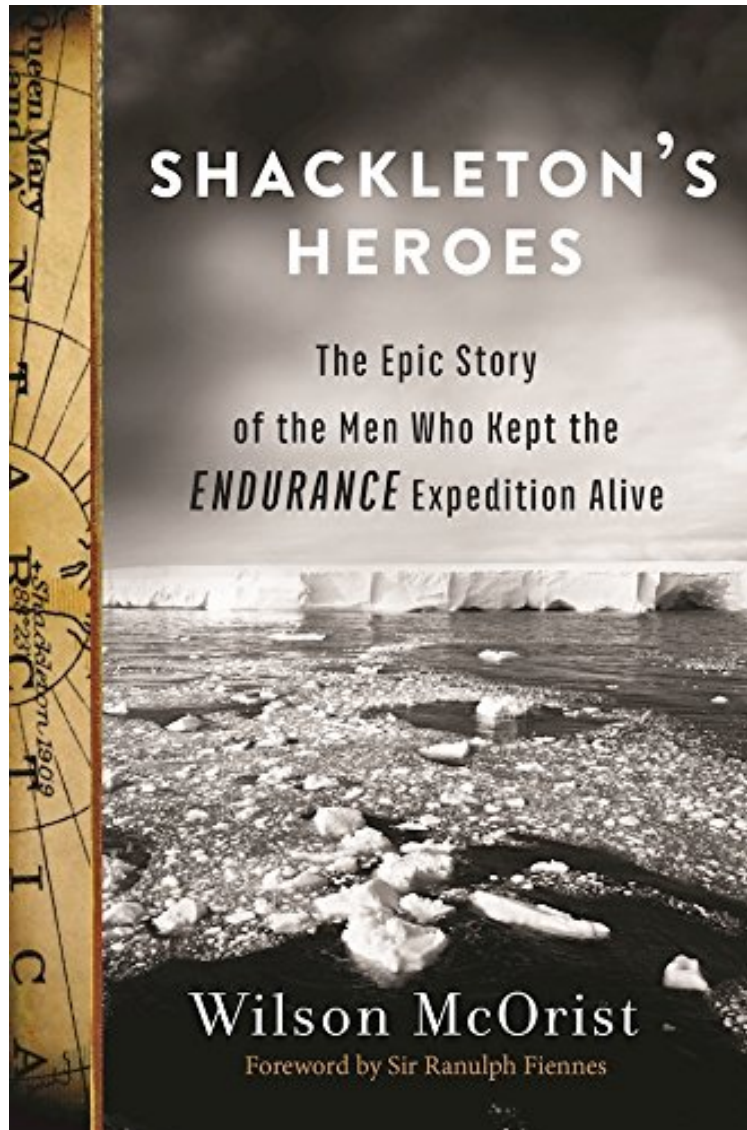


# Shackleton's Heroes: The Epic Story of the Men Who Kept the Endurance Expedition Alive

Wilson McOrist

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**Wilson McOrist : Shackleton's Heroes: The Epic Story of the Men Who Kept the Endurance Expedition Alive**  
before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shackleton's Heroes:  
The Epic Story of the Men Who Kept the Endurance Expedition Alive:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. I have been fascinated with Antarctic Explorers like Sir Ernest

Shackleton for many years. I learned about this book on a webpage for Shackleton's fans on Facebook. I had already read another book concerning the ill-fated Endurance and the survival of Shackleton and all his men on Elephant Island and later South Georgia Island. This book "Shackleton's Heroes" to me, is as good as the other. You really get an insight into what this team of men went thru in the Antarctic while trying to lay food supply depots to enable Shackleton and his men to cross the continent. Unfortunately, Shackleton never got the chance to make this crossing and so the efforts of these six courageous men were for naught. But, their story is one of bravery, persistence, camaraderie, and survival. Their sledging dogs should also not be forgotten. For without them, their efforts and doubtless survival would have been nearly impossible. I loved this book and would highly recommend it to anyone interested in Explorers.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Must read for lovers of nonfiction adventure stories.

By Cynthia V This book tells the story of the Ross Sea Party, a group of men selected by Sir Ernest Shackleton to lay stores of food and other supplies at predetermined points inland from their base at McMurdo Sound to support Shackleton's Endurance expedition on the downside of his planned 1915 Antarctic journey. Shackleton's failed Endurance expedition and resulting trials and drama are fairly well known, not so the drama and trials of his support group. Not until now in Wilson McOrist's meticulously researched book, "Shackleton's Heroes." This book is a tremendous achievement, the first and to date only full length book that relates the full story of the Ross Sea Party expedition from first hand accounts of the participants' own expedition diaries, writings and remembrances. Author Wilson McOrist further strengthened his research by searching through all available archives, research data, visiting the actual sites and conducting interviews with surviving family members and fellow historians. If you are interested in the golden age of Antarctic expeditions, the era of Shackleton, Scott and countless others; of the courage and heroics of men who attempted to do the impossible in a relentlessly inhospitable landscape then this book should be on your reading list. The story is told in diary format from 1914 - 1916 with each diarist's writings shared so the reader is an eyewitness to each event but from differing points of view. The only time the author interjects his own words is to connect the writings or to advise the reader of knowledge integral to the narrative albeit unknowable at the time to the expedition members. The expedition story ends in 1917 but the author concludes the book by relating the surviving members' eventual outcomes. The early chapters are filled with the details of supplies, planning, sledging, longitudes and latitudes and the short first season of the expedition a harbinger of difficulties to come. I enjoyed the diarists' descriptions of the amazing sights and their awe and wonder of the fauna and stark beauty and grandeur of the Antarctic landscape by veteran as well as first time participants. In addition, the reader begins to get to know the men as their words bring the story to life and we join them in their tents and walk alongside them as they struggle with the sleds in good times and bad, in fair and foul weather often wearing inadequate clothing and relying on outmoded (even for the time) instruments. The book is a reminder of a time before modern convenience, when there were still places in the world where mankind had not yet tread. When good and brave men accomplished the seemingly impossible and did not in the doing lose their humanity. I very much enjoyed reading this historic testament to the memory of the courageous men who so endeavored. In particular the first six, whom Wilson christened the, "Mount Hope Party" because these six are the men who traversed 360 miles across the Great Ice Barrier to Mount Hope in the Beardmore Glacier to lay supplies and are those Shackleton justly praised in his book, "South" detailing his own ordeal. Messrs. Mackintosh, Joyce, Richards, Wild, Hayward, Spencer-Smith, Cope, Jack, Gaze and Stevens and the hardworking sled dogs who made all the difference. A solid four and a half of five stars. Thanks to the publisher and Netgalley for providing me a ARC for my unbiased review.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. loved By Kindle Customer Really good. Exciting and heroic. Couldn't put it down.

The Unbelievable Story of Six Men Who Trekked Across the Great Ice Barrier in Support of Ernest Shackleton's Antarctic Expedition One hundred years ago, Sir Ernest Shackleton embarked on the legendary 1914-1917 Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition, defying the odds and accomplishing one of history's most remarkable feats of endurance while narrowly escaping death, even though his crew failed in their mission to cross Antarctica. His story, inflated by time and celebrity, has come to personify the Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration. Less well known, however, is the incredible but often forgotten tale of the Mount Hope Party (also known as the Ross Sea party) six men who worked in the shadow of Shackleton's greater cause. Sent to the opposite side of the Polar continent, these men dropped life-saving food and fuel depots across the Great Ice Barrier, ensuring that Shackleton had the supplies necessary to complete his mission. Unaware of Shackleton's own failed task, the party persevered in their mission, facing insurmountable obstacles of life on the ice: exhaustion, starvation, and crippling frostbite, risking their lives for the safety of his. Stitching together the previously unpublished diaries of these unsung heroes, McOrist documents their pain and suffering, as well as the humor and camaraderie necessary for their survival. An incomparable record of sheer heroism and tragedy, Shackleton's Heroes tells a story that history ought to remember: one of the indomitable human spirit in the most extreme conditions. Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Arcade imprint, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in history--books about World War II, the Third Reich, Hitler and his henchmen, the JFK assassination, conspiracies, the American Civil War, the American Revolution, gladiators, Vikings, ancient Rome,

medieval times, the old West, and much more. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

"A gripping tale with the most tragic of endings . . . The diaries of the Mount Hope Party are an Antarctic literary treasure." Sir Ranulph Fiennes "Wilson McOrist documents the incredible journey of a group who established vital food depots on the Great Ice Barrier Reef for Sir Ernest Shackleton ill-fated 1914-1917 Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition." The Sunday Times "What a story. . . . McOrist's efforts to give each a voice after a century of silence has paid off with a gripping read." All About History Magazine "The story of the almost unbelievable trek by six men of Shackleton's support party who laid food and fuel depots across 360 miles of Antarctica[,] . . . who in the face of adversity and incredible odds, set out to achieve their goal. For the first time, the achievement of these six men is told through their actual diaries. One can feel very close to each of them. The words of these young men convey hardship and suffering, along with times of sadness and perhaps contentment." The Irish Times "The mixture of narrative and diary entries gives an authentic flavour of the men's everyday hardships . . . An excellent addition to the Shackleton literature, reminding us that he was far from alone in his endeavours." The Good Book Guide "A fascinating account." The Canberra Times