

## Scott Remembered

A small estate built in the 1930s, near the site of 'Outlands', has streets named after the Polar party - Scott Road, Wilson Crescent, Evans Place, Bowers Road, Oates Road and Terra Nova Green.

Scott Lodge stands on the corner of Scott Road and Outlands Road. Just along the road is the Britannia Inn, built on land that belonged to 'Outlands'. It has a small display about Scott. Quite nearby, on Beacon Park Road, is the Scott Hospital.

Less well known is a bronze sculpture of Scott in his Royal Naval uniform. The bust was commissioned by Devonport Borough Council after Scott's death. It is the work of Scott's wife and widow Kathleen, a professional sculptor. The pedestal, with dedication, is in green limestone from Kitley, near Plymouth. Scott's bust is now, proudly, displayed indoors at Stoke Damerel Community College - commemorating the fact that his first school was in Stoke Damerel. Visitors must seek permission to view.



Bronze of Captain Scott at Stoke Damerel Community College

## Plymouth's Antarctic Connections

### Scott for Science

Scott's Antarctic Expeditions carried out pioneering science. These studies were supported by the Marine Biological Association (MBA); Britain's first and foremost learned society dedicated to the scientific study of the oceans and fisheries. The MBA is based in Plymouth, having opened its laboratory on the Hoe in 1888.



MBA Laboratory, Plymouth Hoe c.1890 Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery

Two MBA biologists sailed with Scott - Thomas Vere Hodgson on the *Discovery* and Edward Nelson on the *Terra Nova*. Hodgson was also the first Curator of the Plymouth Museum. He lived in Plympton and is buried there at St Mary's Church.

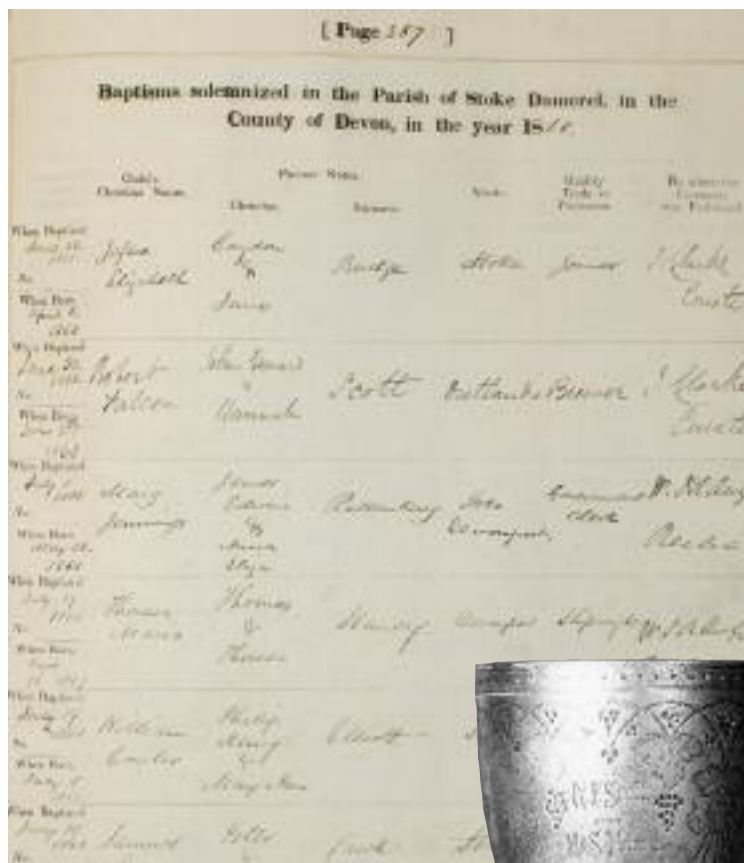
The MBA was also involved in other Polar expeditions of the 'Heroic Age': Dr Robert S. Clark sailed with Shackleton's Endurance Expedition and later helped to train and equip scientists for the Shackleton-Rowett Quest Expedition.



Thomas Hodgson

Edward Nelson  
SPRI

Robert Clark



Robert Falcon Scott's Christening  
- extract from the Stoke Damerel Church  
'Register of Baptisms'  
Courtesy Stoke Damerel Church  
and Plymouth & West Devon Record Office (Ref.166)

Scott Christening Cup inscribed  
'R.F. Scott from M.&S. Falcon June 30 1868'

Purchased by Plymouth City Council Arts & Heritage,  
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the Friends of Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery  
and the Devon and Cornwall Polar Society



### Scott Timeline

- 1868 Born in Devonport, Plymouth
- 1881 Joins Royal Navy
- 1900 Appointed to lead National Antarctic Expedition
- 1901-04 National Antarctic or Discovery Expedition
- 1908 Marriage to sculptor Kathleen Bruce
- 1909 Birth of son - the famous naturalist Sir Peter Scott
- 1910 Leads the British Antarctic or Terra Nova Expedition
- 1911 Sets out on 800 mile trek to South Pole
- 1912 Arrives at South Pole on 17 January

March 1912:  
The Polar party of Captain Scott, Dr Edward Wilson, Captain Oates, 'Birdie' Bowers and Edgar Evans all die on the return journey



Fred Dailey RN  
Plymouth City Museum



Patrick Keohane RN  
Plymouth City Museum



Fred Parsons RN  
Family collection



Francis Davies RN  
Family collection

### South with Scott

Scott's expeditions were supported by the Royal Navy and many of the Naval men would have been familiar with Plymouth and HM Dockyard, Devonport. A handful had stronger associations and lived locally.

Fred Dailey RN was the Chief Carpenter on the *Discovery* - also helping to prepare the vessel for the voyage. He is buried in the City at Ford Park Cemetery.

Aboard the *Terra Nova* were Petty Officer Patrick Keohane RN and Submariner / Seaman Fred Parsons RN. Both men lived in Plymouth. Serving alongside them was Francis Davies RN, the Shipwright-Carpenter. Davies was born near Plymouth and educated at Laira Green School.

## Scott Treasures

Robert Falcon Scott's Christening Cup has come home to Plymouth. It was sold by Sir Peter Scott in the 1980s and first returned to the City in 2012. The Cup took pride of place in a popular exhibition commemorating Scott's death and celebrating the scientific achievement of his two Antarctic expeditions. Soon after, the Christening Cup was offered for sale. It was purchased by Plymouth City Council Arts & Heritage and is now regularly on show in the City Museum and Art Gallery.



'Con' as a young lad  
Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery

Hallmarked E & J Barnard, London, the Christening Cup celebrates Robert Falcon Scott's baptism at Stoke Damerel Church on 30 June 1868. The Cup was gifted to Scott by his Godparents, Michael and Sophia Falcon. The Falcon family connection probably explains Scott's middle name. We are keen to learn more about the links between the Scott and Falcon families.

Also on show at the City Museum are 'Scott's Skis'; one of the best loved exhibits. The skis belonged to Scott, but were handed over by him for the use of fellow Terra Nova Expedition member Patrick Keohane - who later donated them to the City. The Museum's 'Heroic Age' collection also includes a rare 'in memoriam' folder, dedicated to Captain Scott and given to all those who sailed with Scott on his final expedition.

Do please check the Scott treasures are on display before visiting Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery

## The 'Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration'

### Some key expeditions:

- 1901-04 Scott - Discovery Expedition
- 1907-09 Shackleton - Nimrod Expedition
- 1910-12 Amundsen - Norwegian Expedition
- 1910-13 Scott - Terra Nova Expedition
- 1911-14 Mawson - Australasian Expedition
- 1914-16 Shackleton - Endurance Expedition
- 1921-22 Shackleton-Rowett - Quest Expedition

## Shackleton

In August 1914, Plymouth's Great Western Docks at Millbay was the port of departure for Shackleton's Endurance Expedition. The night before, Shackleton stayed in the nearby Duke of Cornwall Hotel. A Civic Reception preceded the departure of Shackleton from Millbay aboard the *Quest*, on 24 September 1921.



Quest at Plymouth, 1921



Francis Bickerton  
Family collection

### All Aboard

Francis Bickerton accompanied Sir Douglas Mawson's Australasian Antarctic Expedition. He was engineer in charge of the first aeroplane and wireless equipment to be taken South. He lived at Osborne Place, Lockyer Street, near Plymouth Hoe, from the mid 1890s until 1920. Bickerton discovered the first meteorite found in Antarctica and has Cape Bickerton named in his honour.

Devonport-born seaman William Mugridge served as a stoker aboard *Aurora*, the support ship to Shackleton's *Endurance*.



Mugridge's Polar Medal  
Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery



Scott in his 'den', Winterquarters Hut, October 1911  
Scott Polar Research Institute

## Robert Falcon Scott

Born in the parish of Stoke Damerel, Devonport on 6 June 1868, Scott was one of six children. His father, John Edward Scott, owned a brewery on Hoe Gate Street. Scott went to a day school at Exmouth House, Stoke - riding there on his pony 'Beppo'.

Scott left Plymouth in July 1881, aged thirteen, to join the Royal Navy training ship HMS *Britannia* at Dartmouth, Devon. During his training he often came home and went sailing with his brother and sisters in Plymouth Sound.

The family brewery was sold on in the late 1880s and Scott's father invested the money. In the 1890s, the investments failed and the family's money problems were compounded by the death of Scott's father and brother.

With increased responsibilities, Scott saw the opportunity to lead the British National Antarctic or Discovery Expedition (1901-04) as a chance for early command. The relative success of this expedition saw the newly promoted Captain Scott invited to return South, leading the Terra Nova Expedition (1910-13).

On this second expedition, Scott and his Polar party reached the South Pole in January 1912 only to discover that they had been beaten there by the Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen. Scott and his team all died on the return journey; Evans first, then Oates, followed by Bowers, Wilson and Scott together. Their final camp was just eleven miles away from a food depot and the supplies that could have saved them.

## Further Research

### Expertise

Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust at Derriford has been home to the British Antarctic Survey Medical Unit since 1997, providing medical services to the British Antarctic Survey. Scientists at the Marine Biological Association and other marine research institutions in the City continue to help our understanding of Antarctic waters.

### Look & Learn

Plymouth City Council helps to support both public study and specialist research into the 'Heroic Age'. There are a good range of key reference books available at the City Library. The City Museum and Art Gallery has a small but unique and important 'Heroic Age' collection, mostly linked to Plymouth based participants - including Scott's Christening Cup and 'Scott's Skis'. Information on the Scott Family in Plymouth and the family home at 'Outlands' can be researched at the Plymouth & West Devon Record Office.



Fred Dailey's wooden snow-goggles  
Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery

### Further Reading

*From South Devon to the South Pole*, by Paul Davies (Kingsbridge Books, 2011)

*Scott 100 Plymouth:*

[www.plymouth.gov.uk/captainscott](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/captainscott)

### Devon and Cornwall Polar Society

This Society meets regularly in Plymouth and welcomes new members and guests.

[www.devonandcornwallpolarsociety.org.uk](http://www.devonandcornwallpolarsociety.org.uk)

### Thanks

With special thanks to Paul Davies and Scott Polar Research Institute (SPRI), University of Cambridge.

## The Scott Memorial

When news of the death of Captain Scott and his Polar party reached Britain, in February 1913, a memorial fund was set up. Some of the large amount of money raised was used to erect a National Memorial to Scott and the men who died alongside him.

This monument was designed by Albert H. Hodge and unveiled in August 1925. A dramatic site was chosen in Mount Wise Park, Devonport - Scott's birthplace and overlooking the River Tamar; in sight of all Royal Naval vessels visiting the Dockyard.

The base is of Portland limestone, framing bronze plaques with scenes from Scott's final Antarctic expedition and inset with portrait medallions of Scott, Wilson, Bowers, Evans and Oates. The Memorial is completed with an explorer figure, after Scott, and a winged figure, representing Courage.

Extracts from Scott's now famous 'Message to the Public' feature on the Memorial and set into the paving nearby. The words were written by Scott when dying in his tent: *"We took risks, we knew we took them; things have come out against us, and therefore we have no cause for complaint, but bow to the will of Providence... Had we lived, I should have had a tale to tell of the hardihood, endurance, and courage of my companions which would have stirred the heart of every Englishman. These rough notes and our dead bodies must tell the tale."*

Plymouth's Scott Memorial was rededicated by HRH The Princess Royal in March 2012 as part of the City's contribution to the national 'Scott 100' event programme.



A figure representing Courage tops the Memorial, Mount Wise Park  
Courtesy Sherrie-lee Evans



Outlands House - a painting by HMB, 1904  
Courtesy St Bartholomew's Church, Plymouth

## Outlands

The Scott family home was a large house at Milehouse, called 'Outlands'.

The Scott children enjoyed playing in the large garden. A friend recalled *"There was a lake in the grounds on which we used to go for a row in a boat, or we would run to the stream in the meadow, take off our boots and stockings and set about catching eels."*

When the family's fortunes changed, 'Outlands' was rented out and the Scott family moved to Somerset. Scott, now in the Navy, made only two more visits to 'Outlands' before his death. He returned in October 1908, when the ship on which he served anchored at Devonport. Newly married, he wrote to his wife: *"It was looking very charming and old fashioned... and ...that the tenant met him with many smiles."*

The second visit was in 1910, just before leaving to join the Terra Nova Expedition. Whilst in the garden he carved his name on a birch tree. When news of Scott's death was received in England, the tree was felled and the carving framed. It is now on display at Plymouth City Museum.



'Outlands' was demolished after the Second World War. All that remains is a part of the garden wall on Outlands Road. St Bartholomew's Church occupies part of the site. Here you will find two plaques in commemoration of Scott; the oldest on the gatepost of the Church and the other on the corner of Scott Road.



## Some Plymouth Places

**National Scott and Polar Party Memorial (PL1 4JQ)**  
Mount Wise Park, off George Street, Devonport

**Site of 'Outlands', Scott Plaques and Scott Estate (PL2 3BZ)** off Outlands Road, Plymouth

*Please check opening hours before visiting:*

**Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery (PL4 8AJ)**  
Drake's Circus, Plymouth t.01752 304774

**Plymouth City Library (PL4 8AL)**  
Drake's Circus, Plymouth t.01752 305923

*By arrangement:*

**Scott's Bust (PL3 4BD)**  
Stoke Damerel Community College, Somerset Place, Plymouth t.01752 556065

**Plymouth & West Devon Record Office (PL4 0JW)**  
Clare Place, Coxside, Plymouth t.01752 305940

*Other Locations:*

Marine Biological Association (PL1 2PB)  
The Laboratory, Citadel Hill, Plymouth

St Mary's Church, Plympton (PL6 7AX)

Millbay Docks, Millbay Road (PL1 3EF)

The Duke of Cornwall Hotel, Millbay Road (PL1 3LG)

**Plymouth City Council, Arts & Heritage**



## From Plymouth to Pole Plymouth's Antarctic Connections



Plymouth & West Devon Record Office. (Ref:2579.1)  
Captain Scott, 8th October 1911 - photographed by H.G. Ponting