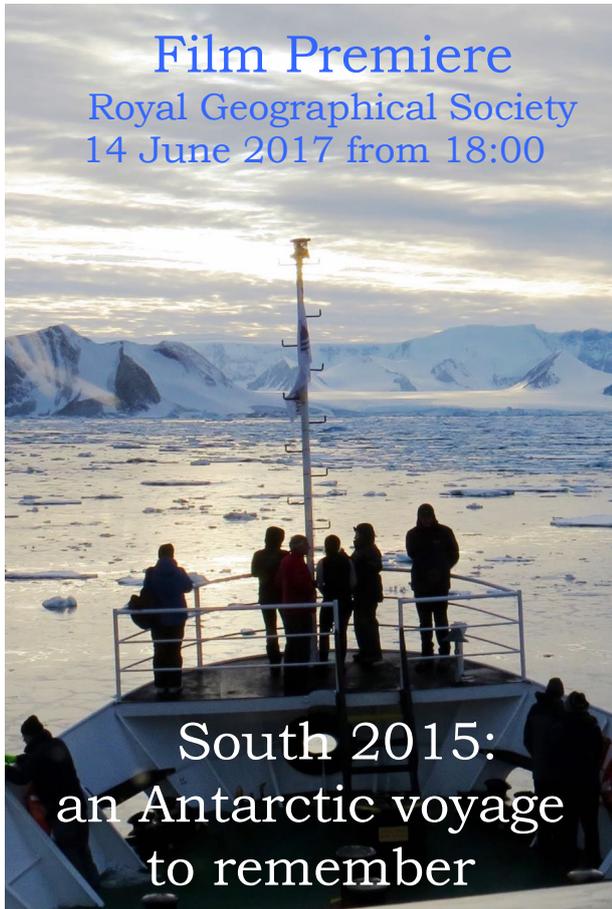


RGS Film Premiere of South 2015

Wednesday 14 June 2017, from 18.00

The film *South 2015: an Antarctic Voyage to Remember* is to be premiered at the Royal Geographical Society, RGS, Wednesday 14 June 2017. Trust Ambassador Felicity Aston MBE will introduce the film, shortly after she returns from a North Pole expedition.



The film follows the work of the Trust in creating the Antarctic Memorial in the crypt of St Paul's Cathedral and includes interviews with its designer and stone mason. Julian Dowdeswell, director of the Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge University talks eloquently about why he feels it is so fitting that the Institute should provide a site for the Northern part of the Antarctic Monument. Oliver Barratt, sculptor explains the meaning behind creating the Antarctic monument in two parts. But the greater part of the film is taken up with the voyage of the *mv Ushuaia* to the Falkland Islands for the dedication of the Southern monument and to the Peninsula where those Britons "who lost their lives in Antarctica in pursuit of science to benefit us all" lived and worked. Each of those who died are remembered in the film.

Bar open 18.00. Lecture 19.00. Bar until 21.30
TICKETS £14 www.south-2015.eventbrite.co.uk

South 2015 Voyagers Reunion Lunch

Wednesday 14 June 2017 at 12.00

The Trust is planning a reunion lunch on the 14 June 2017 to give the voyagers on the South 2015 voyage aboard *mv Ushuaia* an opportunity to meet up and catch up before the evening film premiere. The lunch is being arranged in the ballroom at the historic Polish Club in Exhibition Road - a hundred yards from the RGS, Hyde Park and South Kensington Museums.

Details of arrangements and cost will be confirmed later but in the meantime it would be helpful to know if you hope to join us. Please email Brian or Rod.

What is beneath Antarctic ice?

Thursday 15 June 2017 at 19.00

Professor Martin Siegert will be giving a talk entitled *Antarctica: Terra Incognita reveals its secrets* at Imperial College London. The lecture is organised by Friends of Imperial College and is one of a series of science lectures chaired by Rod Rhys Jones and open to all.

Martin is Professor of Geoscience at the College, Co-director of the Grantham Institute: Climate change and the environment. Previously head of the school of GeoSciences at Edinburgh University he leads the Lake Ellsworth Consortium. Earlier this year he identified a vast lake beneath the ice of East Antarctica and is planning to explore it for life forms. Booking £12 friendsofimperial.org.uk

Felicity's adventures with snow

Trust Ambassador Felicity Aston is currently appearing in Operation Gold Rush, retracing the route to the Klondike with Dan Snow, BBC 2. Next Spring she is leading an international team of women from Europe and the Middle East to ski the last degree to the North Pole. The expedition will face the many physical challenges associated with Arctic exploration - low temperatures, shifting pack ice, and if unlucky, polar bears - but the core purpose of the expedition is to foster greater dialogue and understanding between



Ambassadors: Felicity Aston MBE, John Killingbeck, Paul Rose, Dr Russell Thompson

Trustees: Brian Dorsett-Bailey (Secretary), Ken Gibson, Richard Harbour, Julian Paren, Roderick Rhys Jones (Chairman)

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women from Western and Arabian cultures. In addition, Felicity and her team want to inspire all women to reach beyond the expectation of others to fulfil their own life ambitions.

Felicity has long supported the British Antarctic Monument Trust, raising considerable sums of money when she became the first person to ski across Antarctica alone. She was the first woman to accomplish this feat and was appointed MBE and awarded the Polar Medal in 2015. More information here felicityaston.co.uk

Antarctic Monument

Plans to replace the Southern monument in Stanley are in hand following the appearance of corrosion reported in *Update* December 2015. The Trust has sought advice from a senior metallurgist at international engineers Arup and has been working closely with the manufacturer Pangolin Editions.

It is proposed to produce a sample of stainless steel and place it at a site exposed to the sea. The panels of the bronze base have already been manufactured and it is planned to have the new monument ready for shipping in September 2017. We are again very grateful to British Antarctic Survey, which has agreed to transport the monument to the Falklands. Fid Ian Bury will be arranging for its transportation, storage and erection. He has also agreed to clean and polish the stainless steel of the existing monument before the 2016/17 summer tourist season begins.

The oak sculpture at the Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge is also showing some signs of weathering and the Trust is looking at its long term future including removing it for cleaning.



40 Shades of White

Virginia Bazlinton, one of the voyagers on the *South 2015: an Antarctic Voyage to Remember* has published a book of her adventures in Antarctica *40 Shades of White*. She includes the story of her 2008 visit to the Ukrainian base of Vernadsky, and how and why a Dobson spectrophotometer was named after her. She was able to see her name inscribed on it during the Trust voyage in 2015! Available from Amazon at £11.99.

Z60 Celebration and memories

Two hundred and fifty Fids, families and friends joined the 60th anniversary of the founding of Base Z, Halley Bay, in early October in Northampton. Three Trustees attended and were entertained with talks on the history of the base and heard about plans to move it beyond the threatening crack in the shelf ice.

Rod's Antarctic issue knife, steel and sheath, left in his cabin on the *Kista Dan* in March 1966 at Montevideo, were graciously returned to him by Laurie Dicken who had occupied his cabin after he disembarked.



This echo from the past has prompted Marion Hughes, niece of Tom Allan, who lost his life at Stonington, to enquire again if anyone knows of the whereabouts of Tom's wood carving of the *Contented Fid* last seen at Adelaide. Please email Brian or Rod if you know where it is.

Shackleton: Life and Leadership Exhibition

The Trust has raised money from its supporters and made a donation to support the *Shackleton: Life and Leadership* exhibition in Chile at the Dreams Hotel, Punta Arenas. It is part of the events to mark the Centenary of the rescue of the Elephant Island party by Captain Luis Pardo of the Chilean Navy aboard the *Yelcho* out of Punta Arenas. The exhibition was put on at the Scott Polar Research Institute earlier this year and is currently on show in the Falkland Island Museum, Stanley. It is hoped that the exhibition will also be shown at other venues in Chile.

Polar Mariner

Capt. Tom Woodfield OBE made 20 seasonal voyages to the Antarctic between 1955 and 1974. Starting as a Junior Deck Officer on *RRS Shackleton*, serving as Chief Officer on *RRS John Biscoe* and finishing his career as Master of *RRS Bransfield*. In his memoir *Polar Mariner: Beyond the Limits in Antarctica* he vividly describes many predicaments including being blown ashore in hurricane force winds and being beset and crushed in pack ice. It is illustrated with many photographs of Antarctic scenery and wildlife.

The Princess Royal states in her foreword "This is an account of polar exploration, seamanship and human endeavour that is rarely found in this modern age and I am sure you will enjoy reading it."

Available from Amazon at £15.90.

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