

OLD ALLEYNIAN IN ANTARCTICA

Celebrate 400 years by following in
the footsteps of one of Dulwich
College's most notable OAs:

Sir Ernest Shackleton

JAMES CAIRD



What better way to celebrate the 400th Anniversary of Dulwich College than by taking a group of Old (and new) Alleynians to Antarctica, via the Falklands and South Georgia?

A proposal to take Dulwich College alumni to South Georgia to pay their respects to one of their most notable OA's, Sir Ernest Shackleton.

WHY ICE TRACKS EXPEDITIONS?

Founders Angie Butler and Caro Mantella started their small, dedicated adventure travel company nine years ago with the aim of sharing their passion for the polar regions. They have a close connection with the James Caird Society, and other similar institutions.

Ice Tracks has proudly run three successful Shackleton Centenary Voyages to Antarctica, one specifically for the Friends of the Scott Polar Research Institute (FoSPRI), as well as two Arctic voyages for FoSPRI. Special dinners, commemorative medals, booklets, specially commissioned china (as in the days of the Heroic Age) are just a few examples of what Ice Tracks do to ensure passengers feel like they are part of a very unique voyage, at a very special moment in history.

THE SHIP

Our proposed ship is the MS Hebridean Sky which can take 110 passengers. In 2016, Hebridean Sky underwent a ten-million dollar refit, transforming her into the safest and most comfortable ship in her class. World-class cuisine, complimentary wine or beer, on-board expedition photographer, historians, naturalists, complimentary expedition jacket, as well as a pre-departure commemorative dinner is planned.

THE BEST TIME TO TRAVEL?

The Antarctic window is from November to March, and going earlier in the season means less ships and prolific wildlife spotting. We suggest a 21-day voyage starting in Puerto Madryn, Argentina, going on to the Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica. We visit West Point and Port Stanley before sailing to South Georgia. South Georgia has the highest density of marine wildlife, including whales, penguin colonies and sea lions. In Grytviken we will pay our respects at the graveside of Sir Ernest Shackleton and other polar explorers such as Frank Wild and Henry Worsley. Besides visiting the whaling station with its exceptional museum, we will arrange a church service in the old Whaler's church that held Shackleton's funeral in 1922. The Shetland Islands will follow including the notorious Elephant Island, before heading down the Antarctic Peninsula.

WHAT WE WILL ACHIEVE

This historic voyage will be the perfect way to bring Old (and new) Alleynians together to celebrate the 400th Anniversary of their school. Not only a social event but an opportunity to learn about this extraordinary continent with hikes, kayaking, zodiac cruising and excellent lecturers on board - a truly once in a lifetime experience.

FUND RAISING

A voyage of this nature is also the perfect opportunity to raise funds for Dulwich College's various funds and bursaries. Ice Tracks will pledge a donation to Dulwich College, as well as run an on-board auction to raise money. Previously we have raised in the region of £30 000 for our charity partners in this way.



CARO MANTELLA

For 10 years Caro spent more time on board small ice-classed vessels sailing the polar regions than on terra firma. She has over 15 years' experience guiding, trekking, camping and exploring each end of the world, and her phenomenal knowledge of Antarctica is rivalled only by her passion for polar wildlife and photography. One of her many field projects included several months circumnavigating South Georgia collaborating on an extensive research project on the Giant Petrel and Wondering Albatross.

ANGIE BUTLER

Angie Butler's strengths lie in the history of polar expeditions. She was a guest speaker at a James Caird dinner at Dulwich College on 'The Quest for Frank Wild,' Shackleton's right hand man, whose ashes were finally returned to Grytviken and laid alongside Shackleton by Ice Tracks. She is a committee member of the Friends of Scott Polar Research Institute. She is also the author of two books: Ice Tracks – Today's Heroic Age of Polar Adventure; and The Quest for Frank Wild, and is busy writing her third.

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