



SHACKLETON EXPERIENCE PRESENTS
ERNEST SHACKLETON AUTUMN SCHOOL

SHACKLETON26
OCT16-18

shackletonexperience.ie

SHACKLETON EXPERIENCE



The Shackleton Experience, located in the centre of Athy, County Kildare, is the only institution in the world dedicated to the extraordinary life and achievements of Ernest Shackleton, the legendary polar explorer who was born in Kilkea, Co. Kildare in 1874.

The museum has been transformed into a world class visitor attraction following a significant multi million-euro re-development funded by Kildare County Council and the Department of Rural Community Development and the Gaeltacht (DRCDG) under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund.



Shackleton's epic adventures are brought vividly to life using the latest technology combined with a unique collection of polar artefacts. Visitors can even join the crew of Endurance as they make their remarkable escape from the ice-bound ship through a deeply immersive cutting-edge experience which includes crashing waves and wind effects making the journey feel as real as possible. Try your hand at life in the Antarctic and see have you got what it takes to follow 'the Boss' to a frozen hell and back!

The new development, housed in Athy's historic Town Hall also includes a dedicated research room including facilities for archive storage and study which will be available to Polar scholars across the globe. Of particular relevance, the Shackleton Experience examines the polar regions today, highlighting the escalating impact of climate change on Antarctica and beyond.



Friday 16th October

Master Classes' for Students

Shackleton Experience

10.30am Sculptor Mark Richards will conduct a workshop with Leaving Certificate Art students from Ardscoil Na Trionóide, Athy
'Pick up a Penguin' with primary school students from local schools. Students will learn the skills needed to be a young explorer.

Terror Camp - Live

Shackleton Experience

3.30-5.00pm

Join Allegra Rosenberg for a panel of polar potpourri. Streamed live from the Shackleton Experience to Terror Camp's global audience, this programming will show off the best of Terror Camp's youthful, interdisciplinary, and participatory approach.

Official Opening

Shackleton Experience

7.00pm Formal opening of 26th Shackleton Autumn School by Ryan Tubridy

Book Launch

Shackleton Experience

7.15pm **'Cherry Pickings'** – An Antarctic Miscellany from the Library and Files of Apsley Cherry-Garrard compiled by Hugh Turner

Exhibitions

Shackleton Experience

"Cherry Pickings"

The exhibition focuses on material drawn from Hugh Turner's new publication

"Shackleton's Artist"

This exhibition features material drawn from the Marston family collection.

ShackleTown Market

The Abbey

10am-5pm Saturday

10am-2pm Sunday

A selection of sellers of Polar Books, Arts and Crafts.

Saturday 17th October

Lecture Series

The Abbey

- 10.00am** "A lady on the Ice would be as useful as a teapot on a battleship"
Katherine MacInnes
- 10.50am** TEA/COFFEE
- 11.20am** "Inspiration through Exploration: the Story of the Polar Academy"
Craig Mathieson
- 12.10am** "George Marston: Shackleton's Unconventional Artist"
Stephen Marston
- 1pm** LUNCH
- 2.30pm** "Finding Fitzjames: the life and career of Captain James Fitzjames, RN"
Fabiënne Tetteroo
- 3.20pm** TEA/COFFEE
- 3.50pm** "Down North on the Labrador"
Neil Pepper
- 4.30pm** Icebreakers: Snapshot presentations on Polar matters – five slides in five minutes

Dinner

- 7.30pm** Drinks reception in The Clanard Court Hotel, Athy followed by
- 8.00pm** Autumn School Dinner in The Clanard Court Hotel, Athy
Tickets €65



Sunday 18th October

Lecture Series

The Abbey

- 10.00am** "Discovery: The Story of the first ship built for Antarctic scientific research and exploration"
Ali Gellatly
- 10.50am** TEA/COFFEE
- 11.20am** "Early Polar Photography in Pictures and Practice"
Anthony Hobbs
- 12.10pm** "Shackleton: Polar Psychologist"
Dylan Colbert
- 1pm** LUNCH

Film

The Abbey

- 2.30pm** 'Zero Kelvin'
A psychological thriller played out in the wind and snow of Greenland which reviewers described as 'raw boned polar adventure' and 'A Norse version of the Good, the Bad and the Ugly' starring Stellan Skarsgård. Directed by Hans Petter Moland.

Sunday Miscellany

- 2.30pm** Your choice of events in and around Athy
Times to be announced on the day.
- Some events are weather permitting and/or limited in number in which case a first come basis will apply.**
- 'We swam in the Griesee and came out dripping!'
Led by Jonathan Shackleton (numbers limited, swimming gear required)
 - "Curator's Cut"
Visit to the new Shackleton Experience with discussions/insights around the exhibits.
 - **Polar Portraits: Developing Pictures in the Heroic Age**
With Anthony Hobbs
 - **Bus tour of 'Shackleton Country'**
Led by John MacKenna

Information on 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 Sargeant 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, the Irish patriot Roger Casement in Dún Laoghaire and 'Squires' Gannon in Kildare.

Allegra Rosenberg

Allegra Rosenberg is a writer and editor based in New York City, currently the Community Editor at Atlas Obscura. Her debut nonfiction book, a cultural history of fan culture, is forthcoming from WW Norton. She is the founder (in 2021) and the director of the annual Terror Camp virtual polar fan conference. She recently published "From Antarctica, With Love" a polar love story in The Atavist magazine.

Ryan Tubridy

Ryan Tubridy is a Radio and Television Broadcaster from Dublin. He presented a weekday morning show from 9-10am, 'The Ryan Tubridy Show' on RTÉ Radio 1 and 'The Late Late Show', Ireland's most popular TV show and the world's longest running chat show on RTÉ One, for 14 years. In the UK, he has worked with both the BBC and Virgin Media. Ryan was educated at Blackrock College and University College Dublin, where he studied History and Greek and Roman Civilisation. Ryan has authored four books to date. His first book, JFK in Ireland, was a number one bestseller and sold over 100,000 copies. He is currently the host of the podcast 'The Bookshelf' where he sits down with household names to discover the books that have influenced their lives.

Hugh Turner

Hugh describes himself as 'being blessed by a total lack of conventional ambition which has left me free to take up whatever way or life, or adventure, offers itself'. So he helped fly the first hot-air balloons to be seen in Thailand; managed and revived a failing waterway; and spent three years as a Rural Auxiliary Postman cycling fourteen hilly miles a day on his heavy, red bike, among many, many other jobs including acting as Station Master on the Channel Isles' only

railway - but just for one day while the author of The Wombles took a break.

He has been adventuring since he could first ride a pedal car or trike and has made four trips into the Arctic to trek and run in Lapland, the Lofotens and on Mageroya Svalbard is his "Furthest North".

Katherine MacInnes

Katherine is an author, biographer, journalist and editor whose work focuses on polar history, exploration, and the overlooked lives connected with some of the most famous expeditions in history. MacInnes is best known for her books on exploration history and biography. Her acclaimed Snow Widows retells the story of Captain Scott's final Antarctic expedition through the experiences of the women left behind, while Woman with the Iceberg Eyes explores the life of Oriana Wilson, wife of Antarctic explorer Edward Wilson. Writing under the pseudonym Kate Nicholson, she is also the author of Behind Everest, a biography of Ruth Mallory that was shortlisted for the Boardman Tasker Award. Her Shortest History of Antarctica, to be published Autumn 2026, features a chapter on 'Women in Antarctica'.

Craig Mathieson

Scottish explorer Craig has always had an affinity to the outdoors.

In 2006, he trained and accompanied a high school pupil to complete an expedition to the North Pole. He knew where his future lay when he saw the positive impact the North Pole expedition had on, not just the young lad, but his family too. Craig quit his job and in 2013 The Polar Academy was established with the intention of helping teenagers who were struggling, and for those who believe they are not capable of achieving in life and feel 'invisible' in the school system. Craig now makes it his mission to show each and every one of them that they are truly incredible by training them to complete a winter Arctic expedition in East Greenland.

Stephen Marston

Stephen joins an illustrious line of Shackleton crew 'descendants' in presenting at the Shackleton Autumn School. He is a grandson of George Marston, the artist (and much more) who was part of Shackleton's 'Nimrod' and 'Endurance' expeditions. Having attended agricultural college,

Information on Contributors

followed by some time traveling, Stephen now runs Marston Forestry, and is involved in forestry management in the south of England.

Fabiënne Tetteroo

Fabiënne is a historian from The Hague, The Netherlands. She is primarily interested in microhistory: studying individuals in order to gain a better understanding of the historical events they were involved in. Her current research is about the life and career of Captain James Fitzjames RN, which will culminate in a book that is part biography and part general history book, exploring the social and naval history of Fitzjames' time. Tetteroo's extensive research article about the commission and exhibition history of the famous painting 'The Arctic Council planning a search for Sir John Franklin' by Stephen Pearce (1851) is currently under peer review. She is also researching Fitzjames' contemporaries, John Barrow Jr. and Rear-Admiral Sherard Osborn RN, with the aim of writing their biographies.

Neil Pepper

Neil Pepper MBE FRGS FZSL has been employed in the UK rail industry for the last 42 years. In 2008 he was awarded an MBE for services to London Underground and to the community. Since 2009 Neil has volunteered as a STEM Ambassador delivering inspirational talks to thousands of children. He has developed a programme based on his extensive knowledge and experience of Arctic Ecology and Exploration, drawing on first-hand knowledge from multiple expeditions in Labrador. He has provided inspirational educational engagement sessions for indigenous children in various remote First Nations communities in the Canadian province of Labrador. In 2020 Neil won the European Women in Construction and Engineering "Best Male Mentor" award.

Ali Gellatly

Ali is the Ship and Facilities Director at Dundee Heritage Trust – the charity tasked with the care and conservation of Captain Scott's Royal Research Ship Discovery. Ali has overall responsibility for the Discovery and accompanying museum, Discovery Point. As a specialist on the subject of RRS Discovery, he has appeared on documentaries for Channel 5, Amazon Prime, History Hit and Discovery+,

alongside numerous interviews for BBC news, BBC Radio, STV, Radio Tay, VisitScotland and a variety of print media. Ali is currently overseeing the Urgent Works Phase One and Two on the Discovery, a £3.3m project providing essential conservation and maintenance.

Anthony Hobbs

Following a career in teaching, Anthony retired in 2014 as Head of Department of Fine Art Media at the National College of Art and Design, Dublin.

An early convert to Digital Media, Anthony has continued to use hybrid processes to articulate his vision of the world. His background in photography and interest in technology informs a lot of work with large format digital imagery. An avid fan of polar exploration since his teens, he has been on two photographic expeditions to Antarctica. Since retiring from teaching, he has returned to analogue photography and large format glass plate photography.

Dylan Colbert

Dr. Dylan Colbert began his career in experimental psychology, publishing peer-reviewed research papers on topics including intelligence, behaviour analysis, academic performance, stress and social support. Dylan's work demonstrating that intellectual performance can be improved via intervention has challenged the century-old notion that intelligence cannot be trained.

Through the application of these findings to the area of peak performance, he has been able to foster sustainable growth in athletes and performers across various domains, from novice musicians and struggling students to professional footballers and world champion athletes.

John MacKenna

John MacKenna is the author of twenty-three books – novels, short-story collections, memoir, poetry and biography – and a number of radio and stage plays. He is a winner of The Irish Times, Hennessy and Cecil Day-Lewis Awards. He is also a winner of a Jacobs Radio award for his documentary series on Leonard Cohen and a Worldplay Silver Medal (New York) for his radio play The Woman at the Window (RTÉ Radio 1). He has taught Creative Writing at Maynooth University and at The Hedge School in Moone.



Shackleton Mural in Athy.



“Nimrod”
Vol 20
will be
on sale

The Ernest Shackleton Autumn School is a project of Shackleton Experience.

For information and booking contact:

Shackleton Experience

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Tel: 059 - 8633075.

Email: hello@shackletonexperience.ie

Website: www.shackletonmuseum.com

ALL EVENTS INCLUSIVE FEE

Full Autumn School: €250 • Saturday Day Ticket: €90 • Sunday Day Ticket: €70 • Dinner: €65

The Shackleton Experience and its Shackleton School team would like to thank our funding bodies and sponsors whose support makes this event possible.

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