

Syd Kirkby AO, MBE, Polar Medal - Australia's Frozen Frontier

Over-winter (16 months) surveyor with expeditions of 1956/57 and 1960/61 at a time when 85% of Antarctica, a continent almost twice the size of Australia was unexplored. Surveyor with summer expeditions in 1961/62, 1962/63 and 1964/65 during which Australia's renowned "hit and run" explorations explored all coastal regions of Australian Antarctic Territory, about one third of the compass of the globe. During these years any time I was working remote from expedition stations (most of the time) I was never at a place where any other human being had ever stood. Highlights include the first penetration of the Prince Charles Mountains, the first and only ever ground penetration of Enderby Land and about 27 coastal first landings from the beyond westernmost to beyond the easternmost limits of Australia's Antarctic Territory (about 1/3 of the continent)

Leader of the 1979/80 summer multidisciplinary regional scientific study of Kemp, Enderby, and eastern Queen Maud Lands. Station Leader at Mawson winter 1980/81.