The Fram Museum is organizing the fifth annual Roald Amundsen Memorial Lectures on 2 & 3 December 2016.

The Memorial Lectures will be held at the Fram Museum the first weekend of December to commemorate the life and achievements of Roald Amundsen.

The lectures on Saturday will be followed by a formal dinner in the museum.
FRIDAY 2 DECEMBER

17:30  Registration
18:00  Exhibition opening Captain C.A. Larsen – Explorer, Whaler & Family Man
Launched of C.A. Larsen’s diaries from Jason (1891-94) and Antarctic (1901-04)
Reception
22:00  End

SATURDAY 3 DECEMBER

10:00  Geir O. Kløver – Welcome – Launch of Gustav Juel Wiik’s and Peder Ristvedt’s diaries from the Gjøa Expedition (1903 – 06)
10:30  Joe O’Farrell – The Ross Sea Party 1914-17: Tragedy or Triumph?
11:30  Break
11:40  Robert Stephenson – A Low-Latitude Antarctic Gazetteer
(Antarctic Sites outside the Antarctic—memorials, statues, houses, graves and the occasional pub)
12:00  Lunch in the Gjøa Building
13:00  Aant Elzinga – Otto Nordenskjöld and the Swedish Antarctic Expedition 1901-1903 in scientific context
14:00  Break
14:10  Robert Burton - Captain C.A. Larsen at South Georgia: Launching the Antarctic whaling industry
15:10  Coffee break
15:40  PJ Capelotti – Polar Opposites: American and Norwegian voices in the exploration of Franz Josef Land
16:40  Break
16:50  The Polar Exploration Game © The Fram Museum
Reception in the C.A. Larsen exhibition
19:45  Recreation of the City of Kristiania’s dinner 10 September 1896 for Fridtjof Nansen and his men to welcome them home from Fram’s drift across the Polar Sea. The same 9-course menu and similar wine will be served, the same speeches will be held and the same music played.

To attend the Roald Amundsen Memorial Lectures 2016 send your name, address and name of your favourite polar explorer to pete@frammuseum.no
There are only 120 places available. Due to popular demand it is only possible to participate in the full programme.
The charge of NOK 1600,- includes lectures, all meals and drinks. Only advance booking.
Robert (Bob) Burton visited South Georgia for the first time in 1964 while working as a meteorological assistant for the British Antarctic Survey. He fell in love with this magnificent island and became captivated by its wildlife and history.

After overwintering for two years in Antarctica he went back to South Georgia for the 1971/72 summer season as a zoological assistant. He subsequently became a writer on natural history, but from 1995 to 1998 he was Director of the Whaling Museum at Grytviken, South Georgia. This post revived Bob’s interest in South Georgia’s history and he was awarded a Shackleton Scholarship to collect records of the early days of the whaling and sealing industries and visits by explorers.

In his second career as an historian, he has been researching contemporary documents to gain insights into episodes of South Georgia’s history. Bob still visits South Georgia every year as a lecturer on cruise ships.

P.J. Capelotti studies the history of exploration, and his archaeological field research in the Arctic and the Pacific has led to numerous peer-reviewed article and monograph publications, including seven peer-reviewed volumes by five different university presses.


His military service was decorated with, among other honors, the U.S. Coast Guard Arctic Service Medal, the U.S. Coast Guard Commendation Medal, and two U.S. Meritorious Service Medals. Dr. Capelotti is Professor of Anthropology and Research Associate of The Polar Center at the Pennsylvania State University.

Aant Elzinga is Professor Emeritus of Theory of Science at the University of Gothenburg in Sweden.

He combines the history and politics of science in the broader field called science and technology studies (STS). In the 1990s he was for several years President of the European Association for the Study of Science and Technology (EASST). A noteworthy publication is Einstein’s Nobel Prize (2006). He is a member of editorial advisory boards of leading science studies journals as well as of The Polar Journal, a multidisciplinary social sciences and humanities publication on polar matters. A founding member (2004) of the History Group of the Scientific Committee for Antarctic Research (SCAR), a main interest currently is the history, politics and social contexts of polar research. Ed. Changing Trends in Antarctic Research (1993), and co-editor of the Jubilee volume Antarctic Challenges: Historical and Current Perspectives on Otto Nordenskjöld’s Antarctic Expedition 1901–1903 (publ. 2004). Forthcoming articles are on the history of ice coring (making ice talk), and on the emergence of Antarctic humanities.
Robert Stephenson has had a long interest in the Antarctic. It began in the 1970s when he started collecting books. (He was urged to specialize in his collecting. He decided that Antarctica might be an interesting subject. After all, how many Antarctic books could there be? His collection now numbers 1,761!)

He thought he would never get to the Antarctic so he indulged in vicarious travel by “collecting” low-latitude sites—places of all sorts around the world outside of the Antarctic that have some Antarctic connection. He oversees The Antarctic Circle, a loose worldwide “circle” of people interested or involved in non-scientific Antarctic matters. He manages the website which is now in its twentieth year: www.antarctic-circle.org. He has organized two successful Antarctic gatherings: SouthPole-siums. The next one is slated for Oslo in May of 2017. In the end he has gone to the Antarctic and has lectured occasionally on cruise ships there. He lives in Jaffrey, New Hampshire.

Joe O’Farrell is the Director of the Shackleton Museum in Athy, County Kildare, Ireland, and a convenor of the annual Ernest Shackleton Autumn School (now in its 16th year) hosted by the Museum.

In his capacity as Museum Director, his most recent project was the acquisition in Norway, and the transportation to Ireland, of the deck-mounted cabin from “Quest” in which Shackleton died in South Georgia in Jan 1922. A polar researcher, writer, and speaker, he is a member of numerous polar societies and associations, and has contributed to many journals, and lectured extensively on the historical narrative of both Arctic and Antarctic exploration and discovery. He has been to Antarctica, including Elephant Island and South Georgia, and, in furtherance of one of his other areas of significant interest and study, has twice visited the remote south atlantic island of Tristan da Cunha. Recently retired from a career in insurance, Joe lives and works in his home in Enniskerry, County Wicklow, Ireland.