

## LOG Athy, UK October & November 2012

**Monday 22 October 2012.** Lovely day. Left for Nashua around 12:30. Stopped to buy some slippers at Target. Arrived at the bus terminal, bought my ticket to Logan (\$8.50), arranged for my car to stay there for three weeks. Bus to South Station then on to Logan. Checked in, then over to Legal Seafoods for a relaxing dinner. Aer Lingus flight left at 8:50. Watched Woody Allen's "To Rome with Love." Only about half full so was able to stretch out in the center row.

**Tuesday 23 October 2012.** Arrived in Dublin. Joe O'Farrell was there to meet me. Overcast and rainy. Drove to his house and met by Barbara. Had a nice "fry up," then laid down for a rest until 1pm. Spent the afternoon helping Barbara set up her new iMac. Joe back at the end of the day; drinks and a very nice fish pie for dinner.

**Wednesday 24 October 2012.** Joe off to work and around 9 or so, Barbara and I headed off to Belfast for the day. Cloudy and rainy. Stopped for coffee and a pastry at the very nice tourist info cum art gallery outside Banbridge. In Belfast, went first to Queens University to pick up Barbara's misplaced mobile phone. Then drove to the Titanic center. Large new "theme park" type facility. On the whole, done well and interesting. Drove back into Belfast and parked and walked to the Crown pub. Lovely Victorian interior. Had a pint and Barbara, a wine, but food not available until 5:30. We stopped at a Burger King for a Whopper and coffee. Then to the Apple store to ask some questions. I headed for the Vodafone shop and sorted out my mobiles and Barbara picked up some groceries. Back to the car and headed home at 5:30. A two hour trip to Enniskerry. Had a drink and later Joe went out to bring back some Thai food. Watched some TV and then to bed.

**Thursday 25 October 2012.** Into Dublin with Joe. He dropped me off near the National Gallery where I am now at 11:30 typing this up. Wandered around Grafton Street area for a bit then headed for the Stag's Head pub where I met up with Joe O'Farrell around 1:30. Sadly, our favorite barmaid—Karolina—has left, but there's a new quite friendly replacement. We both have a very nice fish stew. We then walk a short ways to a antiquarian bookshop that had some polar books. I then headed off to find the Hop On, Hop Off bus which I boarded near Trinity College. Got off at Stop 20, the Museum in ?? Barracks. Only had about 20 minutes to spare. Must come back; it's a lovely museum. Waited for the bus and went just two stops to O'Connell Street bridge and hoofed it from there to Merrion Square where I met up with Joe at about 5:30. Drove home to Enniskerry. Had an nice Lasagna and lots of wine and conversation.

**Friday 26 October 2012.** Up and after breakfast packed up. Now typing this up and waiting for Joe to come back. Soon, off to the airport to pick up Jane and Falcon Scott. "I think I see a touch of blue." All packed up and headed for Athy. Park and drop into the Heritage Centre and then to O'Briens. Welcomed by Frank and Judith. Took the Scotts and Zaz to their B&B well outside the town. At 4pm we walk to the Council chambers

where they have a very nice reception for us with wine and lovely hors oeuvres. Then back to the Heritage Centre for the opening reception. This was followed by an address by "Michael D", president of Ireland. Back to O'Briens for the duration of the evening. At some point Joe and I check into Bowdens where we'll be staying. Not far from the railroad station. Also staying there: Michael Smith, Paul ?, Raymond Maloney and his wife.

**Saturday 27 October 2012.** A lovely bright blue day. Walked into town to get there at the start of things at 10:30. All the speakers throughout the day were excellent. Spent the lunch break at O'Briens. At the end of the sessions I and several others went out to Seamus's house to see his collection in its new surrounding. Very nice. From there to Frank's house for his usual reception, then to the hotel for the banquet. Good food, I thought. No entertainment this time. Back to O'Briens and by cab home at 1am or so, new time (2am old).

**Sunday 28 October 2012.** Gray and rainy again. Drove in with Joe. Good sessions all day. Ended up at 5:30 or so, then half an hour for a final visit to O'Briens. Drove with Jonathan and his cousin, Muffet, to Carol and Arthur's near Abbeyleix. Had a relaxing drink, then a fine dinner of venison stew. Monica and Ion, from before, came for dinner.

**Monday 29 October 2012.** Weather not much better. Arthur cooked up a nice breakfast, we walked around the garden, then headed off at about 11am for the airport. Got there in plenty of time. Muffet had the same flight so we stuck together. Had a coffee and cheeseburger at Burger king. Uneventful flight. Tube to Kings Cross and now on the train to Cambridge. Taxi to Warkworth House. Get organized, have a drink and some nuts. Watch TV and learn about the impending hurricane on the east coast of US. Send out some e-mails. And then to bed.

**Tuesday 30 October 2012.** A very nice morning. After breakfast a quick walk into town where I sort out some things with Vodafone. A stop at an ATM, then to SPRI. Find Paul Davies, Charles Swithinbank, David Wilson, Heather, et al. All day session with A100 folks, culminating with tea with Princess Anne. Buy some chocolates, then back to Warkworth House. Say hello to Mrs Collins. Make a drink or two, check some e-mails, phone Mary and to bed early.

**Wednesday 31 October 2012.** To SPRI at 9am. In the Archives all morning and afternoon. Between 1 and 2 go to the RBS bank and deposit and check and order new checks. Then fish and chips and a pint at The Alma. Decide against going to the theatre as it's a children's play. Back to Warkworth House. Several drinks. Computer work.

**Thursday 1 November 2012.** At the Archives all day. Had a pint at the Panton Arms for lunch. After a drink at the hotel I had soup and shrimp toast at the new Chinese restaurant at the corner of Lensfield and Regent. Excellent. Then to SPRI to see the movie The Thing, which takes place in the Antarctic. Pretty good.

**Friday 2 November 2012.** Paid my bill (£60/night) and then all day at the Archives. Had lunch at the Prince Regent? With Bill ? and Bob Headland. Cab to the station and getting the 4:45 to Kings Cross. Typing these up as I wait for the train to leave. Arrived at Kings Cross, tube to Sloane Square, walked to the Chelsea Town Hall. Met up with John Bonham and Marty Greene. On a whim bought a copy of Thompson's Challenger expedition account in two volumes for £260. Back to John's flat by cab after the fair. Drinks. And later to ??, a nearby Italian restaurant. Very good.

**Saturday 3 November 2012.** A lovely morning. After breakfast, headed to St Pancras with Marty and had plenty time at St Prancas. Bought my ticket to Folkestone. What a great station this is! Wendy shows up at the last minute and we take the train, changing at Ashcroft? Arrive in Folkestone and walk to David Wilson's house and have coffee with him and Duncan and see their various Antarctic treasures. A lovely location, with views to the sea. Walk downtown and to Papas Fish and Chips for lunch. Then on to the venue for David's talk. Very good as usual. Meet Aidan Dooley by chance and he gives up a lift to the station for the train back to London. Wendy and I separate at St Pancras, I back to John's house. He, Marty and I have a drink and then go to the Indian restaurant we ate at a year ago. Back home and to bed.

**Sunday 4 November 2012.** Slept in a bit. Rainy. I go out for the papers. Breakfast. Around noon Marty and I head off by cab to the Wallace Collection. Very nice but so much French severes et al. Took another cab to Cloth Fair and saw where I had stayed several years go. Dropped into the >> pub, and had a pint and a bit to eat: Marty, Sunday roast and me, a fish pie. Walked to the Museum of London and went through that. Can't remember my visit back in the 60s but pretty good. By tube back to Paddington and now at John's where I'm typing this up. Later that evening Marty and I go up to John's flat where he serves up a nice quiche.

**Monday 5 November 2012.** A nice clear morning. I take the 159 bus from Paddington to Streatham, over an our through areas new to me. Am here to check out two Bowers' LLAG sites. The first, a Baptist church where there is a plaque isn't successful—the church is closed up. The second—the former Streatham High School which Bowers attended—was more successful: the plaque is on the outside. Start walking towards central London looking for a pub. Finally find one on the corner of the South Circular: The Horse and Groom (I think). Have a ham and cheese toastie. Back into town on the bus getting off near Trafalgar Square. Revisit the Scott statue. To Piccadilly to pick up bus maps, then tub to South Ken. A loo stop at the Natural History Museum, then to Science Museum to see the Snow Cat used on the ITAE. Meet Marty there and then up to the RGS where we spend some time in the Archives and the Members Room, then meet up with Wendy Driver and Cathy Cooper for the program on Frank Wild. Afterwards, to the Gore Hotel in Queen's Gate for dinner. Home by car.

**Tuesday 6 November 2012.** US Election Day! Nice weather. Took the 159 bus to near Marble Arch and went to Connaught Sq to photograph a house that Emily Shackleton wrote from. The bus again to Bond Street. Went to Sothebys and spent a couple of hours going through old auction catalogues. Stopped by at Sotherans, then to The Travellers

Club where I met up with—late—John and Marty for a very nice lunch. Had a look at the library. Walked by the Franklin statue, then a productive visit to the Royal Society and looked at some Discovery expedition photo albums. Then walked to the National Portrait Gallery. I took the tube back to Paddington and to John's flat, and called it a day.

**Wednesday, 7 November 2012.** Got up early to see who won the election: Obama! Also, Dems got the NH Governor, both House seats, and the state house. Elizabeth Warren beat Scott Brown. Nice morning. Marty and I took the 159 bus to Bond Street; walked to Shapero Rare Books, then to Maggs, where Marty bought two maps. By bus to Bonhams where we met Carol and David Park who took us out to the Brompton Bar & Grill for a very nice lunch. Back to Bonhams where we got the Polar Sale II catalogue, just delivered. By #14 bus to Piccadilly where we went to Paxton & Whitfield and bought a gift box of cheese, etc., for John. By cab back to John's and now having a drink. That night we went to the Thai Village a stone's throw away for a nice dinner.

**Thursday, 8 November 2012.** After breakfast Marty and I took the tube to Kew Gardens and went to the National Archives. He stayed all day. I checked out the Northern Party and found nothing, so went my way into town again and then out to Walthamstow where I went to the William Morris Gallery situated in the house he once lived in as a child. Quite a nice exhibit. Had a fish stew and a pint at a pub. Took the bus back—a long trip. To Stanfords in Long Acre, then to Sotherans to buy the book on London clubs. Back to John's place. Marty and I went to Geales for dinner. Totally changes—now much more upscale. But they still have fish and it was excellent.

**Friday, 9 November 2012.** After breakfast, I walked to the Edward Wilson Primary School about 15 minutes away. Took some photos. Then by tube to the British Library where I worked until about 2 or so. Dropped into a Burger King for lunch, then by tube back to John's. Had a shower and changed and at around 4:30 John drove us and his friend Gillian to Dulwich College for the James Caird dinner. Bob Burton was the speaker.

**Saturday, 10 November 2012.** Up at about 7am and headed off to Liverpool Street Station to take the train to Bishops Stortford. Mary Cavanagh met me at the station and we went back to her place and had a coffee. She went off to Pilates and I had a little lie-down. Now have just finished lunch and am writing these notes up. Mary came back and we had a sandwich. Later we took the train to Cambridge and walked to SPRI for the Friends AGM. I made the suggestion of an accommodation brochure; we'll see if anything comes of it. Back to Bishops Stortford. We walked to il Giardino, an Italian restaurant on the way back to Mary's house. Very nice and we were treated well, but took forever.

**Sunday, 11 November 2012.** A lovely day. We watched the Remembrance Day ceremony at the Cenotaph, then headed off for Harwich to have lunch with Frances and Brian. They have a very nicely sited house with lovely views over the harbor. The town is very small, with some very nice old buildings which we saw when we had a walk-about after a very nice lunch of Cottage Pie. Once back in BS, Barbie Duff showed up and we

had a nice chat and some drinks. Barbie gave me a ride to the station and I was back in London at about 9:30. John and I went across the road to the Thai River for some curry, then to bed.

**Monday, 12 November 2012.** Up at 7, showered and had breakfast and headed over to Paddington and took the Heathrow Express to the airport with plenty of time to spare. Am now typing up these notes.

Bob Burton talk

Buddha = Hubert Hudson nickname  
Jonah = Frank Hurley nickname

Jan Piggott talk

Mick, Mickey= EHS nicknames at Dulwich  
Old Mooney = RFS's boyhood nickname  
The Gadfly = Amundsen's nickname used by Markham.  
Send Jan photo of fireplace at Aberdeen House  
Food reference in PG Wodehouse typescript: 3-cornered tarts.

Michael Smith talk

Cathy - woman at Warkworth House.

My room at Warkworth House: #1

At Athy: Vincent Sheridan. Artist. Girlfriend = Moira

Michael Smith is working on a Shackleton bio.

Heather Murphy. Has theory on Ponting photo of Gran. Thinks he was taken out because one's eyes go immediately to Gran and not to Scott. Cropping is done to center Scott.

5 packs of cigs worked out well for 3 weeks.