>
<td>€10</td>
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**MONDAY 28th October**

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<td>10.00am</td>
<td><strong>Field Trip</strong></td>
<td>A visit to Ballitore and the home of Mary Leadbeater, writer and ancestor of Ernest Shackleton and Quaker Meeting House.</td>
<td>€10</td>
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Contributors

Mark Richards
Mark is a sculptor specialising in fine figurative work through the tradition of architectural sculpture. He was taught by A J Ayres who, in turn, had worked with Eric Gill; other exponents of the tradition include Sergeant Jagger. Mark's works can be found all over the world. His most recent commissions have included his acclaimed statue of Shackleton, unveiled in Athy in 2016, and he is currently working on a statue of the Irish patriot Roger Casement for Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.

Andy Dickinson
Andy Dickinson is a writer, translator, and producer. His play Shackleton and his Stowaway has just been published by Methuen. Writing credits include the monologue Larisa, the play A Flame in Hero’s Tower, and the novel The Thinker. He is currently translating from Spanish Enrique Jardiel Poncela’s Eloise is under an Almond Tree. Andy has produced for the Olivier Award winning playwright Grae Cleugh with Scottish Widows; and for another Olivier Award winning playwright, Jack Shepherd, with a revival of In Lambeth. He was also the director of Grae Cleugh’s Scottish Widows.

Jim Wilson
Jim hails from the seaside town of Cobh, County Cork, Ireland. He is a highly respected ornithologist and ecologist with more than 40 years of birding experience in Ireland, Europe, USA, Africa, the Antarctic, and the Arctic. He has written a number of books including, The Birds of Ireland – A Field Guide (2013), and An Identification Guide to Irish Whales and Dolphins (2006). He co-produced an iPhone app called Antarctic Wildlife Guide (2015), the first photo-ID guide app to the birds, whales, dolphins, and seals of the Antarctic Peninsula, Falkland Islands, South Georgia, the Beagle Channel, and Ushuaia. He was national chairman of Birdwatch Ireland, Ireland’s equivalent of the Audubon Society and is a former director of the Irish Whale and Dolphin Group.

Paul Davies
Paul's career was in the world of education as a history teacher and then as an LEA education officer in Dorset, Devon and Plymouth. Upon retirement he set up Kingsbridge Books: a second hand book business specialising in polar exploration and he exhibits his books at many of the major book fairs in the UK. Paul has served on the committee of the Friends of SPRI and, in 2005, he set up the Devon and Cornwall Polar Society which has organised some major events in Plymouth to commemorate Scott and Shackleton's expeditions. He is the author of From South Devon to the South Pole (2011).

Dirk Notz
Dr. Dirk Notz is a German climate researcher. He leads the research group “Sea ice in the Earth System” at the Max Planck Institute for Meteorology in Hamburg, and is one of the lead authors for the next IPCC report. Dirk’s research focuses on understanding the past and future evolution of sea ice in the polar regions of our planet. He has led numerous expeditions in the Arctic, and has spent a good deal of his life standing on ice floes. He studied meteorology and physics in Seattle and Hamburg, and obtained a PhD in applied mathematics from the University of Cambridge. He is very engaged in public outreach activities and has won several prizes for his clear communication of scientific topics.

David Whitehouse
Dr David Whitehouse studied astrophysics at the world-famous Jodrell Bank radio observatory. He is a former BBC Science Correspondent and BBC Sciences Editor. He is the author of five books including The Sun: A Biography, Journey to the Centre of the Earth and Apollo 11: The Inside Story. He has written for many newspapers and magazines including The Times, the Guardian, Focus, New Scientist and the Economist. Asteroid 4036 Whitehouse is named after him.

Juliana Adelman
Juliana Adelman is a historian and newspaper columnist for the Irish Times. She is assistant professor of history in the School of History and Geography at Dublin City University. Her research interests include the history of science and medicine, the history of food, environmental history and the history of nineteenth-century Dublin. She was the founding chair of HSTM Network Ireland. She is the author of numerous articles as well as a book on science in nineteenth-century Ireland. She is currently completing a book on animals and urban change in Victorian Dublin.

Robert Burton
Bob Burton is a natural history writer who has been involved with South Georgia for many years. He visited the island for the first time in 1964 and returned in 1971 to study albatrosses and fur seals. From 1995 to 1998, he was director of the museum at Grytviken and started to collect information on the island’s history. This included researching the time that Shackleton spent on South Georgia. Bob now visits annually as a lecturer on cruise ships.

David Murphy
Dr David Murphy is a graduate of University College, Dublin and Trinity College, Dublin. He is currently a lecturer in military history and strategic studies at Maynooth University in Ireland. He has also lectured abroad at various institutions including the Dutch Military Academy, Breda, West Point Military Academy and the US Command and Staff College, Fort Leavenworth. His publications include The Arctic Fox (2004), Breaking Point of the French army: the Nivelle Offensive of 1917 (2015) and Lawrence of Arabia (2011), among others. He is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society. In recent years, his research has focused on the First World War. During Michelmas Term 2018-19, he was a visiting fellow with the Changing Character of War Programme at Oxford University.

Hester Blum
Hester Blum is Associate Professor of English at Penn State University. Her most recent book, The News at the Ends of the Earth: The Ecomedia of Polar Exploration, was published by Duke University Press in 2019. She is also the author of The View from the Masthead: Maritime Imagination and Antebellum American Sea Narratives (2008), which received the John Gardner Maritime Research award, and a number of edited volumes. Blum contributes frequently to Avidly, a channel of the Los Angeles Review of Books.
The Heritage Centre - Museum and its Shackleton School team would like to thank our funding bodies and sponsors whose support makes this event possible. These include Kildare County Council, Athy International Concentrates, Athy Lions Club and Polar Ice Ltd.

The Ernest Shackleton Autumn School is a project of Athy Heritage Centre - Museum.

For information and booking contact:
Athy Heritage Centre - Museum,
and Tourist Information Point,
Town Hall, Emily Square, Athy, Co. Kildare.
Tel: 059 - 8633075.
Email: athyheritage@eircom.net
Website: www.shackletonmuseum.com

ALL EVENTS INCLUSIVE FEE
Full Autumn School: €155
Lectures: €10, student/unwaged/OAP: €8

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