

## Sir Ernest Shackleton Timeline

**1874** - Born in Ireland in 1874 to an English family, one of 10 children.

**1884** – The Shackleton family moves to London.

**1890** – Joins merchant navy at the age of 16.

**1898** – Certified as Master Mariner.

**1901** – First goes to Antarctica on board the Discovery with Captain Scott.

**1902** – November to February 1903 - Along with Captain Scott and Edward Wilson, reaches the then Farthest South coming within 530 miles of the South Pole. All three men suffer from snow-blindness, frost bite and scurvy, Shackleton is invalided home early on their return.

**1903 – 1907** – Takes on a variety of jobs, none of which last very long, unsuccessfully stands for parliament, plans his next expedition.

**1904** – Marries Emily Dorman.

**1905** – First child, Raymond Shackleton is born.

**1906** – Second child, Cecily Shackleton is born.

**1907** – The ship Nimrod leaves Britain for Antarctica, the expedition is under the command of Shackleton.

**1908** – October to January 1909 – With Frank Wild, Eric Marshall and Jameson Adams reaches a new Farthest South of 97 miles from the South Pole, the return journey was a race against starvation. He said to his wife “a live donkey is better than a dead lion, isn't it?”

**1909** – Given national honours on his return home, made a knight becoming Sir Ernest Shackleton. Attempts to use his fame to make money in business, though lecturing about his Antarctic expeditions is still the main source of income.

**1911** – Third child, Edward Shackleton is born.

**1912** – The news that the South Pole had been reached separately by Amundsen and Scott caused Shackleton to turn to a plan to cross Antarctica via the South Pole.

**1914** - The ship Endurance leaves Britain on Shackleton's Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition.

**1915** – February – The Endurance becomes trapped in sea-ice. October – damage to the ship and the threat of more from surrounding pack-ice causes Shackleton to order the abandonment of the Endurance, the crew decamp to the surrounding ice. November 21<sup>st</sup>, the Endurance sinks leaving the crew stranded.

**1916** – The crew of the Endurance make it to Elephant Island by late April. Shackleton and 5 others go for rescue in the lifeboat James Caird to South Georgia. August – the crew of the Endurance are rescued on the fourth attempt.

**1917** – Returns to Britain and volunteers for the war effort, is later awarded an OBE for his efforts.

**1919** – Publishes a book “South” about the Endurance expedition and resumes the lecture circuit to make money.

**1921** – September - Leaves Britain for Antarctica on board the ship Quest.

**1922** – January – Quest reaches South Georgia, Shackleton has a fatal heart attack on the 5<sup>th</sup> of January. On the request of his wife he is buried in the whalers cemetery at Grytviken South Georgia.