



Cork People

With Michelle O'Keeffe



At the photo exhibition in the Jennings Gallery were geology students Brian Degroot and Maria Ahern. Picture: Gerard McCarthy



Julia Kennedy, UCC; Helen Gough and Sophie Gough from Sundays Well, John Gamble, Professor of Geology, UCC; Davis Gough Sundays Well, and Mary Gamble, Dublin, at the launch of Fire & Ice, A Photographic Journey of Antarctica: An exhibition of photography by John Gamble, Professor of Geology, at the Jennings Gallery in the Brookfield Sciences Complex, at UCC. Picture: Gerard McCarthy



Helen O'Rourke and John Reavy from UCC at the launch of the Fire & Ice exhibition. Picture: Gerard McCarthy

Land of fire and ice

A REMARKABLE visual exploration of Antarctica's extreme landscape has opened at the Jennings Gallery, UCC. 30 stunning and memorable images were revealed there earlier this week, and can be viewed until February 23.

The exhibition comprises a collection of previously unseen photographs, beautifully captured by UCC Pro-

fessor of Geology, John Gamble. The Professor undertook six expeditions throughout the 1980s and 90s and uses images from all six to present the exhibition entitled *Fire & Ice: A photographic Journey of Antarctica*. Images of volcanoes, life in the field, shots of wildlife and the historic huts of Scott and Shackleton on Ross Island,

which were the staging posts for historic exploration of the continent at the beginning of the 20th century, are on show. John visited locations on the driest and coldest continent from North Victoria Land, nearest Australia to Marie Byrd Land (West Antarctica) at the base of the Antarctic Peninsula. Dr Clare O'Leary, Ireland's first woman to reach

the South Pole and climb Mt Everest officially opened the Exhibition. Clare, originally from Bandon, has just returned from Canada skiing where she was training for her upcoming trip to the Arctic. Clare will travel with fellow explorers, Pat Falvey and John Dowd in a few weeks time. For both Claire and Pat, reaching the North Pole will mark the distinctive completion of the 3 Poles Challenge — a quest to reach the three most extreme poles on earth: Everest as the highest pole, the South Pole, and the North Pole.

Other Antarctic explorers from the 2006 Beyond Endurance expedition were also at the opening and they included Rob Foley, Niamh Quinlan, Edward Curran and Aine Mulcahy. Dr George Shorten who climbed Mt Everest was also there.

The exhibition coincides with the closing of Aidan Dooley's award winning production *Tom Crean — Antarctic Explorer* which ended at the Everyman Palace last weekend. I also met the treasurer of the Tom Crean Soci-



Connie Mulcahy of UCC, Michael Hanna, Jennings Gallery. Picture: Gerard McCarthy



Bronagh Shorten, Mallow, George Shorten, UCC and Helen Devitt, photographer, at the Jennings Gallery. Picture: Gerard McCarthy



Geology students Brigitte Crowe and Helen O'Rourke at the launch. Picture: Gerard McCarthy



Paul Callaghan, treasurer, Tom Crean Society, and Dr Clare O'Leary, at the launch of the photographic exhibition in UCC. Picture: Gerard McCarthy



At the John Gamble exhibition were Bettie Higgs, UCC, and Karen Byrne, UCC. Picture: Gerard McCarthy



At the launch of Fire and Ice were Sophie Gough and Helen Gough, Sundays Well. Picture: Gerard McCarthy



Ailín and Coleman Casey, both from Innishannon, at the launch. Picture: Gerard McCarthy

on show at UCC

ety, Paul Callaghan and his wife Neasa, from Crosshaven, at the exhibition.

Dr Michael Hanna and Siobhan Murphy, board members of the Jennings Gallery were there on the evening and Dr Hanna introduced and welcomed Michael Brendt from Melbourne, dean of the College of Medicine and Health Science. Professor Paul Gillar, college registrar and senior vice-president, was also in attendance with his wife Janet.

Frank Van Pelt, head of the Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, and Colman Casey, Administrative director of research were just two friends that helped John Gamble with the exhibition. Both Frank and Coleman exhibited at the Jennings Gallery earlier this year in an exhibition entitled *Landscapes and Mindscapes*.

Chloe Parker of the UCC Post Grad and Geology Department was one of the first guests along to the Gallery. Dr Allister Allen, a colleague of John Gamble was also among the guests as were UCC Geology and Earth Science students Karen Byrne, from Tipperary; Helen

O'Rourke, from Dublin; and Brigitte Crowe, from Texas. I also met three of John's students; Maria Ahern, from Carrignavar; Brendan McCarthy, from Ballygarvan; and Brian Degroot, from Ballincollig.

Also at the event I met Jenny Webb, from Cloghroe, who was there with husband Rob and friends Stephanie and Ivan Horwill, from

Monkstown; Arlene Shawcross, from Lissarda; and Judy and Mac Croft, from Killaloe. Jenny as well as John's wife Frances Gamble set up the Newcomer's Club in Cork to welcome people who come to Cork to Settle.

John's sister-in-law Kate McAllister travelled from Antrim to be at the opening and family friend from Germany, Lena Wettach was

also there. All proceeds from the exhibition will go towards UCC Cancer Research and to the Ted Nevill Lecture series.

For more details on the photo exhibition log onto www.ucc.ie/en/jennings-gallery.

● If you would like me to feature a social diary event please contact me on michelle4cork@gmail.com.



UCC student Brendan McCarthy. Picture: Gerard McCarthy



Professor Ivan Perry, UCC; Eithne Hunt, UCC and Dr Frank Van Pelt, UCC. Picture: Gerard McCarthy



At the launch were John Gamble's daughter Mary and wife Frances. Picture: Gerard McCarthy