



## MIDWINTER MILESTONES

June 2011 marks the centenary of Captain Robert Falcon Scott's midwinter dinner at Cape Evans. Scott himself saw the celebration as 'a half-way mark not only in our winter but in the plans of the Expedition as originally published.' The centenary was marked with commemorative dinners both in Antarctica at Scott Base and in New Zealand.

### SCOTT EXHIBITION OPENS

*Scott's Last Expedition* opened on 17 June at the Australian National Maritime Museum to enthusiastic crowds. Thousands of people are expected to attend the free exhibition during its showing in Sydney.

The international touring exhibition is the result of extensive collaboration between the Trust, the Natural History Museum and Canterbury Museum. Both museums are

long standing partners of the Trust, and a tripartite approach seemed natural when planning an exhibition of this size and scale. The exhibition is the Trust's major initiative to mark the centenary of Captain Scott's British Antarctic Expedition 1910 – 1913 and sheds new light on this famous expedition.

The exhibition shows at the Australian National Maritime Museum until 16 October 2011. It will then show at the Natural History Museum, London from January 2012 and Canterbury Museum, New Zealand from November 2012.



Nigel Watson, Director AHT, Peter Dexter, Chairman ANMM, Sharon Ament, Director Public Engagement NHM, Louise Emerson, Head of Business and Commercial Strategy NHM, Mary-Louise Williams, Director ANMM, Anthony Wright, Director Canterbury Museum and Rt Hon Paul East, Chairman AHT at the opening of Scott's Last Expedition at the Australian National Maritime Museum. Photo ANMM

### SHACKLETON'S WHISKY

The Shackleton whisky find continues to draw attention and is turning into the stuff of legends. While the whisky was discovered in 2007, it wasn't until 2010 that three crates of Mackinlay whisky were excavated from under Sir Ernest Shackleton's 1908 base at Cape Royds. While two crates remain in Antarctica, one of the crates was sent to New Zealand to be thawed in a purpose-built environment at Canterbury Museum. Eleven bottles of the 114-year-old whisky were revealed. The owner of Whyte & Mackay (which owns the Mackinlay brand) then transported three

bottles to Scotland for scientific analysis. The bottles of whisky have provided a unique opportunity to apply modern sensory and chemical analytical methods to establish the flavour and composition of a product manufactured over one hundred years ago.

In April Whyte & Mackay's master blender, Richard Paterson, successfully recreated the century-old whisky. Mr Paterson spent a painstaking eight weeks marrying and blending a range of malts to get an exact replica of the 100-year-old Mackinlay's liquid. Only 50,000 bottles will be produced and five percent of every sale will be donated to the Trust. Mackinlay's Rare Old Highland Malt goes on worldwide sale in July 2011.

### ANTARCTIC UPDATE

We have reached a project milestone with over 5,000 artefacts now conserved from the Cape Evans collection.

At present, the international team of winter conservators is well ensconced in the conservation laboratory at Scott Base, working through the objects transported from the historic bases in summer.

Martin Wenzel (NZ), the Trust's seasoned conservation carpenter, is conserving timber supply boxes from Cape Evans and Cape Royds. These wooden boxes are full of original supplies including flour, corn and powdered milk.

Lead Artefact Conservator, Sarah Clayton (Aus) is currently working on textiles. Name tags on some clothing are still discernible and have revealed owners that include Apsley Cherry-Garrard and Captain Lawrence Oates.

Meanwhile Conservators Jane Hamill (Ire) and Julie Unruh (USA) have been conserving a number of iconic objects from the huts at Cape Royds and Cape Evans including a marine dredge used by Professor Edgeworth-David, the first bicycle in Antarctica, owned by Thomas Griffith Taylor and a first aid kit from Lieutenant Edgar Evans' bunk.

The winter conservators will complete their work by the end of August, packing up all the artefacts ready for transport back to the bases in summer.

Two summer conservators for 2011/12, John Kemister (Aus) and Jaime Ward (UK), have now been appointed.



Timber supply boxes.

### SOUTH POLE CENTENARY

There continues to be growing international interest in, and planning for, the upcoming centenaries to mark the attainment of the South Pole. Check the website for regular links through to details of the many events being organised internationally.

## STILL LIFE

We are delighted that *Still Life: Inside the Antarctic Huts of Scott and Shackleton* with photography by Jane Ussher and essays by the Trust's Nigel Watson, is a finalist in the New Zealand Post Book Awards. The book is a collaboration that records the unusual, the hidden and minutiae of Captain Robert Falcon Scott and Sir Ernest Shackleton's expedition bases and is a unique and hauntingly beautiful photographic study.

The Awards celebrate excellence, identifying the very best books written by New Zealanders. We are excited and gratified at this nomination.



*Published by Murdoch Books, a percentage of sales will benefit the Trust.*

## FUNDRAISING

The Trust's NZ\$9M appeal to save Captain Robert Falcon Scott's Cape Evans expedition base has reached a milestone with The February Foundation's one-for-one GBPEIM matched funding challenge having been fulfilled. We are now closing in on our overall appeal target and are seeking donations to reach it.

The New Zealand Government has reaffirmed its annual baseline funding for our core operations. This funding is critical to our work. Government assistance, and the support of key sponsors funding the Trust's core operations, ensures every other dollar raised is dedicated to our work in Antarctica.

## COMMEMORATIVE TOURS

On 15 January 2012, Croydon Travel is planning a commemorative Antarctic flight from Melbourne to commemorate the

centenaries of the three Antarctic expeditions led by Roald Amundsen, Captain Robert Falcon Scott and Douglas Mawson. Further details at [www.antarcticaflights.com.au](http://www.antarcticaflights.com.au) Quark Expeditions, Heritage Expeditions and Orion Expedition Cruises are each running commemorative expeditions this summer. See details at [www.quarkexpeditions.com](http://www.quarkexpeditions.com), [www.heritage-expeditions.com](http://www.heritage-expeditions.com) and visit [www.orionexpeditions.com](http://www.orionexpeditions.com)

## NEW MEMBERS

We are very grateful to the support we receive from our Antarctic Explorer membership and welcome the following new members: Antarctic Gold Explorers: Bill and Sally Washington (NZ), Dr Hoylen Sue (Aus) and Bob Southerton (Aus). Bronze Explorers: Nicky McArthur (NZ) and Emily Wampler (USA). Annual membership renewals for existing members will be underway shortly. If you are not already a member, but would like to support our work in this way, please consider joining the Antarctic Explorers Club.

## PROFILING OUR PEOPLE

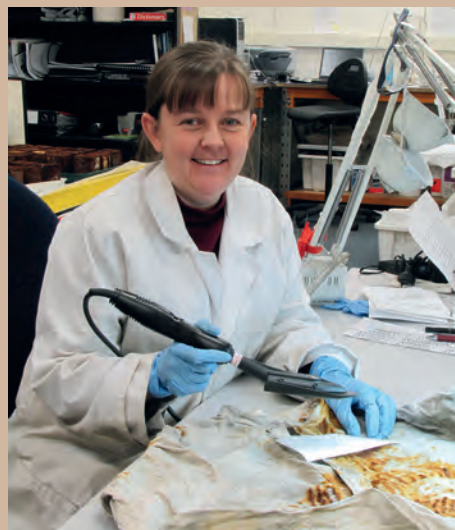
### SARAH CLAYTON

#### Winter Lead Conservator – Artefacts

Sarah Clayton is an artefact conservator who is leading our winter conservation team of four on the Ice. She has been involved with the Trust since 1997. This is her sixth trip to Antarctica for the Trust and her second winter at Scott Base.

She is responsible for coordinating and delivering on the winter 2011 artefact conservation programme and oversees the day-to-day conservation of material and the Trust team.

Sarah specialises in textile and Antarctic conservation and is ideally placed to work on the clothing and equipment left by the early explorers, from socks and man hauling harnesses to plankton nets.



Sarah Clayton working on a garment.

Sarah is on leave from the Australian War Memorial in Canberra where she is the Senior Conservator, Textiles.

## LIFE ON THE ICE

The blog which follows the lives of our conservation teams working year round in Antarctica continues to be a great success. The blog is hosted by our partner, Natural History Museum, London and gives an insight into the work the conservators are undertaking and their experiences on the Ice. Access is via our home page.

## GOVERNANCE AND STAFF

In July the Trust will bid farewell to United States Embassy representative Adam Smith and welcome Jeremy Slezak to the post. In August we will say goodbye to our Patron-in-Chief, His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Anand Satyanand and welcome Jerry Mateparae in his stead.

In May the Trust was joined by Paula Granger as Communications and Events Manager in a newly established role. Paula has a background in communications, marketing and sponsorship in the arts, culture and heritage sector. Paula will manage our Antarctic Explorer membership and deliver on our important education and outreach initiatives during the Scott centenary.



One of the artefacts from the Trust's Reserve Collection which also features in Scott's Last Expedition.

## THANK YOU

We would like to take the opportunity to thank Canterbury Museum for its ongoing support of the Trust. As well as partnering with us and the Natural History Museum on Scott's Last Expedition, Canterbury Museum plays a vital role in our collections management. As well as caring for its own extensive collection of Antarctic artefacts, in 2009 the Museum partnered with the Trust to conserve a collection of artefacts from the sites under our care which had been removed in the 1990s. This project to conserve the Reserve Collection was completed in 2010 by the Trust's conservators using the Museum's conservation facilities.