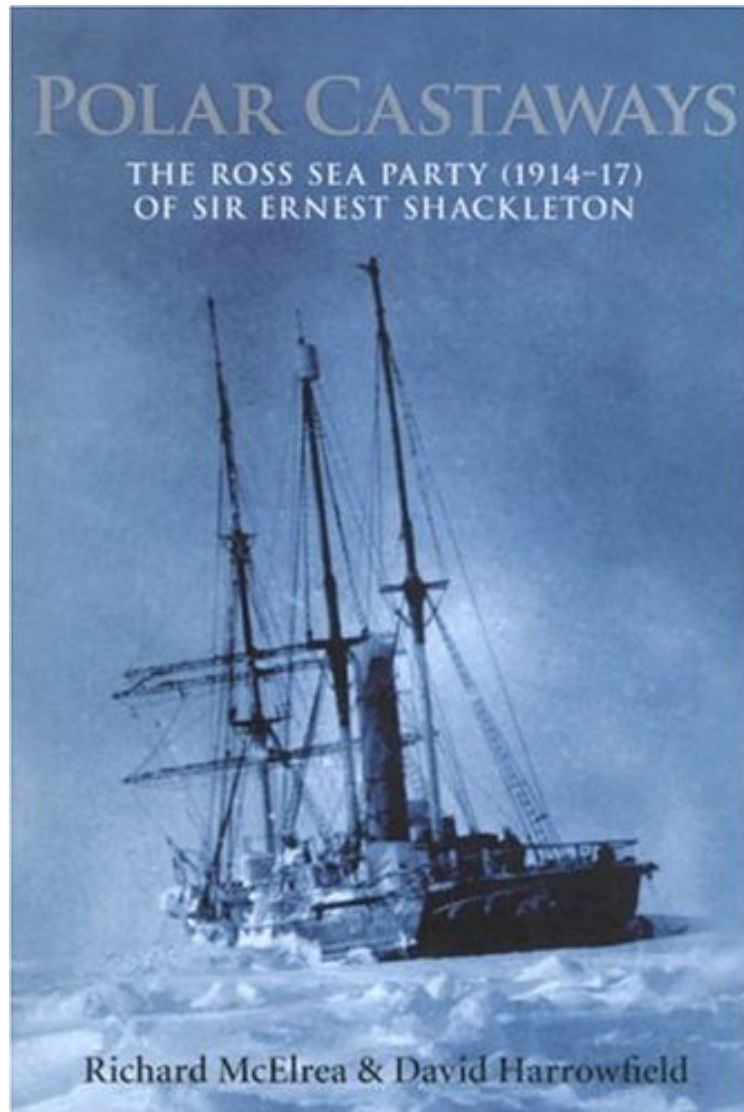


[Mobile library] Polar Castaways: The Ross Sea Party of Sir Ernest Shackleton, 1914-17

Polar Castaways: The Ross Sea Party of Sir Ernest Shackleton, 1914-17

Richard McElrea, David Harrowfield
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Richard McElrea, David Harrowfield : Polar Castaways: The Ross Sea Party of Sir Ernest Shackleton, 1914-17 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Polar Castaways: The Ross Sea Party of Sir Ernest Shackleton, 1914-17:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Deeper than Shackleton's forgotten men By Marc Ranger What I found really interesting about the book was that the drift of the Aurora was largely analysed. Also, this version

presents interesting quotes from many diaries (Spencer-Smith's-Joyce's-Richard's-Wild's...) which are not available in other books. However, I think that the authors are a little bit hard on Ernest Joyce. True, he did exaggerate his leadership role in his 1929 book, but I think that all 6 sledging partners going to Mount Hope would have died on the return retreat if not for Ernest Joyce.

When Sir Ernest Shackleton's dreams of crossing Antarctica foundered with his ship *Endurance* in the ice of the Weddell Sea in October 1915, he could only wonder what had become of his support party on the other side of the continent. After almost ninety years *Polar Castaways* finally tells that story, filling one of the major gaps in the history of the heroic era of polar exploration. The task of the Ross Sea component of the expedition was to lay the all-important depots in support of the traverse party to be led by Shackleton. Preparation matters were made even worse when, in May 1915, their ship *Aurora* was carried away from its winter moorings, leaving ten men stranded and without proper equipment and supplies. At great personal hardship and cost they went on to lay the depots across the Ross Ice Shelf to Mount Hope. Three men died during this courageous and perilous endeavour. *Aurora*, refitted in New Zealand, eventually sailed south amidst considerable controversy to rescue the seven survivors.