

ANNUAL FAREWELL DINNER

Scott Room, The Royal Hotel
St. Mary Street, Cardiff

Monday 13th June 2016 @ 19.00 for 19.30

Distinguished Naval Speaker to be confirmed

Spirit of Adventure Award Winner to be introduced
and presented with prize

Ticket £76 includes seven course dinner, cava reception
and Port. Table wines may be ordered at the bar
on arrival or via the hotel website.

SHACKLETON'S RESCUE MISSIONS IN 1916



Members of the Captain Scott Society may be aware that 25 August is the centenary of Ernest Shackleton's fourth and ultimately successful mission to rescue his marooned team from Elephant Island. The "Boss" as he was known to his men had set out on the 24 April in the lifeboat James Caird and with a small crew successfully navigated the 779 miles to South Georgia. Missions to rescue those left behind were undertaken almost immediately but unfortunately three attempts between May and August were thwarted due to pack ice encountered around the island. Finally the fourth mission aboard the small Chilean tug Yelcho, enabled the rescue party to collect and safely return the marooned team to Punta Arenas. According to Frank Worsley, the men pronounced the island's name with an 'H' prefixed and a silent 't', "Hell-of-an-Island".

Royal Mail has issued a set of commemorative stamps to mark the anniversary.

Many regard the Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition as the last expedition of what has become known as the 'Heroic Age' of polar exploration when husky dogs, ponies or man-hauling provided the only motive power. Hereafter, expeditions were conceived with and employed more mechanical means for their primary mode of transport. It was not until the International Geophysical Year of 1957-58 that Shackleton's dream was realised. Sir Vivian Fuchs with Sir Edmund Hillary led the successful Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition making the crossing from Vahsel Bay to McMurdo Sound via the South Pole in 99 days.

THE SS YELCHO (1906 TO 1962, ACTIVE UNTIL 1945)

an article by Lt. Cmdr Mike Feeney



In 2006, I was fortunate to spend a year living in Chile with my family. I represented the Royal Navy at the Chilean Navy War Academy, Valparaiso on an intensive, year long course taught entirely in Spanish, my recently acquired second language. We travelled extensively but one of the many highlights was a visit to Punta Arenas and the Torres del Paine. It was during this trip, that I visited the Shackleton Museum in Punta Arenas. Next time I am in Chile, I shall make a visit to Puerto Williams where the bow section of the YELCHO is on display.

The YELCHO was built in 1906 at G Brown & Co of Greenock. At 462 tons, 120 feet long with a beam of 23 feet (the length of the James Caird), she had a top speed of 10kts. No radio, no heating system, no electric lighting and no double hull, she was a most unlikely rescue vessel but after three failed attempts by other vessels, the YELCHO succeeded where others failed.

It was on Sun 3 Sep 1916, that YELCHO steamed into Punta Arenas (Sandy Point). In addition to her 23 crew under the command of Luis Pardo, were the 25 men of Shackleton's expedition rescued from Elephant Island (McNish, Vincent and McCarthy were already on their way home to England). Shackleton ensured the town was there to meet these unshaven, bedraggled sailors to maximise the impact. The picture shows YELCHO arriving at Valparaiso on 27 Sep 1916 when over 30,000 turned out to meet the plucky tug and her precious cargo!

ATKINSON UPDATE FROM MIKE TARVER

I have received a letter from the Historic Collections Library, on behalf of Surgeon Captain Howell, Medical Officer in Charge, Institute of Naval Medicine, Alverstoke, Hants. acknowledging the framed photograph and copy of the biography presented by the author to the Royal Navy.

The letter goes on, "The portrait of Surgeon Captain Atkinson is now prominently displayed in the entrance hall of the Institute and the Worshipful Company of Barbers & Surgeons are planning to strike a medal in Surgeon Captain Atkinson's honour, to be awarded on an annual basis to a member of the Royal Naval Medical Service displaying leadership and moral courage."

Mike Tarver's latest book is still available -
see website for ordering details



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

2016 has got off to a chilly start in the UK and around the world there is a great deal of uncertainty with the awful prospect of Donald Trump in the White House, or failing him, someone who has been mired in financial irregularities and scandal. Difficult to choose. Brexit is worrying the stock market added to which the oil, gas and mineral sectors are causing a real drag on the index.

We thought that a two day trip to the SPRI in Cambridge together with a tour of the Imperial War Museum in Duxford would help to raise flagging spirits but, no, only 7 stalwarts came forward which meant that the cost of travel by luxury coach wasn't viable so we had to postpone.

The CSS membership can be very hard to please but we have the Spring Lunch, the AGM with an exciting guest speaker (so we'll need a good turnout for this please), the Birthday Lunch and the Annual Dinner to look forward to so do come to these and bring friends if you have any.

If you have any suggestions for events you'd like to see us put on I'd be delighted to hear from you or contact any member of our hard-working Events Committee. Fingers crossed for 2016 and best wishes to you all.

Best wishes

Julian Rosser

CHAIRMAN

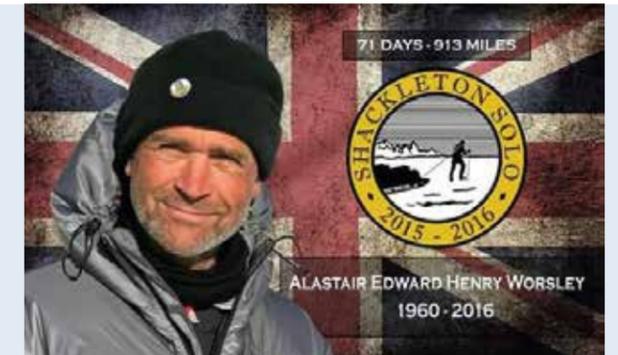
JULIANROSSER@NTLWORLD.COM

NEWS

LIEUTENANT - COLONEL HENRY WORSLEY

We are saddened by the news that Henry Worsley died on the 24th January 2016 in hospital in Punta Arenas, Chile. Henry had a distinguished military career and led numerous expeditions in Antarctica.

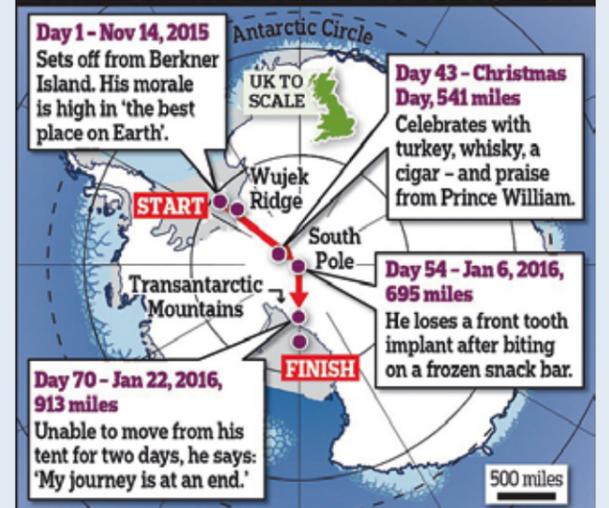
His final solo expedition was in the spirit of his idol Sir Ernest Shackleton and he was delighted to have exceeded his goal of raising a £100,000 for the Endeavour Fund, a



project founded to help the recovery of injured servicemen and women. He was fulfilling his dream of crossing the Antarctic continent, and after having walked 913 statute miles unsupported and unassisted, battling extreme weather conditions, he made the brave decision, in Shackleton's words, to "shoot the bolt", 30 miles short of his ultimate goal.

When Henry was picked up by Antarctic Logistics & Expeditions (ALE), he was suffering from exhaustion and dehydration. He was flown to a hospital in Punta Arenas where he was found to have bacterial peritonitis. This resulted in surgery but in spite of all the efforts of ALE and medical staff, he succumbed.

TREK THAT ENDED IN TRAGEDY



Society members can find out more about Henry's career, polar expeditions and make a donation to his charity at shackletonsolo.org



Edited and compiled by Jack Wright.
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Contributions are welcome
from members of the Society
and should be addressed to
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HMS SCOTT NEWS

Our secretary, Matthew Salisbury, recently received greetings and a news update from Karen Dalton-Fyfe Commandant of HMS Scott.



HMS Scott has been busy since our last visit to Plymouth at which time we learnt about her re-fit and Operational Sea Training. In the last 12 months the ships crew has completed a very successful Deployed Directed Continuation Training period. It hasn't been all work and the ship has managed some fantastic port visits in the Azores, Boston USA and Malta.

Besides surveying operations and DDCT the vessel underwent an extensive maintenance period in Gibraltar. The ship generally spends over 300 days a year at sea and in her 18-year lifetime she's put more than 750,000 nautical miles on her hull - enough to go to the moon and back twice. HMS Scott will be back in the U.K. soon and members will be kept informed of her location and the potential to visit our chummy ship.

CAPTAIN SCOTT STATUE IN SAD REPOSE



Scott on display at Christchurch Museum Prior to earthquake

Member Bob Edwards, who recently returned from the Antipodes, was surprised whilst visiting the city museum in Christchurch, to find the Scott Memorial statue displayed but still broken.

The statue commissioned by the city fathers and sculpted by Scott's wife Kathleen was erected in 1917. Unfortunately the massive earthquake of February 2011 toppled the statue from its plinth breaking it in two. Whilst the parts are safe and on display in the city museum there are still no plans for its refurbishment and re-instatement to its plinth. Lady Scott, an eminent sculptor produced the statue in Carrara white marble due to metal rationing during the Great War. It was a replica of the bronze sculpture that stands in Waterloo Place, off Pall Mall in London.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

Gentlemen,

I am happy to report that our current membership stands at 182 with two further applications in the process of finalisation. I have recently taken delivery of a new batch

of society ties in silk which are priced at a very reasonable £20.00; should you require a replacement, or an upgrade from polyester, please contact me via email .

Yours in the Spirit of Adventure,

Paul Gallone

PAUL.GALLONE@BTINTERNET.COM

EXPEDITION SECRETARY'S REPORT

2015 AWARDS

Both our 2015 award winners have completed their expeditions and have submitted excellent reports.

William White's interim report (printed in the Autumn Newsletter) has been turned into an excellent post completion report.

Meanwhile our Spirit of Adventure winner Oliver Forster and his team have already started disseminating and presenting their expedition report to the Royal Geographic and Geological Societies, Oxford University and other sponsors.

In a break with tradition we have invited Oliver to be our guest and deliver his report at the Spring Lunch this year and we hope it will attract the attention it deserves.

Members wishing to read The Karakoram Anomaly report can do so by contacting me at hazejon@talktalk.net for the pdf file.

2016 AWARDS

Submissions for this years awards continue to roll in and I have started short listing 36 youth and 22 senior applications down to 6 in each category.

The adjudication panel meet on Wednesday 6th April to select this years winners.

Jack Wright

REPORTS OF PAST EVENTS

SOCIETY VISIT TO S.S.GREAT BRITAIN



On Friday the 18th September an intrepid band of members embarked on a day trip to Bristol to visit Brunel's SS Great Britain. The vessel which is berthed in its original dry dock has a fascinating history. Originally hailed as the finest, fastest passenger carrying vessel of its era, eventually beached in the Falkland Islands to become a rusting hulk that was even pillaged for its plating during the second world war. However, a project took place in the 1970's to rescue her and transport her back to Bristol. This was followed by refurbishment and finally a complete refit brought about the visitor attraction we see today. A beautiful sunny day added to the enjoyment on deck and a languorous lunch was taken at Browns Restaurant followed by an expedition to the Welsh Back district to sample ales in the oldest part of the city. A final salute to Brunel was taken in Temple Meads buffet bar and the 20.00 train delivered the crew safely back to Cardiff.

AUTUMN GALA EVENT

Cardiff Bay Yacht Club was again chosen as the venue for our dinner in November. Members, partners and guests mingled and enjoyed a reception of sparkling wine whilst the lights of Cardiff twinkled across the bay. A three course dinner was enjoyed whilst the Chairman, John Cosslett and our guest speaker Peter Davies discussed the topic of the evening. Peter Davies gave a very informative and detailed talk entitled "How We Won The War". A considerable amount was wagered on the duration of the talk as is customary at such events but all bets were nullified when Peter sat down after 65 minutes. The chairman didn't invite questions and thanked our speaker. Thanks go to Hazel Wright who sold raffle tickets and ensured a smooth distribution of prizes. Carriages were called and a very enjoyable evening was wound up with a toast to the society and its guests.

SERVICE OF NINE CAROLS AND LESSONS

Due to declining attendance and following a meeting between our chaplain and the chairman it was decided to cancel this years service.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Fifty five members and guests assembled at the USM for our reception and Christmas Lunch.

John Cosslett again proved the passage of time has not diminished his titration skills . His subtle blend of aromatic herbs and spices coupled with carefully measured volumes of alcohol, blue tinctures and ice brought about the Antarctic Blue. For those of a more delicate constitution there were lashings of fine Prosecco to be had. Diners were summoned to table at 1330 and the Chaplain gave grace for the society and its values. By way of a change this year two long sprigs and a top table at the far end was the layout. The chairman and deputy master of protocol kept a firm grip on proceedings whilst ensuring fines were administered to the few miscreants who broke ranks prior to the loyal toast. Having consumed the traditional three courses the loyal toast was proposed by the DMP, a short comfort break was followed by a disciplined distribution of port accompanied by an excellent cheese board.

As the long tables had been named Erebus and Terror the expedition secretary proposed a toast to Captain James Clark Ross commander of those ships in the 1840's and an inspiration to Captain Scott. Following this toast the floor was opened up to the usual ribaldry, anecdotes and even the odd festive joke. With a suitable flourish the chairman called upon members to toast the society and its guests and drew proceedings to a close at around 1700 hours. The indefatigable adjourned to the bar to finalise their day and a few even managed to make it to the Cardiff Arms park for some rugby even though they ended up with coats they had not started out with.

FUTURE EVENTS

SPRING EVENT

Cardiff Bay Yacht Club, CF11 0JL
Friday 15th April 2016 @ 12.00 for 12.30

Guest Speaker
2015 Spirit of Adventure Award Winner

Oliver Forster
The Karakoram Anomaly Project

Ticket £26.50 includes a sparkling wine reception on arrival and three course lunch. Table wines from bar

Raffle
1st Prize - Large Hamper

THE 33RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held at the United Services Mess

Wharton Street, Cardiff, CF10 1AG
Thursday 12th May 2016 @ 19.30

followed @ 20.30 by a presentation from

Dr. Tom Sharpe
entitled
Antarctic Adventure Holidays

To round off the perfect evening there will be a free finger buffet and wine for members and guests

CAPTAIN SCOTT SOCIETY BIRTHDAY MEMORIAL SERVICE

at

Scott Memorial, Norwegian Church, Cardiff Bay
Sunday 5th June @ 12.00 noon

A short Service of Commemoration will be conducted at the memorial.

We will then proceed by water taxi to La Marina Restaurant for lunch at 13.30