

S7T2

## **Heroic observations of old weather**

### **Philip Brohan, Chris Turney, Rob Allan, Gail Kelly, Gil Compo & the oldWeather project.**

We know little of the weather in the Southern Ocean in 1916, as ICOADS contains almost no records from there, but some observations were made: In 1914-16 Ernest Shackleton led the 'Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition', aiming to make the first crossing of the Antarctic continent (Weddell Sea to Ross Sea). He did not succeed, and the expedition is remembered as a catalogue of disasters and bold escapes. But alongside the chaos and adventure, some science was done - the expedition's two ships made many observations of the weather. These observations were never published, but have been preserved in the archives of the Scott Polar Research Institute. To mark the centenary of the expedition, we have digitised their weather observations, added them to ICOADS, and assimilated them into the 20th Century Reanalysis. We can learn quite a lot just from the records of that expedition, but it is only one of the thousands of voyages of discovery, scientific expeditions, whaling, fishing, trading and military ship logs which need to be rescued and included in ICOADS. Over the last few years we have made substantial inroads into this task, particularly through the contribution provided by the volunteer contributors to oldWeather.org.

#### **Oral**

- **Data management recovery and reprocessing (digitisation efforts and reprocessing of previously digitised data)**