

● Scott centenary – An enduring scientific legacy

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From disaster sprang an immense increase in knowledge about the Antarctic continent. The scientific legacy of Scott's expedition provided vital evidence for geographers, biologists, botanists, geologists, meteorologists and a host of other disciplines. It laid the foundations for much of the scientific work that is carried out today by national agencies, including the British Antarctic Survey.

To commemorate the centenary of the Terra Nova expedition and Scott's lasting legacy, this spring sees a diverse programme of Society events. The critically-acclaimed exhibition *With Scott to the Pole: The Terra Nova Expedition, 1910-13* combines the masterful Antarctic photography of Herbert Ponting with additional content demonstrating how contemporary scientists measure, observe and interpret the polar environment and its historic records of global change. Collections displays and Be Inspired talks also highlight connections between past and present polar science.

Year round, the Society provides online polar resources for schools. Two award winning websites developed with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and British Antarctic Survey, *Discovering Antarctica* and *Discovering the Arctic*, provide a wealth of educational resources on topics ranging from polar biodiversity to Arctic indigenous communities. In addition, the *Unlocking the Archives* website gives schools access to the Society's polar collections including images, maps, activities and quizzes about Scott's historic expedition.

'Captain Scott lives in all our minds, and will live in our memories, as an ideal of the English sailor of the age, a man full of scientific zeal and enthusiasm...' said Douglas W. Freshfield, Vice-President of the Society, on the night of 10 February 1913, immediately after news of the tragic fate of the British Antarctic Expedition (1910-13) became known.



Image: Grotto in a berg, Terra Nova in the distance. Herbert Ponting, 5 January 1911 © RGS-IBG

Website: www.discoveringthearctic.org.uk

Website: www.discoveringantarctica.org.uk

Website: www.unlockingthearchives.rgs.org

Website: www.scott100.org