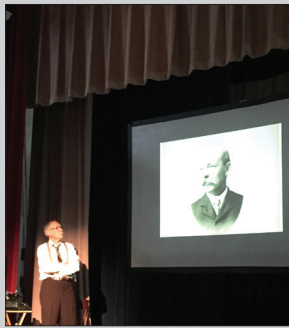




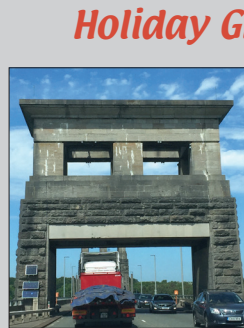
Here we all are at Travis's house at Thanksgiving, upwards of 28. They came from the UK, Burlington, Vt., Hingham, Ma., Providence, RI, Jaffrey, NH, and Washington. DC. Photo: Sally Barker.



DEEP WATER, written & performed by Ken Sheldon sold out the Meetinghouse for all three showings. Still no solution to the Dean Murder.



Here I am about to go down a Welsh coal mine in June. Hard way to make a living.



Britannia Bridge across the Menai Strait in Wales. Designed by Robert Stephenson and opened in 1850.



The Jaffrey Meetinghouse (1775) getting a fresh coat of paint on the east gable end. We also did some painting on the Tower and the ceiling inside.



Another Antarctic gathering at Paul Dalrymple's Port Clyde house on the coast of Maine. The weather was terrific and the lobsters tasty.

Holiday Greetings 2018 and Best Wishes for 2019

the Historical Society commissioned. ¶ Another of my local history projects is continuing and with luck should be completed in 2019—preparing for publication the biography of Laban Ainsworth, Jaffrey's first and the nation's longest serving Congregational minister. ¶ I made two trips to Ireland this year: The first in June to start arranging the 4th SouthPole-*sium* to be held next June in Dublin. Then over to Plymouth to a weekend

celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Captain Scott. And back in October for my now annual appearance at the Shackleton Autumn School in Athy. ¶ I continue to downsize but still am active in local affairs: The Meetinghouse, Cemeteries, Town trust funds, Historical Society, et al. ¶ The winter ahead will be pretty quiet. No trips planned until at least June. ☺

Rob

Rob Stephenson, P. O. Box 435, Jaffrey, NH 03452 • 603-532-6066. 603-532-7653 Library
rob@rs4l.org • www.antarctic-circle.org • www.rs4l.org • www.deanmurder.org

Some 2018 trip photos:

<https://rs4l.smugmug.com/Travel/Athy-2018/>

<https://rs4l.smugmug.com/Travel/2018-Ireland-and-the-UK/>

<https://rs4l.smugmug.com/Travel/2018-Florida-and-the-South/>

This year's cartoons: www.rs4l.org/cartoons2018.pdf



Our SIAFU reunion contingent at The Villages in Florida. They actually have a polo field (technically a *maidan*) there with international players. They also have a beer wagon that circulates around for thirsty specators. I designed the T-shirts.



I ran across Snow White at the Orlando Airport. I was there to pick up Mary Cavanagh for the SIAFU reunion.



I stopped off at *Celebration* near Orlando, a planned community undertaken by the Disney company. This is the *art moderne* theatre.



I stayed two nights in the historic Omni Grove Park Inn in Asheville, NC. It went up in less than a year. The stonework is amazing.



My cousin Amanda had me to her class in Charlottesville, VA., to talk about the Antarctic. They mostly had their minds on penguins. Photo: Amanda Brookman.



Michael and Jane Hogan welcomed me & Joe O'Farrell to their farm in Worcestershire in June. They are amongst my friends of longest standing.



Kilkea Castle near Athy in Co. Kildare. The farm where Shackleton was born is within sight. Some of us stayed here in October.

ALL is well here in Jaffrey. We had snow before Thanksgiving when we gathered at Travis Gowing's in Medford, Ma, along with a good-sized contingent from all over. Driving there and back was a bit of a challenge just after cataract surgery. Can see well close up now but all is fuzzy at a distance. On-coming drivers beware! Earlier in the year I had ablation to correct atrial flutter, now cured. Outpatient procedure. Bill was \$90,000! which no one, of course, pays. My share: \$22.80. My biggest undertaking of 2018 was six weeks on the road, to and from Florida. The main purpose was to attend a SIAFU reunion at The Villages—a truly bizarre place. (Google it for

details.) We all went through Africa together back in the early 70s. Spent a week reminiscing and making various excursions to nearby attractions. On the way down and back I made lots of stops visiting friends & family and stopping at places I had never been to before, Atlanta, for instance—the largest US city I had never been to. My biggest Jaffrey project was without doubt the centenary of the Dean Murder. Two or so years work culminated on the actual 100th anniversary of this unsolved murder: August 13, 2018. See www.deanmurder.org for full details on this truly fascinating crime. The main event was three sold-out performances of DEEP WATER, a play