Sir Ernest Shackleton, Endurance Expedition Time Line

August 1st 1914 – The Endurance sets sail from London.

November 5th 1914 – Arrival at Grytviken whaling station, South Georgia.

December 5th 1914 – Set sail for Antarctica, last contact with the outside world for 18 months, last contact with land for 497 days.

December 7th 1914 – First encounter with pack-ice.

January 18th 1915 – Endurance becomes beset, frozen into heavy pack ice a day’s sail from the intended landfall.

February 22nd 1915 – Furthest south position reached at 77°S 35°W, the ice now starts to drift north carrying the Endurance with it.

August 1st 1915 – Ice surrounding the ship starts to break and push over itself, dogs brought on board.

September 1st 1915 – Ice pressure begins to act upon the ship.

October 27th 1915 – The Endurance is badly damaged by the pressure of ice acting upon her and leaking, Shackleton orders her to be abandoned, stores and equipment are taken onto the sea-ice and a camp established.

November 1st 1915 – After an attempt to march with boats and sleds, “Ocean Camp” is established a mile and a half from the Endurance.

November 21st 1915 - The broken and splintered Endurance sinks below the ice into the Weddell Sea.

December 22nd 1915 – Kept as Christmas Day, all remaining luxuries were eaten, the last really good meal for 8 months.

December 23rd 1915 – Ocean Camp is abandoned to try to move westwards to Paulet Island and a substantial food depot. Crew and dogs drag sleds and three lifeboats across the sea-ice.

December 29th 1915 – Very broken-up un-negotiable ice is met, a new camp is established “Patience Camp”, they were to live on the floe for nearly three and a half months.

April 9th 1916 – Ice floes breaking up and open water meant it was time to take to the boats and head towards the South Shetland Islands.

April 15th 1916 – Landfall at Elephant Island, the first time in 497 days.

April 24th 1916 – Shackleton and 5 others set off in the James Caird for South Georgia.

May 10th 1916 – James Caird arrives at King Haakon Bay, South Georgia.
May 19th 1916 – Shackleton, Crean and Worsley set out to cross South Georgia to reach the Stromness whaling station.

May 20th 1916 – Arrival at Stromness whaling station.

May 23rd 1916 – 1st rescue attempt, Shackleton sets out on the Southern Sky, a whaling boat to reach Elephant Island, is turned back by sea-ice and heads north arrives at the Falkland Islands on the 31st of May.

June 10th 1916 – 2nd rescue attempt on a trawler, Instituto de Pesca No. 1 loaned and provisioned by the Uruguayan government, again turned back by ice.

July 12th 1916 – 3rd rescue attempt by the schooner Emma, chartered and provisioned by donations raised at Punta Arenas, Chile also turned back by ice.

August 25th 1916 – 4th rescue attempt by the steam tug Yelcho loaned by the Chilean government successfully retrieves all of those on Elephant Island on August the 30th.

September 3rd 1916 – Yelcho reaches Punta Arenas with all 28 men of the Endurance expedition.

The Men of the Endurance

Bakewell, William - Able Seaman
Blackborow, Percy - Stowaway (later steward)
Cheetham, Alfred - Third Officer
Clark, Robert S. - Biologist
Crean, Thomas - Second Officer
Green, Charles J. - Cook
Greenstreet, Lionel - First Officer
Holness, Ernest - Fireman/stoker
How, Walter E. - Able Seaman
Hudson, Hubert T. - Navigator
Hurley, James Francis (Frank) - Official Photographer
Hussey, Leonard D. A. - Meteorologist
James, Reginald W. - Physicist
Kerr, A. J. - Second Engineer
Macklin, Dr. Alexander H. - Surgeon
Marston, George E. - Official Artist
McCarthy, Timothy - Able Seaman
McIlroy, Dr. James A. - Surgeon
McLeod, Thomas - Able Seaman
McNish, Henry - Carpenter
Orde-Lees, Thomas - Motor Expert and Storekeeper
Rickinson, Lewis - First Engineer
Shackleton, Ernest H. - Expedition Leader
Stephenson, William - Fireman/stoker
Vincent, John - Able Seaman
Wild, Frank - Second in Command
Wordie, James M. - Geologist
Worsley, Frank - Captain