Scientific Expedition Reports

(Image from Princeton University Expeditions to Patagonia, 1896-99)

University of Otago Special Collections
Scientific Expedition Reports Overview

Introduction

Rich with photographs, colourful plates, scientific descriptions, anthropological and geographical observations and general insights into expeditionary life, the Scientific Expedition Reports, housed in the University of Otago’s Special Collections, are a veritable mine of information. From the Arctic to the Antarctic, from Uganda to Patagonia, the earliest of the reports dates from D’Urville’s expedition in the Astrolabe 1826-29, published in 1832, and the latest are from the University of Canterbury Snares Islands expeditions beginning in the 1960s. Men and women from New Zealand, Australia, Norway, France, Sweden, America, the United Kingdom, Canada, Denmark, China, Egypt and many more countries besides, have travelled the world by land and by sea in the name of science and exploration and have documented the results in these scientific reports. Much of the scientific observations made and specimens taken are still being researched today and despite the treacherous conditions and ever present risks, most members of these expeditionary parties returned alive. The Scientific Expedition Reports in Special Collections are a testament to and a record of humankind’s insatiable desire for knowledge.

This overview runs chronologically and not all of the Reports in the collection are featured here. The books cannot be borrowed but are able to be viewed in Special Collections, Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 5.00pm.

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(Image from The Voyage of the ‘Southern Cross’, 1898-1900)
**Voyage of the ‘Astrolabe’, 1826-1829** (Text in French)

Jules Dumont D’Urville (1790-1842) led this information-gathering expedition to the Pacific Islands aboard *Astrolabe* and hoped to build on the scientific knowledge gained from Louis Isidore Duperrey’s expedition of 1822-25. D’Urville sailed from Toulon in France in April, 1826 with three naturalists – Lesson, Quoy and Gaimard. *Astrolabe*, with D’Urville and his crew, sailed off the coast of the South Island of New Zealand in January 1827 and collected specimens from *Astrolabe* Bay in Nelson. Some specimens from the expedition are still in collections housed in the Natural History Museum in Paris.


**Special Collections:**


Natural history plates in the Special Collections set are bound in two volumes: L’atlas zoologique vol.: Mammifères; Oiseaux; Poissons; Mollusques, Zoophytes. L’atlas de botanique vol.: Flore de la Nouvelle-Zélande; Sertum Astrolabii. There are no Entomological plates.

**Call number:** Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 A7 DW27 1830

**Hocken:**


Natural history plates in the Hocken set are bound in three volumes: vol. 3. Mollusques, plates 1-93; vol. 4. Flore de la Nouvelle-Zélande, plates 1-39, including 7 bis and 34 bis; Sertum Astrolabii, plates 1-39; Entomologie, which is subdivided, plates 1-12; vol.5. Mammifères, plates
1-28; Oiseaux, plates 1-31; Poissons, plates 1-20; Zoophytes, plates 1-23, 25-26; Vers apodes, plate 24. **Call number: Hocken Bliss Double Oversize KX D**


**Other Sources:**
**Special Collections:**
*New Zealand, 1826-1827, from the French of Dumont d'Urville: An English Translation of the Voyage de l'Astrolabe in New Zealand Waters.* Introductory essay by Olive Wright; foreword by Emmanuel Lancial. [Wellington, N.Z.]: Printed by the Wingfield Press for Olive Wright, [1950]. **Call number: Brasch DU419 DW27** (also a copy at Hocken Library. **Call number: Hocken Bliss OEC D**)

**Hocken:**
Led by Captain Sir James Clark Ross, this voyage was the last sail-only expedition. The well-provisioned ships set sail from Chatham in Kent, England on the 29th September, 1839 and took a very circuitous route to the South Pole, visiting many islands in the Atlantic on the way and Australia and New Zealand. The main aim of the expedition was to find the magnetic South Pole and to ‘collect the various objects of Natural History’ (Joseph Dalton Hooker, *Summary of the Voyage*, volume 1 supplement). The voyagers saw their first iceberg at the end of December, 1840 and reached the edge of the icepack on the 3rd of January, 1841. The Ross Sea is named for Captain Ross and Mount Erebus in Antarctica was named after the lead ship. The expedition made several voyages into the Antarctic region in the subsequent southern summers and returned to England on the 4th September, 1843.
Special Collections:
Vol.1 Mammalia, birds; Vol.1 Suppl. (contains photocopies of pages missing from v.1); Vol. 2 Reptiles, fishes, crustacea, insects, mollusca; Vol. 2 Suppl. (contains photocopy of "Reptiles of Australia"). Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 E67 1839

Other Sources:
Special Collections:
The Botany of the Antarctic Voyage of H.M. Discovery ships ‘Erebus' and ‘Terror' in the years 1839-1843, under the command of Captain Sir James Clark Ross by Joseph Dalton Hooker. London: Reeve, 1844-60. Call number: Special Collections Oversize QK47 HS37 (also a copy at Hocken Library. Call number: Hocken Bliss Oversize FI Hoo)

Hocken:
Captain James Clark Ross, A Voyage of Discovery and Research in the Southern and Antarctic Regions during the years 1839-43. London: John Murray, 1847. Call number: Hocken Bliss KWT R
Under the command of Captain Sir Edward Belcher (1799-1877), the HMS Samarang left England in February 1843 to make a ‘survey of the various coasts and islands in the Eastern Seas’ (Arthur Adams, preface to Zoology of the Voyage of HMS Samarang). The expedition party travelled to Borneo, Brunei, Hong Kong, Singapore, Manila, Japan, Mauritius and many places in between. Captain Belcher was born in Nova Scotia and joined the British Navy aged 13 years. He travelled extensively on the world’s oceans throughout his career and wrote his Narrative of the Voyage of HMS ‘Samarang’, which was published in 1848. Although Belcher had a reputation for being difficult to get along with, he reached the rank of Admiral in the British Navy.

John Edward Gray, [et al.], The Zoology of the Voyage of H.M.S. Samarang, under the command of Captain Sir Edward Belcher ... during the years 1843-1846. Edited by Arthur Adams. London: Reeve and Benham, 1848-1850.

Special Collections:
Two volumes:
Vol. 1: Vertebrates by John Edward Gray (1849); Fishes by Sir John Richardson (1848); Mollusca by Arthur Adams & Lovell Reeves (1848); Crustacea by Arthur Adams & Adam White (1848).

Vol. 2: No. 3: Mollusca; No. 4: Crustacea. (Note: this is a partial duplicate of the third part (Mollusca), and a complete duplicate copy of the fourth part (Crustacea) from the first volume.)

Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 S238 1843
Other Sources:
Hocken:
Edward Belcher, *Narrative of the Voyage of H.M.S. Samarang, during the years 1843-46*: Employed Surveying the Islands of the Eastern Archipelago; accompanied by a brief vocabulary of the principal languages. London: Reeve, Benham & Reeve, 1848. **Call number: Hocken Bliss KWY B**
With a crew of 345 and a scientific staff of seven, the Novara set sail from Trieste (now in Italy) on the 30th April, 1857 to circumnavigate the globe. An ambitious and important journey for its time, some of the material collected during the voyage is still being studied today. Among the specimens brought back to Europe were the leaves of the cocaine plant, from which the first pure cocaine was extracted in 1860. Christian Gottlieb Ferdinand von Hochstetter (1829-84) was the geologist aboard the Novara who was encouraged by Governor Sir George Grey (1812-98) in Cape Town to remain in New Zealand in January 1859 when the Novara sailed for home. During his sojourn in New Zealand, Hochstetter travelled widely with the German Julius Haast (1822-87) and made many geological observations and recordings en route. Hochstetter is called by some ‘the Father of New Zealand Geology’. He returned to Trieste in January 1860.
**Special Collections:**
Anthropologischer Theil, Abt. 1 - Abt. 3; Anthropologischer Theil, [Abt. 4] Linguistischer Theil; Botanischer Theil, Bd. 1 (No other Band published); Geologischer Theil, Bd. 1 - Bd. 2; Medizinischer Theil, Bd. 1 (No other Band published); Nautisch-physicalischer Theil; Statistisch-commercieller Theil; Zoologischer Theil, Bd. 1; Zoologischer Theil, Bd. 2, Abt. 1A; Zoologischer Theil, Bd. 2, Abt. 1B; Zoologischer Theil, Bd. 2, Abt. 2 Atlas; Zoologischer Theil, Bd. 2, Abt. 2 Text; Zoologischer Theil, Bd. 2, Abt. 3

(Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.)

Special Collections lacks the Beschreibender Theil.

**Call number:** Expeditions (Special Collections)  Q115 N9 1857; 1857e; 1857f

**Other Sources:**

**Hocken:**
Karl Scherzer, *Narrative of the Circumnavigation of the Globe by the Austrian frigate Novara (Commodore B. von Wullerstorf-Urbair,) undertaken by order of the Imperial Government in the years 1857, 1858 & 1859.* London: Saunders, Otley, 1863. **Call number:** Hocken Bliss KU S
Voyage of HMS ‘Challenger’, 1873-76

Under the captaincy of George Strong Nares and from 1874, Captain Frank Tourle Thomson, HMS Challenger sailed from Portsmouth on 21st December, 1872. Challenger, a steam corvette, had been refitted to include zoological and chemical laboratories and photographic and naturalist history workrooms. Led by University of Edinburgh Professor, Sir Charles Wyville Thomson, this scientific expedition made a trip of around 70,000 nautical miles over three years. Stopping at islands in the Atlantic, the Indian and the Pacific Oceans and visiting the West Indies, India, Australia and New Zealand, the expeditionary party made observations and recorded data on a wide range of topics such as ocean temperatures, currents and tides; chemistry, biology, botany and zoology.

C. Wyville Thomson, [et al], Report on the Scientific Results of the Voyage of H.M.S. Challenger during the years 1873-76, under the command of Captain George S. Nares and the late Captain Frank Tourle Thomson, R.N. Prepared under the superintendence of the late Sir C. Wyville Thomson and now of John Murray. [Edinburgh]: Printed for H.M. Stationery Office, 1880-95.

Special Collections:
Section 1, Narrative: v.1 - v.2; Sect.2, Physics and chemistry: v.1 - v.2; Sect.3, Deep-sea deposits; Sect.4, Botany: v.1 - v.2; Sect.5, Zoology: v.1 - v.8; v.10 - v.13; v.19; v.23; v.24: plates; v. 24: text; v.27; v. 29: text part 1; v. 29 text part 2; v.30: plates; v.30: text; v.31; Sect.6, Summary: v.1 - v.2.
Call number: Expedition (Special Collections) Q115 C4 1872
(Hocken Library, Medical Library and Portobello Marine Laboratory all have various copies of this title, please see Library catalogue for details.)
Other Sources:

Special Collections:


W. J. J. Spry, *Cruise of H.M.'s Ship 'Challenger': Voyages over many seas, scenes, in many lands.* London: Sampson Low, Marston, Searle and Rivington, 1877. Call number: Special Collections (see catalogue). (Hocken also has a copy. Call number: Hocken KU Cha S)

H.N. Moseley, *Notes by a Naturalist: An Account of Observations made during the Voyage of H.M.S. "Challenger" round the world in the years 1872-1876.* London: John Murray, 1892. Call number: Special Collections (see catalogue).

Hocken:


Medical Library:

This was a mission to Campbell Island, 600 kilometres south of New Zealand, to take part in the charting of the Transit of Venus. French scientists, led by Jean Jacques Anatole Bouquet de la Grye (1827-1909), departed Marseilles in June, 1874 and reached Campbell Island on 9th September, 1874, with a stop-off in Sydney to join the expedition vessel, Vire, which had come from Noumea. On the 9th December the expedition party tried to observe the Transit of Venus but were unsuccessful due to cloudy skies. They left Campbell Island on 28th December, 1874. These volumes contain the data collected of the natural history of the island and charts and maps made of the surrounding areas.

Académie des Sciences (France), Recueil de memoires, rapports et documents relatifs à l’observation du passage de Venus sur le soleil, 1874. Paris: Firmin Didot, 1876-85
Special Collections:
Volume 3, part 2, Atlas; vol. 3, part 2, Text (Publisher: Gauthier-Villars). Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 A16 1874

Hocken:
Volume 3, part 1; vol. 3 part 2, numbers 1, 3, and 4. Call number: Hocken Bliss KXZ A
This voyage aboard the Alert, captained by George Strong Nares, an officer in the British navy (1831-1915), was ostensibly a surveying expedition to explore the waters in and around Patagonia, Polynesia and the Mascarene Island group in the Indian Ocean near Madagascar. Dr Richard Coppinger (1847-1910), surgeon in the British navy and enthusiastic zoologist, collected zoological specimens throughout the voyage. The Alert returned to Sheerness in Kent, England on 20th September, 1882.


Special Collections:
One volume. Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 A552 1881

Other Sources:
Hocken:
Voyages of the Royal Indian Marine Survey Ship ‘Investigator’, 1888-1892

Alfred William Alcock (1859-1933) was a qualified medical doctor who was born in Bombay. In 1888 he led a series of expeditions aboard the Marine Survey ship Investigator with an aim to collect specimens from the depths of the Indian Ocean. Alcock wanted to create a marine zoology collection at the Indian Museum in Calcutta which would be displayed to the public. Between 1888 and 1892, Alcock held the position of Surgeon-Naturalist to the Indian Marine Survey and at that time he was also the Superintendent of the Indian Museum.


Special Collections:
Volume 6 (1896); vol. 7 (1897) (lacks Mollusca plates); vol. 8 (1898) (lacks Mollusca plates); vol. 9 (1899); vol. 10 (1900); vol. 11 (1901) (lacks Mollusca plates); vol. 12 (1902); vol. 13 (1905);
vol. 14 (1907) (lacks Mollusca plates); vol. 15 (1908) (lacks Mollusca plates). **Call number:** Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 I68 I94


**Special Collections:**

Volume II: *The Alcyonarians of the Littoral Coast* (1909). **Call number:** Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 I68 TF74

**Other Sources:**

Special Collections:

Alfred Alcock, *A Naturalist in Indian Seas; or, Four Years with the Royal Indian Marine Survey Ship 'Investigator'*. London: John Murray, 1902. **Call number:** Special Collections QL137 A426 1902. (Portobello Marine Laboratory also has a copy; no call number.)
The Horn party set off from Adelaide by train in May, 1894 and travelled to Oodnadatta, about 1000 kilometres north of Adelaide. Once there they climbed upon their camels and embarked on their three month expedition. William Austin Horn (1841-1922), leader of the expedition, a farmer, mining magnate and politician, was accompanied by five scientists, ‘two Afghan and two European camel-drivers, two collectors, two prospectors, one aboriginal black tracker, and one cook, making sixteen in all, with twenty-six camels and two horses’ (Horn, Introduction). The party collected and described new species of mammals and fish, made geological, botanical and anthropological observations and some of the party even managed to make a visit to Uluru or Ayers Rock.

Special Collections:
Two volumes: part 1- part 4. Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 H7 1894

Hocken:
Volumes 1-4. Call number: Hocken Bliss OLJ Hor
The Danish ‘Ingolf’ Expedition, 1895-96

Two four-month trips took place in 1895 and 1896 during which the Ingolf and its crew made an ‘exploration of the Arctic seas around Iceland and Greenland, zoological collections being the principal object of the expedition’ (C. F. Wandel, Report of the Voyage, volume 1). The expedition party included zoologists, a physicist and a botanist.

Special Collections:
15 volumes
Vol. 1 (1899-1900); vol. IIa (1899-1912); vol. IIb (1923); vol. IIIa (1899-1915); vol. IIIb (1916-1923); vol. IIIc (1923-1935); vol. IIIId (1944-1953); vol. IVa (1903-1907); vol. IVb (1914-1935); vol. IVc (1935-1950); vol. Va (1904-1913); vol. Vb (1914-1919); vol. Vc (1921-1927); vol. Vd (1942-1946); vol. Via (1902-1928). Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 D28 1895

/Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title; there is a duplicate copy of vol. IVa at Storage./
Some sixty years after Charles Darwin and Robert Fitzroy’s *Beagle* expedition to Patagonia, Princeton University conducted three expeditions to the area with the first leaving Brooklyn on February 29th, 1896. Professor William Berryman Scott (1858-1947), head of the Geology and Palaeontology Department and the curator and palaeontologist, John Bell Hatcher (1861-1904) planned and led the expeditions. Ostensibly a palaeontological expedition, the team also observed and researched the geology, zoology, anthropology and botany of the area.


**Special Collections:**
10 volumes
Vol. 1; vol. 2; vol. 3, part 1 and 2; vol. 4; vol. 5; vol. 6; vol. 7, part 1; vol. 8, part 1 and 2. (Some parts missing). *Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 P9 1896*
Other Sources:
Science Library:
Call number: Science QE841 HB39 1985
The Trawling Expedition of HMCS ‘Thetis’, 1898

In February and March of 1898, Her Majesty’s Colonial Steamer Thetis trawled the sea off the coast of New South Wales. Politician and advocate of the emerging Australian fishing industries, Mr Frank Farnell (1868-1928) was director of the expedition, which was financed by the Colonial Government of Australia. Edgar Ravenswood Waite (1866-1928), the zoologist aboard Thetis, wrote that ‘the expedition was conducted purely in the interests of fishing industries’ (Introduction, volume 1) and not from a traditional scientific point of view. In 1906, Edgar Waite became curator of the Canterbury Museum in Christchurch and he also accompanied Sir Douglas Mawson on the Australasian Antarctic Expedition, 1911-14.

Scientific Results of the Trawling Expedition of H.M.C.S. ‘Thetis’, off the coast of New South Wales, in February and March, 1898. Sydney: Trustees of the Australian Museum; R. Etheridge, Jnr, 1899-1914

Special Collections:
Vol. 1, parts 1-10; vol. 2, parts 11-18. Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 T44 1898

Storage:
Volumes 1 and 2. Call number: Storage Q115 A98 1899
Private-funded by Sir George Newnes, a British publishing magnate, and led by Anglo-Norwegian explorer, Carsten Borchgrevink (1864-1934), *Southern Cross* sailed for Antarctica on 22nd August, 1898. It was an expedition of ‘firsts’: the first to use dogs on the ice; the first to erect buildings on the frozen continent; the first expedition party to ‘overwinter’ on the continental mainland; and unfortunately (after the death, supposedly from intestinal problems, of Norwegian zoologist Nicolai Hanson (1870-99)), the first to bury a body on Antarctica. On its return to England in June of 1900, despite its ‘ground-breaking achievements in Antarctic survival and travel’ and a number of ‘firsts’, the *Southern Cross* expedition did not receive the same accolades as subsequent British Antarctic expeditions in 1901-04, 1907-09 and 1910-13. Physicist and astronomer of the expedition, Louis Charles Bernacchi (1876-1942) wrote an account of his time aboard *Southern Cross* and subsequently joined as physicist Robert Falcon Scott’s *Discovery* expedition to Antarctica in 1901-04.

*Report on the Collections of Natural History Made in the Antarctic Regions during the Voyage of the ‘Southern Cross’.* London: Printed by Order of the Trustees [British Museum], 1902.

**Special Collections:**
One volume. **Call number:** Experiments (Special Collections) Q115 S685 1898
Other Sources:
Special Collections:

Hocken:

Storage:
A narrative of the voyage written by Nicolai Hanson’s assistant Hugh Evans is available in the journal *Polar Record*, Vol. 17, no. 106, 1976. Call number: Storage: 137 Leith St Science Journals PC41
The *Discovery* expedition was led by naval commander Robert Falcon Scott (1868-1912) (later made Captain and knighted), under the auspices of the Royal Society and the Royal Geographical Society. The *Discovery* left the Isle of Wight, England on the 6th August, 1901 and reached New Zealand’s shores on the 29th November. Amongst the crew of the ship was one Ernest Shackleton (1874-1922), transferred from the Merchant Navy, who went on to lead his own expedition to the Antarctic aboard *Nimrod* in 1907-09. The *Discovery* left Lyttelton Harbour for Antarctica, on the 21st December, 1901, where the crew hoped to carry out their scientific research. During the expedition, the explorers discovered the snow-free Dry Valleys and the Emperor Penguin colony of Cape Crozier. *Discovery* returned to England on the 10th September, 1904.

Special Collections: Album and portfolio. Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 N26 1901a

Hocken:
Five volumes; vols. 2-6. Call number: Hocken Oversize Q115 BU97

Other Sources:
Special Collections:
Albert B. Armitage, Two Years in the Antarctic: Being a Narrative of the British National Antarctic Expedition. London: E. Arnold, 1905. Call number: Special Collections; see catalogue. (Hocken also has a copy. Call number: Hocken G850 1901 D62; Hocken also has a Bungay, UK: Paradigm, 1984 facsimile. Call number: G850 1902 AQ37 1984)

Hocken:

*Under Scott’s Command: Lashly’s Antarctic Diaries*. Edited by A. R. Ellis, with an introduction by Sir Vivian Fuchs. London: Gollanez, 1969. **Call number: Hocken Bliss L9 LAS.** (Storage also has a copy. **Call number: Storage KZ L**)


(There are other titles concerning or associated with the National Antarctic Expedition, 1901-04 in the Library’s holdings. Please see the catalogue for details.)
The Swedish Antarctic expeditionary party, led by Swedish geologist Otto Nordenskjöld (1869-1928), left Gothenburg aboard the aptly named *Antarctic* on October 16th, 1901, with Norwegian Captain Carl Anton Larsen (1860-1924) at the helm. On the journey south to Antarctica the crew picked up Argentinian naval officer José Sobral who joined the expedition in exchange for help from the Argentinian government. In the winter of 1902 a group of six scientists, which included Nordenskjöld, set up camp on Snow Hill Island off the east coast of the Antarctic Peninsula. The ship, *Antarctic*, and the remaining crew travelled north intending to spend the winter exploring. The Snow Hill Island group spent the winter making scientific observations. After the icepack failed to open up in the summer of 1903 to allow the *Antarctic*'s return to pick them up, they realised they would have to spend another winter on the ice and subsequently bagged 400 penguins and 30 seals for their winter food and fuel supplies. During this time the *Antarctic*, on its trip north, had become stuck in the sea ice and the remaining crew abandoned the sinking ship and trekked, along with the ship’s cat, to Paulet Island (at the north-eastern end of the Antarctic Peninsula). There they built a stone hut and killed over a thousand penguins to supplement their winter food supplies taken from the ship. Eventually both parties were rescued by the Argentinian boat *Uruguay* in November, 1903.

Special Collections:
Volume 1; vol. 2; vol. 3; vol. 4, part 1; vol. 4, part 2; vol. 5; vol. 6. Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 S966 1901. (Portobello Marine Laboratory has a copy of volume 2; please ask at Science Library.)

Further Zoological Results of the Swedish Antarctic Expedition, 1901-1903. Stockholm: P.A. Norstedt, [1923-1959?].

Special Collections:
Volume 1-5. (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.) Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 S967 1901.
The Norwegian ‘Aurora Polaris’ Expedition, 1902-03

This was the third of three similar expeditions led by Norwegian scientist Kristian Birkeland (1867-1917), all with aims to investigate the causes of ‘magnetic disturbances on the earth and aurora borealis’ (Birkeland, Preface, volume 1). The 1902-03 expedition was wide-ranging. Staff at four stations in Finmark, Norway; Iceland; Spitsbergen, Norway; and Novaya Zemlya, Arctic Russia, collected scientific data which was to be augmented by data collected from as many stations as possible from around the world.


Special Collections:
One volume in three parts. Part I: On Magnetic Storms; Part II: Polar Magnetic Phenomena and Terrella Experiments; Part III: Earth Currents and Earth Magnetism. Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 N87 1902
Scottish National Antarctic Expedition, 1902-04

Almost entirely privately funded by James and Andrew Coats, from a wealthy Scottish family, the Scottish National Antarctic Expedition (SNAE) was considered to be a very successful expedition despite being overshadowed by Robert Falcon Scott’s 1901-04 Antarctic expedition aboard Discovery. The SNAE was led by experienced polar scientist and explorer, William Spiers Bruce and the expedition party left Scotland aboard the Scotia on November 2nd, 1902. During their research time in Antarctica a meteorological base was set up and became a permanent feature of the Antarctic landscape. Administered by the Argentinians and named Orcadas Base, the weather station has been in continuous operation since its inception and it is thought that the scientific research carried out during the expedition ‘laid the foundation of modern climate change studies’ (Wikipedia).

Special Collections:

Special Collections also has Charles Chilton’s The Amphipoda of the Scottish National Antarctic Expedition. Edinburgh: R. Grant; London: Williams & Norgate, 1912. Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 S63 CH55

Other Sources:
Hocken:
Members of the Scottish National Antarctic Expedition, Life in the Antarctic: Sixty Photographs. London: Gowans & Gray, 1907. Call number: Hocken Bliss KWT Lif


Jean Charcot (1867-1936), a trained medical doctor, journeyed to Antarctica on the *Français*. His initial aim was to search for the missing Swedish explorer Otto Nordenskjöld (leader of the Swedish Antarctic Expedition 1901-04). Charcot left Le Havre in August, 1903 and upon reaching Buenos Aires in November, he learnt that Nordenskjöld had been found. The expedition party wintered at Port Charcot, on the Western Antarctic peninsula and spent the winter making scientific observations. Charcot and his party left Antarctica in February, 1905 having accumulated over 70 crates of scientific specimens and data, mapped hundreds of miles of Antarctica’s coastline, and charted and named various islands.


**Special Collections:**
Volumes 1-7. (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.) **Call number:** Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 E873 1903

**Other Sources:**
Hocken:
Jean Charcot, *Le 'Français' au Pole Sud*. Paris: Flammarion, 1906. **Call number:** Hocken Bliss KWT C
Named after the ship, the *Nimrod*, this expedition sailed for Antarctica in August, 1907, under the leadership of Ernest Shackleton (1874-1922). The expeditionary party came together in New Zealand and sailed for Antarctica on January 1st, 1908. Shackleton hoped to be the first person ever to reach the South Pole but he ultimately failed. Geographical and scientific observations were made throughout the expedition and the team made the first ascent of Mount Erebus. Professor Edgeworth David led the scientific team with Douglas Mawson as a member; both men were from Australia. *Nimrod* returned to New Zealand on 23rd March, 1909.

Special Collections:
Vol. 1, part 1-6; vol. 2, part 2-4; (some parts missing). Parts of these volumes are unbound and are also separately catalogued; please see the catalogue for details. **Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 B851 1907**


Special Collections:
Vol. 1; vol. 2. (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.) **Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 B853 1907**

Other Sources:
Special Collections:
E. H. Shackleton, *The Heart of the Antarctic: Being the Story of the British Antarctic Expedition, 1907-1909*. Two volumes. London: William Heinemann, 1909. **Call number: Special Collections; see catalogue.** (Hocken Library also has 1909, 1910 and Swedish translation (1910) copies of these volumes. **Call number: Hocken Bliss KWT Sh; Hocken Bliss KWT S; Hocken Oversize G850 1907 SG942 1910**)

Hocken:

(There are other titles concerning or associated with the British Antarctic Expedition, 1907-09 in the library’s holdings. Please see the catalogue for details.)
French Antarctic Expedition, 1908-10 (Text in French)

Led by Dr Jean Charcot aboard the ship *Pourquoi-pas?*, the party left Le Havre in August, 1908 and reached Antarctica in December. Again, like the French Antarctic Expedition, 1903-05, Charcot and his crew charted and named various islands and during the voyage Charcot discovered the charts he had made in 1903-05 were being used by whalers in the region. The winter of 1909 was spent at Port Circumcision where they carried out scientific observations. Charcot and his crew left Antarctica in January, 1910, and reached France in June of that year. The data collected during the voyage took ten years to write up and publish. Charcot was highly commended for his efforts in Antarctica. In September, 1936, Charcot was unfortunately drowned when his boat was wrecked off the coast of Iceland.


Special Collections:
Twelve volumes and a folder of maps. (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.) Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 E873 1908
Other Sources:

Special Collections:

**Call number:** Special Collections G850 1908 F8 CF29. (Hocken also has a London: Hodder and Stoughton, [1911] copy. **Call number:** Hocken Bliss KWT C)

Marthe Oulié, *Charcot of the Antarctic.* London: J. Murray, [1938]. **Call number:** Special Collections; see catalogue. (Hocken also has a copy. **Call number:** Hocken Bliss KWT9 Cha O)

Hocken:
‘Michael Sars’ North Atlantic Deep-Sea Expedition, 1910

The Norwegian research steamer, *Michael Sars*, was lent to Sir John Murray (1841-1914) by the Norwegian government for this expedition. Murray requested that Johan Hjort, (1869-1948), a prominent Norwegian zoologist and oceanographer, accompany him on the mission and Murray would defray all expenses of the expedition. *Michael Sars* left Bergen, Norway in April, 1910 and called into Plymouth, England to pick up Murray before embarking on the five-month trip across the North Atlantic Ocean from Europe to North America. In that time they collected 2400 water samples, made almost 3000 temperature observations, dropped hundreds of ‘vertical hauls’ for plankton, and conducted 24 ‘trawlings’ at various depths. All of which garnered an abundance of hydrographical, botanical and zoological material and the discovery of one hundred new species.


Special Collections:
Five volumes. Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 M52 1910
Other Sources:
Storage:
John Murray and Johan Hjort, *The Depths of the Ocean: A General Account of the Modern Science of Oceanography Based Largely on the Scientific Researches of the Norwegian Steamer ‘Michael Sars’ in the North Atlantic*. London: Macmillan, 1912. **Call number: Storage GC491 MZ35.** (Portobello Marine Laboratory also has copies of these volumes. Ask at Science. **Call number: Portobello GC491 MZ35**)

![Illustration of marine creature](image-url)
This 65-man scientific expedition was led by Robert Falcon Scott (1868-1912). Sailing in *Terra Nova*, Scott hoped to be the first to reach the South Pole. Scott and his four colleagues did reach the South Pole on the 17th January, 1912 but had been beaten by Norwegian Roald Amundsen (1872-1928) and his team who had reached the Pole 33 days before Scott. Unfortunately, Scott and his party perished on the Ross Ice Shelf on the return journey.

*British Antarctic Expedition, 1910-13*


**Special Collections:**
Eight volumes (Zoology); three volumes (Geology, Glaciology and Physiography); two enclosures of articles (Geology and Botany). (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.)

**Call number:**
Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 B855 1910

(Some articles are also at Storage and Portobello. Please see Library catalogue for details.)
Other Sources:
Special Collections:
Herbert G. Ponting, *The Great White South or With Scott in the Antarctic: Being an Account of Experiences with Captain Scott’s South Pole Expedition and of the Nature Life of the Antarctic.* London: Duckworth & Co., [1924]. Call number: Special Collections; see catalogue. (Hocken also has a copy. Call number: Hocken Bliss KWT P)

Hocken:

(There are other titles concerning or associated with the British Antarctic Expedition, 1910-13 in the Library’s holdings. Please see the catalogue for details.)
This scientific expedition to Antarctica was led by Australian Douglas Mawson (1882-1958) and was largely financed by the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science and the Royal Geographical Society of London. The expedition set off from London on 28th July, 1911 and subsequently sailed out of Tasmania on 2nd December, 1911. The expedition vessel *Aurora* was captained by John King Davis (1884-1967), a colleague of Mawson’s from Shackleton’s British Antarctic Expedition 1907-09. Inspired by his participation in that expedition, Douglas Mawson wrote that ‘one felt a great urge to go on and discover the limits of Antarctic land in that direction [towards the Magnetic Pole]’ (Mawson, *Introduction*, Series A, volume 1). Participants in this Australasian expedition included four New Zealanders.


**Special Collections:**
22 volumes; Series A, B, C. *Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 A8 1911*

(Some of the articles in this series are held at Hocken, Storage or the Portobello Marine Laboratory; please see the Library catalogue for details.)
(Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.)

**Other Sources:**

**Special Collections:**

Sir Douglas Mawson, *The Home of the Blizzard: Being the Story of the Australasian Antarctic Expedition, 1911-1914*. London: Heinemann, 1915. (Volume one of two only). **Call number: Special Collections G850 1911 M32 ME89.** (Hocken also has a copy (both volumes). **Call number: Hocken Bliss KWT Maw;** Hocken has a London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1930 edition. **Call number: Hocken Bliss KWT M**)

John Davis, *With the ‘Aurora’ in the Antarctic, 1911-1914*. London: A. Melrose Ltd., [1919]. **Call number: Special Collections G850 1911 M32 D787.** (Hocken also has a copy. **Call number Hocken Bliss KWT D**)


(There are other titles concerning or associated with the Australasian Antarctic Expedition, 1911-14 in the library’s holdings. Please see the catalogue for details.)
Two expeditionary parties, led by Canadian explorer Vilhjalmur Stefansson (1879-1962), travelled into Canada’s wilds, one to the North, the other to the South. The North party intended to search for new land in the Canadian Arctic; the South party carried out scientific research, observed the indigenous peoples and researched copper deposits in the area. During the first year of the expedition, the research vessel Karluk was carried away by ice and subsequently crushed with the loss of eleven lives. Among the members of the expedition was New Zealander Diamond Jenness (1886-1969), an anthropologist, born in Wellington and educated at Oxford. A survivor of the Karluk crushing, Jenness spent two years living with the Copper Inuit and his research helped to cement his reputation as an eminent ethnologist. He became Canada’s Chief Anthropologist in 1926.


Special Collections:

(The parts in this series are catalogued separately. For availability, search the catalogue by volume title. Portobello Marine Laboratory and Storage have various volumes from this series. Please see the Library catalogue for details.)
Norwegian Antarctic Expeditions, 1927-1935

Privately financed by Norwegian businessman and whaling merchant Lars Christensen, this series of expeditions took place in the Southern Hemisphere summer season starting in 1927. One of the main aims of the expeditions was to find new whaling grounds, but specimens were also collected and geographical research was undertaken. During the voyages two islands were annexed for Norway.

Scientific Results of the Norwegian Antarctic Expedition, 1927-35. Oslo: J. Dybwad, [1929-1935]

Special Collections:
Numbers 1-14 (bound); nos. 15-27 (bound); nos. 28-38 (unbound).
/Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title./ Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 N89745 1927
Dr Sven Hedin (1865-1952) spent almost 20 years in Asia travelling, exploring and researching. In 1927, Hedin led a series of expeditions through Mongolia, Xinjiang and the Gobi Desert. The trips were funded by the German government in alliance with the German airline, Lufthansa and a variety of scientists and researchers from Sweden, Germany and China took part. The main aim of the expeditions was geological but also included archaeological, meteorological and topographical research. In 1930, Swedish archaeologist Folke Bergman (1902-46) excavated several thousand wooden slips (‘inscribed strips of wood or bamboo’) from the Han dynasty (100 BC – 100 AD) at a site in Inner Mongolia.

Reports on the Scientific Expedition to the North-Western Provinces of China under the Leadership of Dr Sven Hedin. Stockholm: [various dates]

Special Collections:
Number III, publication 29, Geology (1946); number VII, publication 34, Archaeology(1950); number VII, publication 21, Ethnography (1943). Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 S59 1927
(These items are listed separately; please see the catalogue for details.)
Great Barrier Reef Expedition, 1928-29

Englishman Sir Charles Maurice Yonge (1899-1986), a marine zoologist, travelled to Australia with his wife, Martha Jane, and eight other researchers and reached Brisbane in July 1928. Joined by researchers from Australia the expeditionary party studied the biology, meteorology and geography of the Great Barrier Reef. The party used Low Isles off Port Douglas, Northern Queensland as their land base and made forays over the reef by boat.


Special Collections:
Volumes 1-6. (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.) Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 G65 1928 (Some copies of items in this series are housed at Storage. Please see the library catalogue for details.)

Other Sources:
Special Collections:
British, Australian, New Zealand Antarctic Research Expedition (BANZARE), 1929-31

Led by the Australian, Sir Douglas Mawson, aboard Discovery, BANZARE conducted two trips in the Southern Hemisphere’s summers in two consecutive years. Ostensibly an expedition driven by Antarctic geopolitics, wide-ranging data was gathered on a large number of topics.


Special Collections:
Volume 2; vol. 3; vol. 4, part 1. Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 B89 1929 Ser. A. (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.)

Hocken:
Volume 3, parts 1 and 2; vol. 4, part 1. Call number: Hocken Periodicals Oversize BANZ Rep. Ser. A. (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.)

Special Collections:
Volumes 1-9. Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 B89 1929 Ser. B. (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.)

Hocken:
Volume 4, parts 4, 5 and 6; vol. 5. Call number: Hocken Periodicals Oversize BANZ Rep. Ser. B. (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.)

(Some publications from both Series A and B are available from Storage and the Portobello Marine Laboratory. Please see the Library catalogue for details)

Other Sources:
Hocken:


(There are other titles concerning or associated with BANZARE 1929-31. Please see the Library catalogue for details)
This expedition, aboard the Egyptian research vessel *HEMS Mabahiss*, was funded by a bequest from the Scottish oceanographer, Sir John Murray (1841-1914). A joint British and Egyptian venture, the expedition party left Alexandria on 3rd September, 1933 and travelled through the Suez Canal, the Red Sea, and the Indian and Arabian Oceans on their nine-month journey. The expedition was led by Robert Beresford Seymour Sewell (1880-1964), a British zoologist and medical doctor who had served in India since 1908.


**Special Collections:**
Volumes 1-10; vol. 11, numbers 1 and 3. (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.) **Call number:** Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 J55 1933

(The Portobello Marine Laboratory also has copies of some of the articles in this series. Please see the Library catalogue for details.)
Funded by British grants, the Ugandan government, and French entomologist Aimée Fournier de Horrack, the Ruwenzori expedition team explored the mountainous region between Uganda and, what is now, the Democratic Republic of Congo. “The main object of the expedition being to study the flora and insect fauna of Eastern Ruwenzori” (Introduction, volume 1, number 1) and among the expedition party members were English entomologist Frederick Wallace Edwards (1888-1940) and Sir George Taylor (1904-93) a Scottish botanist who subsequently became Director of Kew Gardens from 1956 to 1971.
Norwegian Scientific Expedition to Tristan da Cunha, 1937-38

From December, 1937 to March, 1938 a Norwegian party made the first ever scientific expedition to Tristan da Cunha, a remote group of islands in the Atlantic between South America and South Africa. During their stay, the expeditionary party carried out observations and made recordings of the topography of the island, its people and how they lived and worked and the flora and fauna that inhabited the island.

Fig. 45. Washing-stone in the open.

Results of the Norwegian Scientific Expedition to Tristan da Cunha, 1937-1938. [Oslo: Jacob Dybwad, 1945].

Special Collections:
One volume only.
Number 13 – Peter A. Munch, Sociology of Tristan da Cunha. [Oslo: Jacob Dybwad, 1945]. Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 N89765
Cape Expedition, New Zealand Sub-Antarctic Expedition, 1941-45

The supposed scientific nature of this expedition was a front to cover a secret wartime coast-watch programme. The New Zealand Government were suspicious that Germans were using sub-Antarctic islands as bases. Three, four, or five men were stationed at three bases, two on Auckland Island and one on Campbell Island. The men were relieved only once a year. Along with their coast-watching duties the men were charged with making scientific observations on the weather, the environment and the wildlife. All participants in the expedition were demobbed in October 1945.

Cape Expedition, Scientific Results of the New Zealand Sub-Antarctic Expedition. 1941-45. Wellington: Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, [1945 - ].

Special Collections:
Numbers 2-15. (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.) Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 C36 1941.

Hocken:
Numbers 2-15. (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.) Call number: Hocken Bliss Ol Cap B

Portobello Marine Laboratory:
Numbers 2-11; no. 15. (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.) Call number: Portobello Journals [Use Portobello request form]
Fig. 5. *Antarcticotectus aucklandicus*. × 8
Norwegian Antarctic Expedition, 1947-48

Largely financed by Norwegian Whaling Companies, the scientific expedition aboard the vessel, *Brategg*, was led by ornithological expert Holger Holgersen. Captain Nils Larsen, who had previously been involved in scientific and whaling expeditions to the Antarctic, his crew of 17, and a scientific team of four left Sandefjord, Norway on the 22nd October, 1947. Along the way they made astronomical observations and echo soundings and observed and collected zoological specimens. The *Brategg* returned to Norway exactly six months later on 22nd April, 1948.


**Special Collections:**
Numbers 1-5. (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.) Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 B78 1947
The Swedish Deep-Sea Expedition, 1947-48

In July, 1947 the Albatross left Gothenburg, Sweden for a 15-month, privately funded voyage with oceanographer and leader of the expedition, Hans Pettersson and his scientific team aboard. The aim of the expedition was to explore the depths of the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans near the equator. The team retrieved core-samples from the bottom of the ocean, took water samples, made temperature recordings, carried out deep-sea trawlings, and made echograms of the ocean floor. The Albatross and its crew covered 45,000 nautical miles and took core samples from depths of almost 8000 metres.


Special Collections:
Volume 2, fasc. 1-4 (Zoology); vol. 4, fasc. 1-2 (Bottom investigations); vol. 5, fasc. 1-2 (Sediment cores from the East Pacific); vol. 6, fasc. 1 (Sediment cores from the West Pacific). (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.) Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 S94 1947. (The Portobello Marine Laboratory also has some copies of this series. Please enquire at the Science Library.)
The American-Australian Scientific Expedition to Arnhem Land, 1948

In February 1948, 12 Australians and 5 Americans, men and women, set out on a 9 month expedition across Arnhem Land in the north of Australia. Led by Australian anthropologist and photographer Charles Mountford (1890-1976), the expedition’s aim was to chronicle the indigenous peoples and their environment. An enormous amount of data was collected including artefacts, scientific specimens and photographs. The expedition was ground-breaking for the time.


Special Collections:
Volume 1: Art, Myth and Symbolism; vol. 2: Anthropology and Nutrition; vol. 3: Botany and Plant Ecology; vol. 4: Zoology. (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.) Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 A56 1948
The Chatham Islands 1954 Expedition

Led by Canterbury University zoologist, Professor George Knox, the Chatham Islands expedition aimed to explore the Chatham Rise – a definitive area of the sea floor; dredge and collect specimens from the sea floor between New Zealand and the Chathams; and research the flora and fauna of the Chatham Islands.


Special Collections:
One volume. Accompanied by 2 folded maps in pocket inside back cover. Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 C6 1954a
(Hocken Library, the Portobello Marine Laboratory and the Science Library all have copies of this volume. Please see the Library catalogue for details.)


Special Collections:
Part 1; parts 3-5. Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 C6 1954b
(Hocken Library, the Portobello Marine Laboratory and the Science Library all have copies of this volume. Please see the Library catalogue for details.)
British explorer, Dr Sir Vivian Fuchs (1908-99) intended to cross Antarctica overland via the South Pole in 100 days from the Weddell Sea to McMurdo Sound. The expedition coincided with the International Geophysical Year and many scientific observations were made throughout. The Ross Sea Support Team was led by New Zealander Sir Edmund Hillary (1919-2008). The New Zealand team set up Scott Base on Ross Island and laid food and fuel stores for Fuchs’s team, ultimately making the crossing before Fuchs and his expedition party. Fuchs began his crossing on 24th November, 1957 and completed it 99 days later on 2nd March, 1958.

**Special Collections:**
Numbers 1-5 (number 6 not published); numbers 7-16. (Publications in this series are catalogued individually. For availability, search the catalogue by series, author, or title.) **Call number:**
Expeditions (Special Collections) Q115 T7 1955

**Other Sources:**
**Hocken:**
*New Zealand Antarctic manual, 1956-1958: Scott Base, Ross Dependency.* Wellington: Ross Sea Committee, [1957?]. **Call number:** Hocken Bliss KWT1 R

Sir Vivian Fuchs and Edmund Hillary, *The Crossing of Antarctica: The Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition, 1955-58.* London: Cassell, 1959. **Call number:** Hocken G850 1955 FY16. (Central Library also has a copy. **Call number:** Central G850 1955 T72 FY16)


(There are other titles concerning or associated with the Trans-Antarctic Expedition, 1955-58. Please see the Library catalogue for details)
The University of Canterbury Snares Islands Expeditions (from 1961)

These reports are a collection of publications (from 1961 to 1984) which expound the University of Canterbury’s expeditions to the Snares Islands, a small archipelago located south of Stewart Island. The University of Canterbury set up a Biological Station on the main island called North East Island in 1961 for the observation and study of the flora, fauna, geology and climate in and around the Snares Islands group. The island group is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

University of Canterbury Snares Island Expeditions publications as at November, 1984. (University of Canterbury, Department of Zoology). [Christchurch: The Department, 1961 - ].

Special Collections has one box containing various titles. These titles are not catalogued separately. Call number: Expeditions (Special Collections) QH198 S5 SN324
(Image from *The Zoology of the Voyage of H.M.S. 'Erebus' & 'Terror*)

Compiled by: Romilly Smith, Assistant to the Special Collections Librarian
Images: John Hughes, Reprographics Unit, Central Library, University of Otago
References: Scientific Expedition Reports; Wikipedia; www.coolantarctica.com;