

Welcome to our new Polar E-bytes Winter 2017.

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POLAR E-BYTES



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Don't miss our Annual Tribute Lecture on April 5th for Henry Worsley



The Friends of Scott Polar Research Institute invite you to join them for an evening of tributes, featuring a talk by Michael

Palin, paying our respects to polar pioneer Henry Worsley, who tragically died while following in the footsteps of Sir Ernest Shackleton in Antarctica in 2016.

The event is being held at the Royal Geographical Society, Exhibition Road, London on Wednesday 5th April 2017. The RGS will have some of their historic polar collections on display in the Foyle Reading Room for attendees to view before the lecture starts.

Doors open at 18.15 for a 19.00 start. There will be a pay bar available before and after the event. Proceeds from the event raise much needed funds for the vital work of the Scott Polar Research Institute. Find out more about the work of the Friends at www.spri.cam.ac.uk/friends.

To book your tickets [CLICK HERE](#)



Welcome to our NEW Winter Polar E-Bytes newsletter

Wow... PB's here again, another quarter of a year gone by! November's fantastic AGM in company with the Antarctic Club (the highlight being Bob Headland's wonderful overview of the nation's numerous characters and associations who might loosely be described as Polar Enthusiasts – thank you Bob!), and great progress on the plan for the Annual Polar Tribute Lecture (APTL) in conjunction with the RGS on 5 April at Kensington Gore (brilliant work by Peter Dolan, the inaugural event marks Henry Worsley's achievements, tickets going like hot cakes - be there or be square!).

We are privileged to have three new committee members (Lucy Carty, ex Artist in Residence; Simon Culshaw, ex BAS master mariner and John Shears, ex BAS and our Treasurer). Goodbye but not farewell to Tina Balchin (you were a superbly dedicated Treasurer Tina!) and welcome to Shelly Perkins, our 2017 AiR who is now firmly ensconced onboard HMS PROTECTOR in Antarctica. Finally, we are all enormously grateful to those who have donated to the APTL project and particularly for the very generous \$3500 given to us by Polar Latitudes. That's it I think... phew! See you on 5 April!

Nick Lambert, Chairman





2017 Antarctic Artist in Residence

We are delighted to announce that Shelly Perkins, our 2017 artist is currently on board HMS PROTECTOR in the Antarctic. We look forward to welcoming her home and hearing her tales in our next edition of Polar Bytes, as well as the promise of seeing her beautiful artwork in the future. Read Shelly's Biography and see her online gallery [CLICK HERE](#)

We are most grateful to the [Royal Navy](#) and to [Bonhams](#) for the generous sponsorship of this residency.

EXCITING OPPORTUNITY FOR ARTIST TO VISIT THE JEWEL OF THE ARCTIC – BAFFIN ISLAND COURTESY OF ONE OCEAN EXPEDITIONS

We shall be opening the application process for our 2017 Arctic Artist in Residence in April, so please keep an eye on the website, and spread the word to fellow likely candidates. We are most grateful to [One Ocean Expeditions](#) and [Bonhams](#) for the generous sponsorship of this residency.



Objects from Antarctica – five amazing films

The Polar Museum has produced five beautiful short films about their collections themed around Antarctic clothing, science, navigation, food and transport. Teacher packs are available to

From the Institute

A few words from Director Julian Dowdeswell, email: director@spri.cam.ac.uk

I've been working in Norway this week, with colleagues at the Geological Survey of Norway in Trondheim. My Norwegian co-workers hold detailed evidence on the shape of the Arctic seafloor, collected systematically by a survey vessel operated by the Norwegian Hydrographic Service. Analysis of these bathymetric data shows that a number of glaciers in eastern Svalbard have left an unusual imprint on the seafloor.

Over the last century or so these glaciers have advanced rapidly, by up to about 10 km over a period of a few years, and then retreated again to their modern positions. The suite of submarine landforms, including evidence that soft sediments at their beds have been squeezed into bottom crevasses, suggests that they are of surge-type. This means they undergo rapid speedup and advance for several years, and then stagnate and retreat for up to about a century. Interestingly, these dramatic fluctuations are driven by internal glaciological mechanisms of bottom lubrication that are unrelated to climate change. It is important to distinguish surge-type glacier fluctuations from those related to climate warming – hence my marine-geological work in Norway.

Photo: A surge-type glacier margin in Svalbard



News from the Heritage Collections

From the SPRI Archives, Naomi Bonham, email: nab37@cam.ac.uk

We kicked off this year welcoming the Friends Artist in residence Darren Rees to fill the foyer gallery with the results of his 2015 trip to the Antarctic. Running until 23 February it is the perfect opportunity for Friends to see these stunning pieces. Darren's exhibition is also the first in a short season dedicated to Antarctic wildlife mixing both exhibitions and events the Polar Museum is going wild for the spring.

accompany the videos, and the eagle eyed viewer might spot our illustrious Chairman, Nick Lambert, in one of the videos.

[Click here](#) to watch or direct links below.



[Transport in Antarctica](#)



[Science in Antarctica](#)



[Navigation in Antarctica](#)



[Eating in Antarctica](#)



[Clothing in Antarctica](#)

Our intrepid Education and outreach team have put together events suitable for everyone from the age of three upwards. Anyone over 15 might be interested in hearing SPRI's senior Academic Dr Gareth Rees discussing his research; this is the perfect opportunity to meet one of our academics. For more details and how to book places catch up on our events page <http://www.spri.cam.ac.uk/museum/events/>

From one acclaimed wildlife artist we will move on to the work of a former director of the British Antarctic Survey (1973-87). The zoologist Richard "Dick" Laws worked in both the Antarctic and Africa. His work will be on display in March. Alongside these special events visitors can see works by John Ross from his 1830 Arctic voyage in the main gallery as part of our continuing commitment to provide public access to our wonderful art work and of course take a look around the museum both inside and out to find our penguins and huskie.

Photo above: memorial to the Antarctic dog teams located in the front garden of the Institute



FoSPRI dates for the diary

Ice Bound

There is still a week left to see *Ice Bound*, an exhibition of artwork by our 2014/15 Antarctic Artist in Residence [Darren Rees](#).

18 Jan - 23 Feb

The Polar Museum – Exhibition
FREE

SAVE THE DATE

Friends of SPRI AGM

Saturday 11th November 2017

Annual Tribute Lecture Henry Worsley

Wednesday 5th April 2017
7pm

TICKETS: £25 per person

VENUE: Royal
Geographical Society,
Exhibition Road, London

To book your tickets [CLICK HERE](#)

A note from the Executive Secretary

We hope you enjoy this 'new look' E-Newsletter as we commence a new and exciting 2017. Please hurry and purchase your tickets for the Annual Polar Tribute Lecture on the 5 April at the RGS, as tickets are selling fast.

NEW FRIENDS – A very warm welcome is extended to all new members.

PASSING FRIENDS – We are sorry to note the passing of Tony Billingshurst, a Life member

MEMBERSHIP. UPDATE – We are now so close to the launch of our new membership structure and you will all be receiving the new information by letter, in the coming weeks. Please do look out for this letter which will be sent by email, or post if we do not hold an email address.



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