

Obituary

Arthur Edward Hay, one of the last surviving members of the southern whaling fraternity of the 1920s, died on 26 January 1993 in his ninety-first year at his home in Queen Camel, Somerset. He was born on 18 May 1902 in Liverpool and was educated at Merchant Taylors' School and Liverpool University, where he read naval architecture. He represented the University at lawn tennis, and played rugby for Waterloo.

From 1924, at the age of 22, until 1935, Hay was technical engineer for the Southern Whaling and Sealing Company, spending nine months of most years at Prince Olav Harbour, the northernmost of the whaling stations on South Georgia. This was the smallest of the shore stations, operating from 1911 until 1935, and was leased from 1919 by Lever Brothers of Liverpool. Hay was responsible for overseeing the design and conversion of the whaling station transport ships *Southern King*, *Southern Queen*, and *Southern Princess* to factory ships in 1928. This involved the addition of a stern slipway for winching whales onto the flensing deck, and the installation of a processing plant below deck.

There was little contact or communication between Prince Olav Harbour and the other stations on South Georgia. Despite his frequent summers spent at 'POH,' he visited Leith and Grytviken only once in 10 years. During his time with Southern Whaling, he travelled on factory ships engaged in pelagic whaling, voyaging as far as Enderby Land to the east and along the Antarctic Peninsula to the west. He also visited the whaling station near Durban, Natal, and worked briefly at the station on Isle of Lewis, Scotland.

I first met Eddie Hay when he was 88, and we struck up a close friendship. He had not spoken to anyone who was either interested in or had any knowledge of South Georgia for more than 50 years. He talked vividly, lucidly, and in great detail about his experiences at Prince Olav Harbour, and brought out boxes of notebooks; ledgers of catches, fuel consumption, rations, and ship and station running costs; and photographs of the stations and catchers (including *Southern Flower*, *Pride*, *Shore*, and *Wave*) in operation, including one remarkable shot of seven foetuses taken from one blue whale, and another of a group of 'free range' pigs wandering through the station. They had remained unseen and in perfect condition in sealed tins since the 1930s. We were able to join up the films and transfer them to video cassette. The films, video, and other archival material have been deposited in the Scott Polar Research Institute archives, and I presented Eddie with a copy of the video for his ninetieth birthday, 55 years after he had last viewed the film.

Following his association with the whaling industry, Hay married in 1937 and settled down to farming in north

Wales until the 1970s. He was a passionate golfer, with a zero handicap for almost 30 years, retiring from the sport at the age of 82 when his handicap went up to nine, from three a year or two earlier. Latterly, he was also a keen game fisher. Although he experienced the excitement and adventure of the peak of the southern whaling industry, he expressed sincere regret that it had been considered an acceptable and controversially necessary practice in those days. As a tribute to Eddie Hay, I was able to instigate the official naming of the 700 m conical mountain behind the long-abandoned ruins of Prince Olav Harbour whaling station after him. On his ninetieth birthday, he was presented with a framed photograph of Hay Peak rising about his former sub-Antarctic home.

He is survived by his wife Joan, daughter Leslie, and four grandchildren, Colin, Kelly, Paul, and Adam.

R.I. Lewis Smith

William Ellery Anderson, base leader and meteorological observer for the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey at Hope Bay, Antarctic Peninsula, 1954–1956, died in December 1992 at the age of 73. He was born on 30 June 1919 in Cheltenham and was educated at Beaumont.

Major Anderson joined the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars in 1939, and the next year he was commissioned into the Worcestershire Regiment. He served with the Parachute Regiment in North Africa, Sicily, and Italy, where he won the MC. In the latter stages of World War II he served with the SAS, first behind the lines in France, where he was sent to sabotage installations, communications, and railway lines prior to the invasion at Normandy, and then in Norway, where he was responsible for the arrest of quislings. From 1947 to 1949 he served on the War Crimes Commission in Germany.

In 1950 Anderson was sent with the Royal Ulster Rifles to Korea, where he specialized in training South Korean guerrillas for behind-the-lines sabotage and intelligence work. For his own intelligence gathering, deep in North Korean territory, he won another MC and was appointed MBE.

Anderson retired from the Army in 1954 and applied for a position with the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey, which at the time was short of men with administrative experience. He was appointed base commander and meteorological observer for Base D, at Hope Bay, Antarctic Peninsula. His team was engaged in medical, physiological, meteorological, geological, and zoological research, in addition to extensive surveying. His experiences in the Antarctic served as the basis for his later book *Expedition south*.

In 1957 Anderson joined with explorer and climber Eric Shipton on a botanical expedition to the Andes. In

1961 he joined the Prison Service and was appointed Governor of Durham, which then housed the Great Train

Robbers. A decade later he became secretary of the Naval and Military Club in Piccadilly.

In Brief

15TH POLAR LIBRARIES COLLOQUY. The 15th Polar Libraries Colloquy, entitled 'Bi-polar information initiatives: the needs of polar research,' will be held at Girton College, Cambridge, 3–8 July 1994. The colloquy will be co-sponsored by the Scott Polar Research Institute and the British Antarctic Survey. For further information please contact William Mills, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER, England (tel: +44 223 336557; fax: +44 223 336549; E-mail: WJM13@UK.AC.CAM.PHX).

A SYMPOSIUM ON FREDERICK COOK. A symposium entitled 'Cook reconsidered: discovering the man and his explorations' will be held at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, 22–23 October 1993. Sponsored by the Frederick A. Cook Society and the Byrd Polar Research Center, the symposium will include papers presented by Wally Herbert, Dennis Rawlins, and Jean Malaurie. The symposium fee is \$60. For further information contact Russell W. Gibbons, the director of the symposium, at PO Box 11421, Pittsburgh, PA 15238, USA (tel: +1 412 237 4554; fax: +1 412 237 4512).

NORTHERN CONFERENCES IN TROMSØ. Two jointly organized international conferences will convene in

Tromsø, Norway, between 24 September and 1 October 1993. The 5th World Wilderness Congress, which is entitled 'Wild nature and sustainable living in circumpolar regions,' will be held 24 September to 1 October. The 4th Northern Regions Conference, which is entitled 'People in the Arctic: regional rights and regional management,' will be held 27 September to 1 October. For further information please contact Charlotte Winsnes, Joint Secretariat 5th WWC/4th Northern Regions Conference, PO Box 190, 9001 Tromsø, Norway (tel: +47 83 80 811; fax: +47 83 80 618).

MEMORIALS TO THE SCOTT EXPEDITION. There are, of course, a number of well-known memorials to Robert Falcon Scott, including those in Waterloo Place, London, and Roath Park, Cardiff. And there are also memorials to some of those who served with Scott, such as those to Edward Wilson in Cheltenham, to Edgar Evans in Rhosili, and to L.E.G. Oates in Gestingthorpe. The Captain Scott Society of Cardiff would be pleased to receive information about other memorials to Scott or his men, both those lost in the Antarctic and those who returned home. Please send details to: David Saunders, Woosung, Pointfields, Hakin, Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire SA73 3EB.