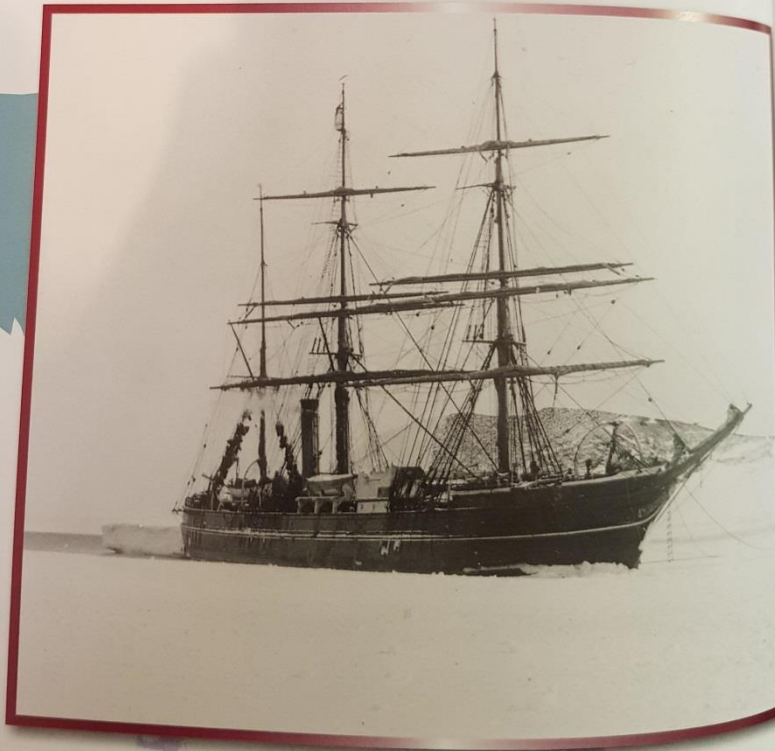


Sailing to the Antarctic

On his first trip to the **Antarctic**, in 1901, Captain Scott and his crew travelled in a wooden sailing ship called the *Discovery*. The *Discovery* had to be big enough to carry everything the 47 people and 23 dogs needed.

The *Discovery* had to be very strong to sail through sea ice.



Captain Scott's second ship, the *Terra Nova*, had a special stable for the expedition ponies.

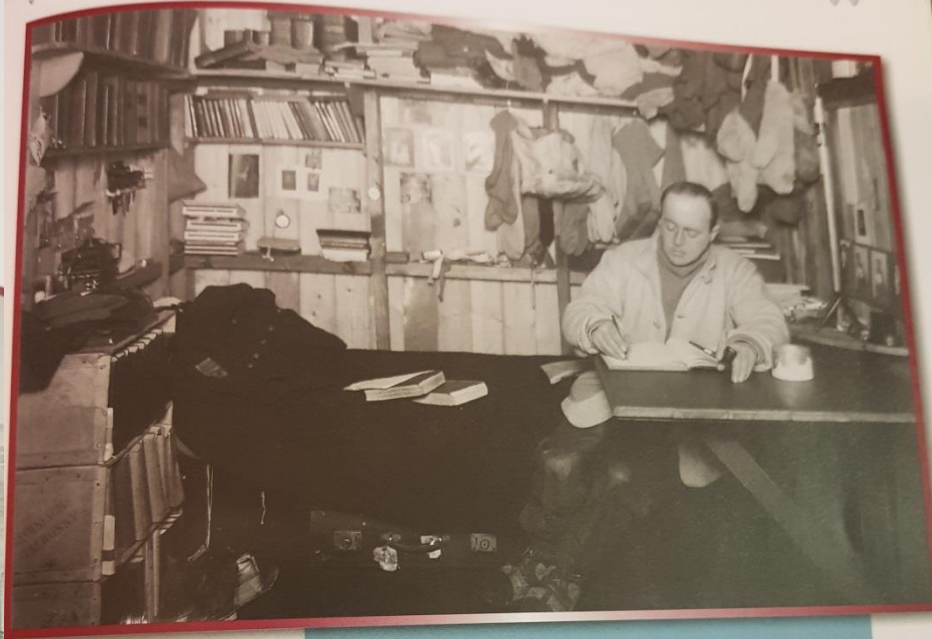
Captain Scott had to take food, fuel, medicine, and other supplies for life in the Antarctic with him. He also took scientific equipment, books, and even a piano! On his second trip, in 1910, he took ponies and motor sledges as well.

Life in the Antarctic

When the **expedition** members arrived in the **Antarctic**, they had to build a hut to live in. They also needed somewhere for the animals to stay.



The hut was warm and snug against the strong wind and cold Antarctic night.



Can you see some of the things that Captain Scott took with him to the Antarctic?

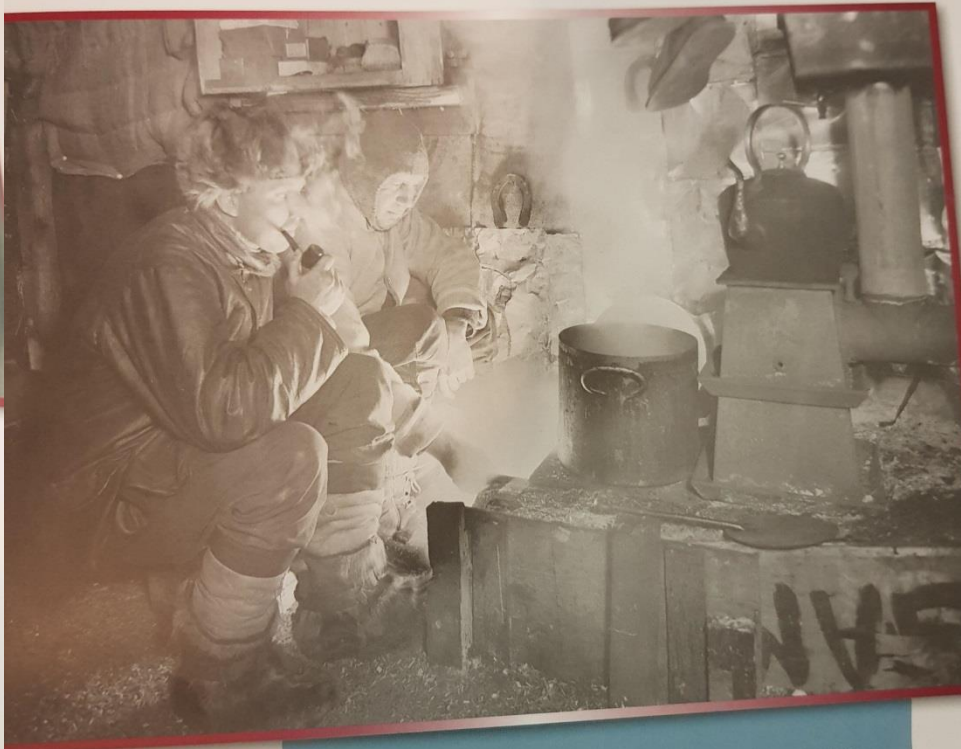
As leader of the expedition, Captain Scott had his own area in the hut. It was here that he planned the exploration of the Antarctic and the team's scientific work.



These photos show the bunk beds and kitchen in Captain Scott's Antarctic hut.

Other members of the **expedition** slept in bunk beds. Captain Scott's men used boxes of supplies to make walls inside the hut. There was also a kitchen where meals were prepared.

Everyone stayed inside during the long winter months, keeping warm around the stove. When they finished their work, they wrote diaries, painted pictures, and sang songs.



Here, two of Captain Scott's men are cooking food for the ponies and keeping warm at the same time!

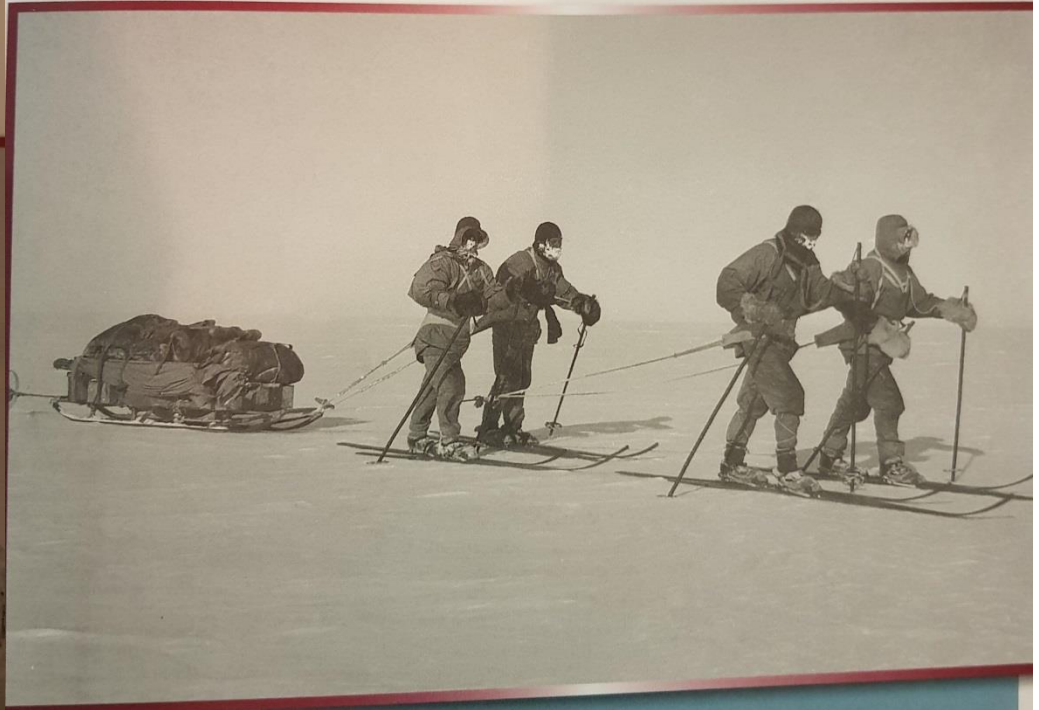
Travelling on the ice

When spring came, Captain Scott and his men practised pulling their sledges using skis, snowshoes, dogs, and ponies. They also had motor sledges on the second trip, but the sledges broke down in the very cold weather.



The motor-sledges ran on tracks, similar to a tank.

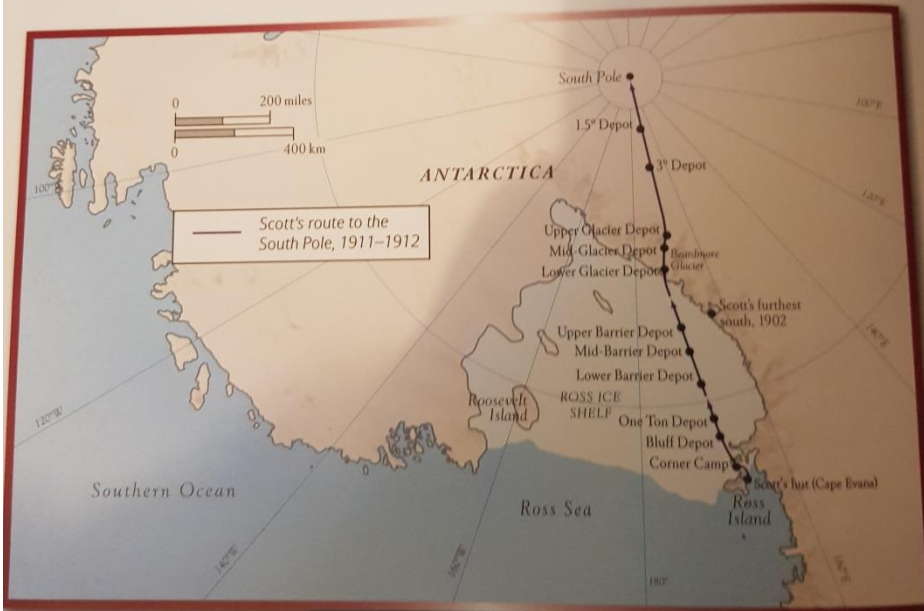
When they were ready, Captain Scott and his men set out for the **South Pole**. They pulled sledges loaded with tents, food, and fuel, helped by ponies and dogs. Travelling over the soft snow was very hard work.



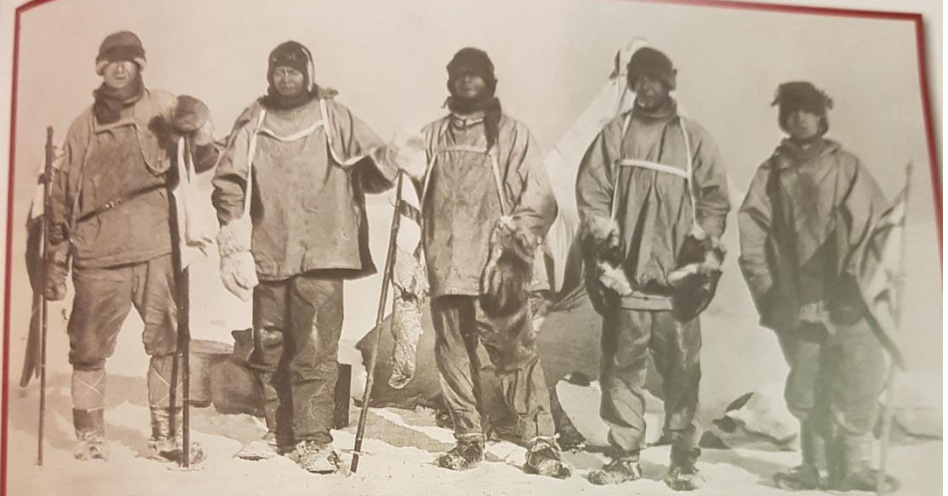
The sledges were very heavy. Each one weighed more than 100 kg – that's like pulling more than 100 big bags of sugar!

Reaching the South Pole

On his first **expedition**, Captain Scott had walked closer to the **South Pole** than anyone else at that time. He eventually reached the South Pole on the 17th of January 1912, on his second trip.



Depots of food were left for the return trip.



*Doctor
Wilson.*

*Captain
Scott.*

*Petty Officer
Evans.*

*Captain
Oates.*

*Lieut.
Bowers.*

A number of men helped carry supplies on the trip, but only five went all the way to the South Pole.

It took Captain Scott and his four **companions** 78 days to travel the 1,450 kilometres from their hut to the South Pole. When they got there, they were cold, hungry, and very tired.

Food

Scott and his men ate frozen seal meat, dry biscuits, raisins and a mix of fat and dried meat called pemmican. They boiled water for making tea or cocoa to warm themselves up. If the weather was good, the men walked for over nine hours each day. But pulling the sledges for about 19 kilometres a day was very tiring work.

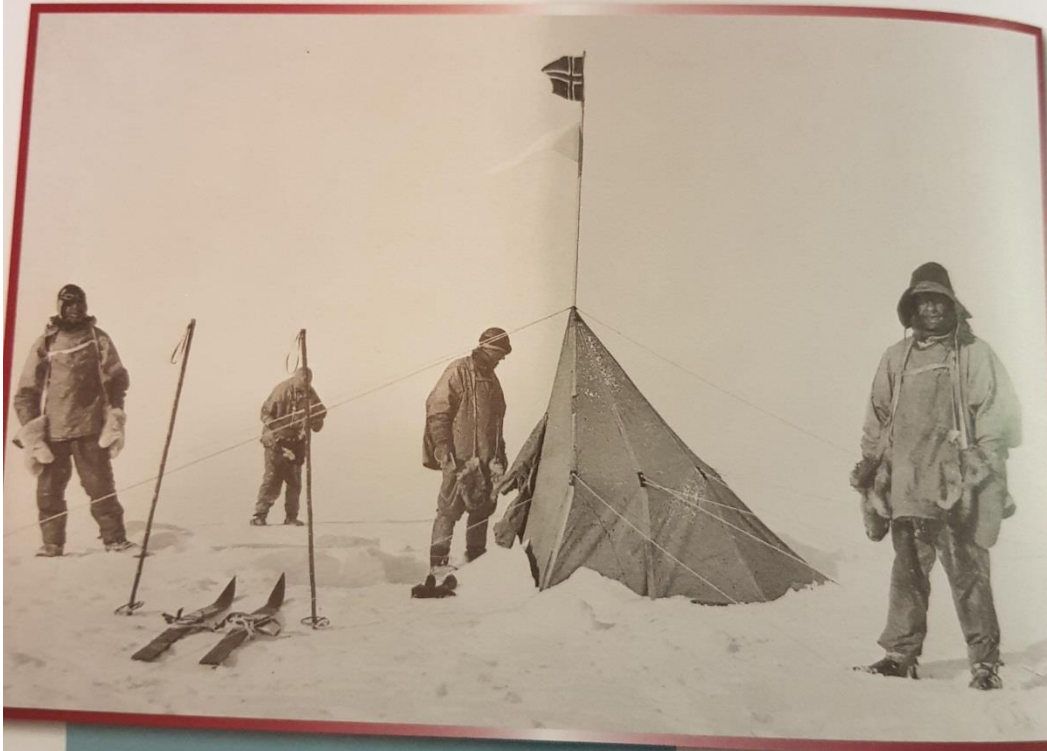


the food store at base camp



the dried pemmican Scott and his men had

Captain Scott and his men had wanted to be the first people to reach the **South Pole**. However, when they got there, they were disappointed to find out that the Norwegian explorer, Roald Amundsen, had got there a month before them.



Amundsen's team left a tent and letters for Captain Scott at the South Pole.

Blizzard!

Soon they became too tired to walk more than about nine kilometres each day. By the time the remaining three men made their final camp, their food had run out. Scott decided to stay with the sledges and send the other two men to get supplies from the food camp 18 kilometres away. They would get there faster without pulling sledges.



The end

The temperature dropped to minus 40 degrees Celsius. Scott had been keeping a diary, and on 29 March, 1912 he wrote: "The end cannot be far. It seems a pity but I do not think I can write more." Without food, or fuel to heat water, they could not survive.

