

## Inquest into South Georgia death re-opens

AN inquest was re-opened on Monday in the Coroner's Court into the death in South Georgia last January of Mrs Eileen Mad-den Larrimore.

Re-opening the inquest, which had its first hearing on January 13, 2012, Coroner Mr Carl Gumsley said that it was not a trial and its sole purpose was to establish the facts surrounding Mrs Larrimore's death.

At the time of her death, Mrs Larrimore, who was a retired Lieutenant Colonel in the United States army, was travelling with her husband on the cruise ship *Clipper Adventurer*, chartered by the specialist tour operator, Zegrahm Expeditions. The event which led to her death occurred during a hike with other passengers and expedition staff from Leith Harbour to Stromness. This trek, which is quite frequently undertaken by passengers on cruise ships of this type, replicates the last stage of Sir Ernest Shackleton's famous crossing of South Georgia in 1916.

Due to the difficulties involved in contacting witnesses, including medical experts from around the world, it is expected that the inquest will run for two weeks. Among the persons present in court who were listed by the Coroner as "interested persons" and therefore allowed to ask questions were a legal team from Zegrahm Expeditions led by Mr Forlin QC, the Falkland Islands Attorney General Mr Mark Lewis, who is also Attorney General for South Georgia and Mr Richard McKee, also representing the Government of South Georgia.