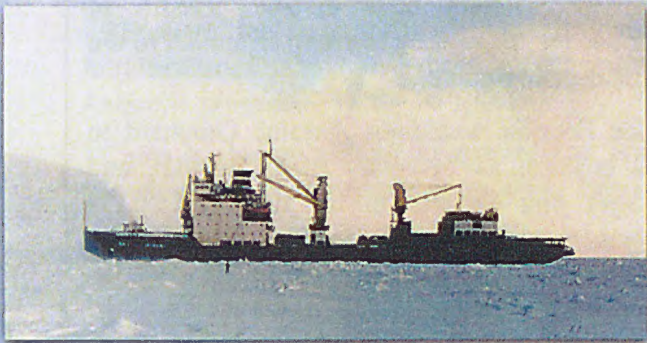


ICE BREAKER



ICE BREAKER MAGAZINE

ICE BREAKER magazine is published independently by Malcolm Wallhead and Associates as a quarterly magazine covering Tasmanian Polar and Southern Ocean related topics.

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EDITORIAL

Opportunities for public comment on Antarctic affairs have been prominent this quarter, with the future of Antarctic Adventure and the Hobart waterfront being of particular interest. What aspects of Tasmania *are* we presenting to the rest of the world in the port area and when can our status as Antarctic capital of Australia also include a viable facility for innovative Antarctic education and information? These two problems *could* be associated and developed to the benefit of all involved parties, but not without the Antarctic community, with their diverse breadth of knowledge, presenting a strong argument to the final decision-makers.

Ice Breaker welcomes Antoine Guichard to his position as Secretary of COMNAP, and wishes him success in his new role. TPN members are already preparing for the trade show at next year's COMNAP/SCAR meetings in Bremen, Germany, and it should be noted that these meetings will be held in Hobart in 2006 – a wonderful opportunity to showcase all aspects of Tasmania's Antarctic connections.

Also underway are plans for next year's Mid-winter Festival, with the position of Festival Co-ordinator to be advertised soon. Unfortunately, Paul Cullen, who organised the previous festivals so successfully, is unavailable this year. It is interesting to note that the first-ever Inuit Circumpolar Games were held in Nunavut, northern Canada, in July this year. Perhaps links could be made to find out what sports were played so some of these could be included in our festival.

IB notes with sadness the passing of one of our subscribers, Barbara Kile of Heritage Tours. For nearly 20 years, Barbara worked to establish Hobart as a major cruise destination and she was a leading participant in arranging shore itineraries for passengers.

I hope all readers have a satisfying Christmas and successful New Year.

Anthea Wallhead

Cover: AAD's new ship VASILIIY GOLOVNIN.
[Photo courtesy Geoff Dannock, AAD]

FROM LARA GIDDINGS' DESK



With 2004 fast approaching, planning is well underway on a number of Antarctic related fronts.

The development of the State Government's Antarctic Policy continues with the themes including Antarctic education, procurement, tourism and heritage, being progressed as I write this article. The intention of the Government is to launch this policy in March 2004.

After a highly successful Midwinter Festival in 2003, the committee is in its preliminary stages of planning for an even better festival for next year, building on the reputation it has established over the past two years as an exciting and informative celebration of our scientific, environmental, social and historical links with Antarctica (not to mention the excuse to enjoy gluhwein and roasted hot chestnuts!).

With Estonia considering Tasmania as its base to Eastern Antarctica and the Australia Antarctic Division's airlink potentially strengthening Australia's ties with China's Antarctic program, Tasmania is well positioned to continue to build on our international gateway status.

Recently, the Premier met with Professor Tanzhou Qu, Director, Chinese Arctic and Antarctic Administration in Beijing, to discuss the potential of Tasmania playing a greater support role in the Chinese Antarctic program.

China is already trialing an arrangement with the Australian Antarctic Division to share logistics support this season, with an Australian vessel to deliver personnel to Zhongshan Station.

While the Antarctic Adventure Centre may have gone, many of the display materials housed in the centre have not. The Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery have had first call on those items owned by the State Government to feature in a future display at the Museum with an Antarctic and Southern Ocean theme.

The French Polar Institute has kindly agreed to lend their Hotchkiss track vehicle also to TMAG. This is an interesting historical piece of French equipment that was used for the first scientific traverses from Dumont D'Urville Station.

As far at the old site goes, the promised consultation process with key interest groups has been occurring over the past weeks, and the tender process will begin in December.

The Board of the Antarctic and Southern Ocean Science Centre has been talking with groups such as the Salamanca Square body corporate and the Tourism Council to ensure that their views are reflected in developing a future for the site.

I look forward to working with you again in 2004, and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Lara Giddings
Parliamentary Secretary on Antarctic Affairs

NB: Will Hodgman, Shadow Minister for Economic Development, Energy and Antarctic Tasmania, and Peg Putt, Leader of the Tasmanian Greens, were unable to contribute to this edition. The new Communications Officer for ACE CRC, Katrina Nitschke will provide a regular page from the next edition. Articles from Antarctic Adventure have unfortunately ceased with the closure of the facility. Ice Breaker thanks all those who have volunteered to help make this magazine such a comprehensive recorder of Antarctic activities and special events.



POLAR PHOBIAS

Auroraphobia - fear of Northern Lights

Chionophobia – fear of snow

Cryophobia – fear of extreme cold

Frigophobia –fear of cold

Leucophobia – fear of the colour white

Pagophobia – fear of ice or frost

Psychophobia – fear of cold

(according to www.phobialist.com)

N'ICE LETTERS

After the Editor was asked by the Parliamentary Secretary on Antarctic Affairs and Antarctic Tasmania to provide a full set of Ice Breaker magazines (Nos.1-23) for sending to the Scott Polar Research Institute at Cambridge, England, these letters were received:

“That is fantastic and I think an honour for the work you, and of course Malcolm too in his time, have put into Ice Breaker, to have it archived in such a prestigious institution” – Lara Giddings.

“Thank you very much indeed for sending the complete set of Ice Breakers – only now do we realise how much we were missing! Newsletters are an important source of information in themselves, as well as letting us know about seminars and publications in far-away places – so we will be reading with great interest!” - Hilary Shibata, Antarctic Bibliographer, Scott Polar Research Centre.

TPN COMMITTEE 2003-2004

Bill Lawson (SKM) – Chairman

Richard Fader (TasShipping) - Senior Deputy Chairman

Wayne Tucker (HIAPL) – Deputy Chairman

Greg Johannes or nominee (AT) – Secretary

Tony Hughson (Consultant) – Treasurer.

Committee members:

Phillip Wood (Tweezy)

Geraldine Edwards (Moonraker)

Graeme Allen (Beyond PR)

ROYAL SOCIETY'S POLAR LINKS

An Honour Board in one of the Royal Society's rooms at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery contains several famous Antarctic names. Shackleton (1909), Edgeworth-David (1910) and Mawson (1913) are listed as Honorary Members

and the 1923 R.M. Johnston Memorial Medal was awarded to Edgeworth-David.

POLAR SHORTS

• Former senior manager in the Dept. of Environment and Heritage, **Max Kitchell**, has been appointed the new Director of the National Oceans Office in Hobart.

• **Bill Lawson**, (SKM), TPN Chairman, has been appointed chairman of the new, national board for the Beacon Foundation. The Foundation, which began in Tasmania, helps communities find ways to employ local youth.

• A joint research program has been launched by the CSIRO and University of Tasmania to increase the number of marine research scientists in Tasmania.

• TPN member, **Taylor Bros**, won the contract to refit the Spirit of Tasmania III ferry, currently berthed at Macquarie Wharf No. 6.

• Photos, taken by **Nick Gales** of AAD, of a Minke whale's 'ring of flatulence' surfacing in Antarctic waters, are believed to be the first ever taken.

• University of NSW's astrophysics department has been ranked internationally in the top 1% of the world's space science institutes and plans are already underway to set up Antarctica's first permanent observatory.

• Observations at the North Pole record further evidence of global warming and an extended melt season by as much as 17 days.

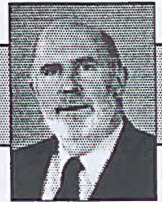
INTERNATIONAL WHALES

• For the third time, Australia and NZ failed to achieve a ¾ majority vote at this year's International Whaling Commission meeting, in order to set up a whale sanctuary in the South Pacific. IWC members, led by Japan, Ireland, Norway, voted 24 to 17 against the proposal.

• Australia has joined 21 countries opposed to Iceland resuming whaling to catch Minke whales after a 14-year moratorium. The whaling fleet was unable to catch any whales at the start of the new season due to bad weather and intervention by media boats and other onlookers.

• Japan is considering setting up a rival organisation to IWC which this year focussed on establishing a committee to set up whale sanctuaries, rather than setting up a sustainable management plan for whaling.

TPN CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



We are now well into the Summer Season and the coming and going of southern bound shipping is again evident in the Port of Hobart.

At the recent TPN Annual Meeting I was pleased and privileged to again be asked to continue in my position as Chairperson of the TPN. For me this is a task of significant personal interest and commitment and I will endeavour to continue doing all I am able to advance the TPN's objectives as laid out in our Strategic Plan.

Over the last quarter we have seen two significant happenings in Hobart:

Firstly, the TPN's 'Commercialisation and Procurement' Workshop was held on Wednesday 24th September at Hadley's Hotel. As the first such initiative it was a real success and was well attended and informed by the speakers invited to participate. As with all new things there is an opportunity to learn in order to improve the next event. I have no doubt however of the value of this the first Procurement Workshop and want to acknowledge the efforts of the staff of Antarctic Tasmania in 'making it happen'.

Secondly, CCAMLR's annual meetings were again held in Hobart, attracting over 230 participants from 36 countries – this in itself is a significant fact which warrants contemplation! I understand that the meetings were complex and rigorous but most productive to the agendas set. The State Reception and the Governor's Cocktail Party were both well attended and appreciated by all involved.

Also during the past quarter I participated with Norm McKay of Skytraders in providing a briefing to the TCCI Executive on the Hobart Antarctic Airlink. This was an excellent opportunity to further awaken key Tasmanian business leaders to this exciting business opportunity and I am optimistic about it producing both increased membership for the TPN and a closer working relationship between the two organisations.

Bill Lawson.
Chairman, TPN.
Hobart 20th November 2003.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
from
ICE BREAKER



In response to a letter to the Premier regarding Antarctic Adventure's future, I received the following response:

Dear Mr Premier,

I am really upset at the State Government's attitude towards Antarctic Adventure's future. Please reconsider the centre's closure. As part of the TPN, which the Government is pleased to support and participate in, it is difficult to believe that Antarctic Adventure is to be excluded. I believe the centre is a key focal point for Antarctic activities, not just for tourists, and strongly support the manager's plans. I hope the centre can be given a second chance."

PREMIER'S EMAIL

Dear Ms Wallhead,

Thank you for your email of 23 September 2003 concerning Antarctic Adventure.

I have noted your comments and appreciate your concerns. As you know, Antarctic Adventure has been operating for over six years under a variety of owners, including Dreamworld, Australia's premier attraction manager. The venture has never proven viable and, to date, the centre has cost the Tasmanian taxpayer over \$4.5 million.

With this in mind, earlier this year the Tasmanian Development Board requested that an Inter-Departmental Committee be established to review and make recommendations on the centre's future. The Committee considered a number of options and recommended that the centre be closed. The Board accepted the Committee's advice and made a similar recommendation to the Government. The Government made the difficult, but responsible decision to shut Antarctic Adventure on 4 October 2003.

While some supporters have argued that the centre may have been viable some time in the future, Antarctic Adventure would have needed to attract at least 50 per cent more visitors just to break even. Notably, the centre failed to grow its visitation rates significantly even though Tasmania is in the midst of the biggest tourism boom the State has ever seen.

• Please be assured that my Government's commitment to the State's Antarctic community is stronger than ever. The Parliamentary Secretary

on Antarctic Affairs, Lara Giddings MHA, has announced that the Government will develop and release a new Antarctic policy framework for Tasmania in 2004. This will build on recent achievements such as the Government's work to:

- organise and run the 2003 Antarctic Tasmania Midwinter Festival that attracted over 35,000 participants;
- help secure seven years of Commonwealth funding for the Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre; and
- bid successfully to host the Secretariat for the Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs in Hobart.

Thank you again for your email and for taking the time to express your interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Lennon
Acting Premier

NORTH POLAR EVENTS

- A British man, Pen Hadon, has become the first to reach the North Geographic Pole unassisted, after a 770 km trek from northern Canada. However, he was stranded for a week when broken ice and thick clouds prevented his rescue plane from landing until later in May this year.
- October 23 was the first day of a 48,000 km journey by 2 people planning to fly a helicopter around the world via the South and North Poles. Jennifer Murray and Colin Bodill will fly down the east coast of the Americas to Antarctica, then up the west coast to the arctic, making 160 stops to promote World Wildlife Fund projects.
- A French crew aboard the sailing ship 'Vagabond' recently returned to France after becoming the first to circumnavigate the North Pole via the Northwest and Northeast Passages.
- Julia Orlando Adzuki from South Hobart is one of a team of international artists and builders to create Sweden's latest Ice Hotel at Jukkasjarvi.

AIRPORT DEVELOPMENTS

Included in the recently released plans for redevelopments at Hobart Airport will be an aircraft hangar specifically for the Hobart to Antarctica airlink. As well, the international terminal building will be used for Antarctic flights starting in the 2005 - 2006 summer season.



As the year draws to an end it is timely to reflect on the cooperative efforts of a great many people amongst the Antarctic community who have all contributed to the promotion and advancement of the Antarctic Sector. It is also a time to consider what lies ahead and next year promises to be an exciting year.

The prospects for the year include the airlink nearing implementation, the employment of a dedicated Commercialisation Manager for the new ACE CRC, the continued development of the Antarctic Tasmania Midwinter Festival, and the March 2004 release of the new state Antarctic, Sub Antarctic and Southern Ocean policy.

I'm sure we are collectively anticipating the Australian Antarctic Division (AAD) will secure additional funding in the new year for the two Falcon EX 900 jets that will form a pivotal component of the for AAD's airlink system.

The development of the State's new Antarctic, Sub Antarctic and Southern Ocean policy is well underway. A series of initial consultation sessions have taken place and the outcomes from these will form the basis of a discussion paper. This document will be distributed to members of the state's Antarctic community calling for submissions and comment on the future policy directions. This will be followed by a policy development forum scheduled for Tuesday 20 January 2004. Members of the Antarctic community interested in making submissions, or participating in the forum, should register their interest with Antarctic Tasmania by telephoning Cordula Ruckstuhl on 6233 5493.

The Tasmanian Polar Network (TPN) website is currently undergoing a dramatic face-lift, and when completed will present a fresh new graphical interface with a tighter focus on promoting the role and capability of the TPN. Many of the design elements were carried over from the very successful multi-media CD-Rom *The Way South*, which was developed for the TPN trade delegation to COMNAP/SCAR trade exhibition held in China during 2002. The new website, designed by Tweezy New Media, is currently undergoing offline testing. The site will be available online by 10 December. If you are interested in visiting the new site, the web address is www.tpn.aq. Your feedback and comments are warmly encouraged.

Antarctic Tasmania, together with a working group of the Antarctic Tourism Group, is nearing completion of an exciting initiative designed to promote Hobart as an International Gateway. The Antarctic gateway web portal will create a single point of access to the array of Antarctic organisations and online resources based in Tasmania. The web address for the portal will be www.antarcticgateway.info and should be online early in the new year. Interested members of the Antarctic community can assist in site development by providing feedback and user site testing on the offline version during December. Please contact Antarctic Tasmania to receive a feedback form and the offline URL for the test site.

Thanks for your support throughout the year and best wishes from all of us here at Antarctic Tasmania. Have a relaxing, safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year break. We look forward to working with you in the year ahead.

Ben Galbraith
Acting General Manager



VASILII GOLOVNIN: Admiral, writer and scientist.

In December the Russian 13514-tonne vessel “Vasiliy Golovnin” will arrive in Hobart to join the “Aurora Australis” in resupplying Australian Antarctic stations during the summer season. It seems an appropriate time to give an account of the Russian Admiral Vasiliy Golovnin, whose name the vessel carries. [This article kindly supplied by Irina Karmanovskaia, Russian translator and TPN member]

Vasiliy Golovnin (1776-1831) was born in Russia in the Ryazan region – 120 km to the South of Moscow. His parents died when he was 10. He graduated from the Kronstadt Naval Academy in 1793 at the age of 17. During his studies at the Academy he participated in 2 battles in the Russian-Swedish war of 1788-1790 and was awarded a gold medal for bravery. After graduation he took part in the voyages of the Kronstadt squadron to the North Sea and to the shores of England. In 1802 with several other gifted sea officers he was sent to England for 5 years to acquaint himself with the organization and strategies of the English Navy.

When Golovnin returned to Russia, he was appointed commander of the war sloop “Diana”¹, which was planning to circumnavigate the globe in 1807-1808 through the Russian territories in North America, doing hydrographic studies in that part of the Pacific. The crew was selected by Golovnin himself. The Admiralty gave him special instructions on how to conduct the scientific studies. On 20 April 1808 the “Diana” arrived at the Cape of Good Hope, which was English territory at that time. However, the crew of the “Diana” was arrested as war broke out between Russia and England. They were detained for one year before they managed to escape and sail to Kamchatka. In the spring of 1808 Golovnin sailed to the Russian American possessions to bring supplies for the Russian American Company.²



In 1811 during his studies of the Kuril and Shantar islands Golovnin with 6 other members of the crew were captured by the Japanese and spent more than 2 years in prison in on Hokkaido Island. Later Golovnin wrote his “Memoirs of a captivity in Japan 1811-1823”, which were published in 1818 and later translated into most European languages.³ The book contains accounts of Japanese customs, mores and culture. It was the first detailed account about Japan printed in Russia and was considered to have literary value.

Lieutenant-Captain P. Rikord, first mate and Golovnin’s best friend, was aboard the “Diana” on 11 July 1811 when Golovnin and other members were taken prisoner by the Japanese. Rikord returned to Russia to mount a rescue expedition. It took over a year for the actual rescue mission to be outfitted. The “Diana” arrived in Japan on the 28 August 1812 and after lengthy negotiations was finally released on 7 October 1813.

¹ It was the first ship to circumnavigate the globe which was built in Russia.

² The Russian American company was established in 1799 with the aim to unite separate merchant companies in Alaska and the Aleutian islands. It had a monopoly on all Russian business and mineral output to the North of 55 North Latitude.

³ There is a copy of the Oxford University Press edition of 1973 “Memoirs” at the Tasmanian University Library (Hobart).

In 1814 Golovnin returned to Petersburg and was elected a member of the State Admiralty Department. At the same time he started preparations for a second circumnavigation on the sloop "Kamchatka". This voyage lasted more than 2 years from 1817 to 1819. Golovnin brought cargo to Kamchatka and investigated the North-West American shores between 60 and 63 North Latitude. During 1818 Golovnin sailed to California, Hawaii, the Philippines and gave detailed description of these lands. The account of this voyage was published in Russia in 1822. From 1823 he was in charge of all the Admiralty shipyards, spending most of his time building the Baltic and the White Sea Fleet: more than 50 large and a number of smaller ships were built during his commission.

Golovnin wrote a remarkable monograph "On the state of the Russian Fleet in 1824", describing the causes of the decline of the Russian Fleet. He is the author of 'Naval signals for day and evenings' which was used by the Russian Fleet for more than 20 years.

There is a town "Golovnin" and "Golovnin Harbour" in Alaska; a mountain on Novaya Zemlya and a strait in the Kurils which carry his name. In Russia there is even now a great interest in the figure of Admiral Golovnin with the latest book on his voyages published in 2002.

CCAMLR-XXII MEETS IN HOBART

The Twenty-Second Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR-XXII) was held at the Wrest Point Hotel from 27 October to 7 November 2003. The meeting was well attended with over 150 delegates representing all 24 Member States of the Commission as well as four other Contracting Party and four Non-Contracting Party States. Eight inter-governmental agencies and NGOs also attended. The meeting was characteristically intense and the attached debates were both deep and significant.

In discharging its mandate to conserve the marine living resources of a vast, remote, inhospitable and legally complex ocean area, CCAMLR is guided by the best available scientific advice. It ascribes to clear principles of ecosystem management that are both precautionary (i.e. conservative) and take account of complex ecological inter-relationships between harvested and related species. In applying these principles, CCAMLR balances many competing interests and yet has assumed prominence as world leader due to its innovative, diligent, transparent and co-operative solving of some very difficult fisheries management problems.

The record speaks for itself and CCAMLR remains the only organization of its kind to have applied precautionary catch limits, to have taken account of ecological uncertainty in developing its management procedures, and to have applied both trade and other measures to address global problems such as illegal fishing and the incidental take of seabirds by longlines. Much of this work has been undertaken with the full support of the legitimate fishing industry.

The key outcomes of CCAMLR-XXII included finalization of a "vessel black list" to identify vessels with a less than perfect record of compliance with CCAMLR conservation measures, on-going endorsement for an electronically-based, state-of-the-art catch documentation scheme and the setting up of a pilot programme for the centralized collection of data on fishing vessel position using remote satellite-based technology. These results will impact significantly and positively on CCAMLR's effort to combat the scourge of illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing that is plaguing the CCAMLR Area. Such proactive steps are not emulated anywhere else in the world; a situation that emphasizes CCAMLR's global standing as a responsible and concerned regional fisheries management organization.

Denzil Miller
CCAMLR

MACQUARIE MEMORIES NO.1 (cont.) by Peter Ford

Antics and Observations

As mentioned earlier, wind velocities could be quite high on Macquarie Island. To prevent some of the huts from being blown over, they were secured to the ground by cables attached to buried sleepers. These turned out to be a nuisance to bull elephant seals, particularly the beach masters. If another bull came near a harem of females that he was guarding, he raced to attack. Anything in the way was ignored, including his harem and the hut cables. Quite a few of the cables were stretched or pulled off the huts. Quite often, a harem would be established near a work hut. Negotiating around these could be hazardous to your health. One of our crew was squatting down to take a picture of those cute little black seal pups, but protective mother had other ideas. He finished up in the surgery with a rather nasty bite on his rear end. Care had to be taken while walking to and from the huts as bull seals liked to wallow in amongst the tussock grass and did not take kindly to being disturbed. Fortunately we could move faster than they.

The weather was always a source of interest whether it be high winds, snowstorms, fogs or heavy seas. On one occasion, the atmospheric pressure started to drop and drop. While this was not particularly unusual, the fall rate persisted over several hours and the recording pen on the barograph approached the bottom of the chart, which was 940 millibars (old system). Fortunately, the Met observer was awake and was able to offset the needle by 40 mb. The pressure continued to fall, eventually reaching 927 mb. This was way outside the normal range, which was 1000 plus or minus 40 mb. We braced ourselves for a major windstorm! However, the pressure slowly went back up again and nothing untoward happened. Very strange.

One morning we awoke to find seaweed strewn right across the sandy isthmus, evidence of waves being blown across overnight. We wondered if, one day, we would be cut off from the rest of the island.



Harem of elephant seals outside hut. [Photo: Peter Ford]



Dingy launched! [Photo: Peter Ford]

The temperature range at the island was typically between 1.5 and 7 degrees. Once we had a 10.5 degree day, the maximum for the year, so warm that we all stripped off and sunbaked. Got sunburnt, too! It was surprising how quickly one got used to permanently cold weather.

Snowstorms were fairly rare, if you could call it snow. Granular snow, more like soft hail. It coated the ground rather thinly. You could tell when a snowstorm was coming by the static it made on radio sets. Reception was always difficult at the best of times, we being 800 miles from the nearest station. Once, when I had disconnected the antenna from the set (it was left on to prevent corrosion), I heard a strange crackling noise coming from the vicinity of the wireless. From the end of the wire that stretched a 100 feet up nearby Camp Hill, a 5mm spark was jumping to the radio chassis. I was surprised that such a high voltage could be generated by a snowstorm. Never did see any lightening or hear thunder, though.

The biologists needed to take seawater samples occasionally. We did have a small dinghy and outboard motor. However, because the water was so cold, it was very difficult to start the motor. Many a time the boat was washed back onto the beach. We learnt to start and warm up the motor in a 44-gallon drum before mounting it on the boat and to keep it on idle when at sea. Late one day, we were some distance off the east of the island and did not notice that it was rapidly getting dark until we realised we could not see where land was. Although the wind blew predominantly from the west, it was not a reliable direction indicator. We were in trouble, not the least because of the reefs surrounding the island. One of the other scientists, who knew that we were still out there, had the presence of mind to turn on an outside light at the campsite. Then, at least, we knew which direction to go but the reefs were still a problem. Heading in, one of us looked over the bow, trying to spot them in the dark. Wishful thinking, because of our speed we could not have avoided a reef in time. We were travelling fast to get to shore before someone turned the light off. Luckily, no harm befell us, but we were worried.

Once, on a very still night, a fog enveloped the campsite. We heard strange thumps on the wall of the mess hall. Investigating, we found dazed dove Prions, a local bird, at the bottom of the wall. Apparently, being confused by the fog, they were attracted to the outside light and crashing into the wall, but not fast enough to damage themselves. We did, of course, turn off the light to prevent any more crashes. Experimenting, we found that we could "shoot down" the doves by using a torch. They would fly down the beam and land at our feet, staying immobile until the torch was switched off. Light entertainment?



ANTARCTIC WOMEN PATCHED

The September edition of ANARE Club's journal *Aurora* includes information about a Signature Quilt Project, 'A Patchwork of Empowerment'. Two quilts have been made up of calico squares all signed by Australian women firsts in a variety of fields, including Antarctic science and medicine. A full list of signatories is available at www.pioneerwomen.com.au/sigquilt.htm.

WINNING WRITER

Winner of the Australian Geographic Extreme South Young Writers' Competition is Victorian **Lauren Koehler**. Lauren is a RMIT Natural Resource Management student, her prize is 19 days in the Southern Ocean on Heritage Expedition's 'Birding Downunder' cruise.

ANTARCTIC ARTISTS

Women are in the majority as winners of this season's Australian Antarctic Arts Fellowships:

- **Danielle Wood** – to Macquarie Island for her second novel
- **Nin Brudermann** – for photos of and from weather balloons
- **Tom Low** – for nature writing and photos
- **Sue Lovegrove** – for visual arts
- **Ella Leane** – for studying links between science and literature
- **Bernadette Hince** – for natural history work and science editing.

Sadler's Court Gallery in Richmond, Tasmania, held an exhibition of work by **Jenni Mitchell**, who travelled to Antarctica as artist-in-residence aboard *Polar Bird* last summer.

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

'Breaking the Ice' was the theme of this year's Women Chiefs of Enterprise International's 2003 National Conference in Hobart in October. Speakers included **Julia Jabor-Green** from ACE CRC, and 4 members of the TPN provided 10-minute talks on their Antarctic-related businesses:

- **Jan Taylor** – Taylor Bros
- **Geraldine Edwards** – Moonraker
- **Judy Hennessey** – Aurora Designs
- **Anthea Wallhead** – Malcolm Wallhead & Associates

2003 STATION LEADERS

Two of the four station leaders at Australian Antarctic bases are women this year. **Karen Kristensen** will be in charge of Casey Station; **Joan Russell** at Mawson; **Graeme Beech** at Macquarie Island and **Bob Jones** at Davis.

Louise Crossley, on Macquarie Island, launched the sixth annual Global Learn Day on November 16 this year. The event is organised by the Benjamin Franklin Institute of Global Education and is an Internet-based 24-hour distance education conference involving presenters from 24 time zones.

NEW AT THE ACE

Katrina Nitschke has recently started work as the new Communications Manager at the Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre (ACE CRC) in Hobart, taking over from Dr Donna Roberts, who has returned to the research side of life.

Katrina was previously the Communication Manager for the CRC for Water Quality and Treatment in Adelaide, so is familiar with CRCs and their challenges and rewards, and has also spent time at CSIRO as a communicator. She can be reached on telephone (03) 6226 2265, mobile 0407 976 708 or e-mail katrina.nitschke@acecrc.org.au.

POLAR PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the Antarctic community in Tasmania were invited to comment on several Antarctic-related topics during November.

- The State Government's series of Antarctic Policy Forums concerning Commercialisation of Products and Services; Logistics and Provisioning; Fisheries; Conservation & Environmental Management; Infrastructure; Education and Training; Cultural Heritage; Tourism; and Information Sharing and Partnerships.
- The Macquarie Island Nature Reserve and World Heritage Area Draft Management Plan 2003.
- The initial Environmental Evaluation on replacing living quarters at Davis Station.
- Still open for public comment over the Christmas and Hobart Summer Festival time, is the strategic plan for the Sullivan's Cove area, which is a major site for Antarctic and Southern Ocean businesses.

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THE MARITIME IGLOO

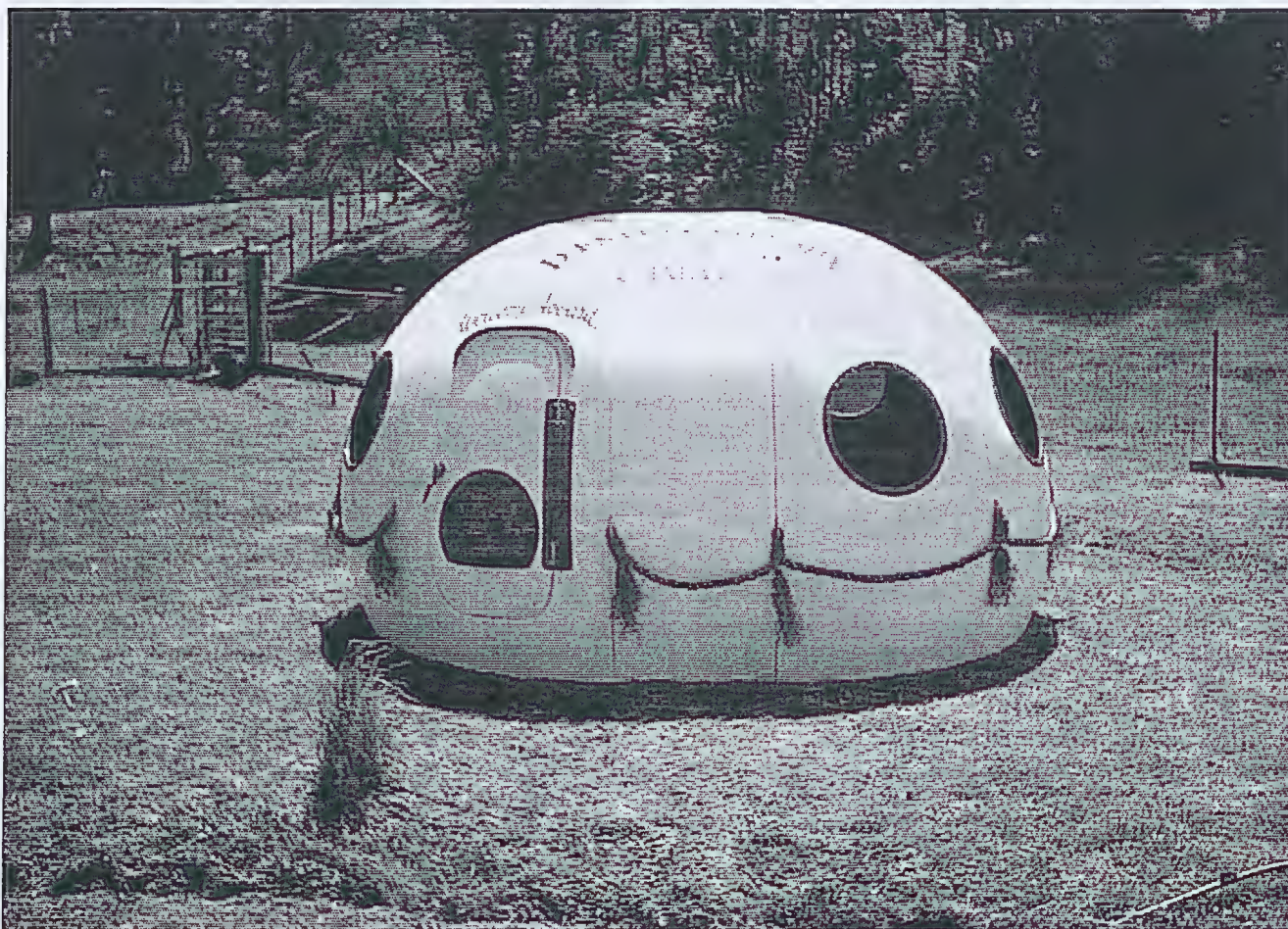
While most Ice Breaker readers are familiar with the polar version of the fibreglass Igloo Satellite Cabin, and some may be aware of the tropicalised version, very few people know about the Maritime Igloo, which is due to make its appearance in the D'Entrecasteaux Channel at the end of this year. Although its original designer, the late Malcolm Wallhead, considered the concept of an Igloo on a pontoon, no-one was adventurous enough until this year to order an Igloo, make adjustments to suit maritime conditions, design a pontoon and assemble the two into a unique, floating accommodation unit.

This adventurous person's name is Darren Lawless, owner of D'Entrecasteaux Channel Charters, a new tourism venture offering personalised day trips on the Channel for fishing, diving and sightseeing. Darren is a three star diver, familiar with the local waterways since childhood, and he is keen to provide cruises suited to small groups, rather than to large tour groups, who are offered little personal choice of attractions.

The prototype of the Maritime Igloo, easily recognisable with white panels and blue trim, will be moored near the Woodbridge jetty and used as a booking office for cruises in Darren's two boats. All major components of the Igloo and its pontoon have been made by local businesses, and Darren's lease of Crown land on the north side of the jetty approach means safe access to the pontoon from the shore.

After sea trials and design amendments to make the units fully self-sufficient, later versions of the Maritime Igloo will be on moored in sheltered inlets either side of the Channel.

For further details, contact Darren on channelcharters@bigpond.com or at www.channelcharters.bigpondhosting.com.



Work in progress - the Maritime Igloo waiting to be secured to its pontoon. [Photo courtesy Darren Lawless]

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BOOKS:

CHERRY: A LIFE OF APSLEY CHERRY-GARRARD by Sara Wheeler. Published by Jonathan Cape 2001. Price: Unknown

- A well-researched biography of the author of 'The Worst Journey in the World,' the story of Scott's tragic Antarctic expedition.

AUSTRALIAN ANTARCTIC SCIENCE: THE FIRST 50 YEARS edited by Harvey J Marchant, Desmond J Lugg and Patrick G Quilty. Price: \$95.00. Available from Australian Antarctic Division, email publications@aad.gov.au

- Specialists in the various fields of research write the chapters of this overview of Australia's contribution to Antarctic science, with introductory and closing sections by distinguished Antarcticans.

WAPUSK, WHITE BEAR OF THE NORTH by Dennis Fast with text by Rebecca Grambo. Published by Heartland Associates Inc. Price \$29.95 Canadian.

- A book of photographs of polar bears and other Arctic wildlife.

SOUTHERN QUEST: A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY FOR AUSTRALIAN ANTARCTIC SCIENCE. Written and edited by Peter Boyer. Published by the Antarctic CRC. For further details see www.anterc.edu.au

- An overview of the role of the University of Tasmania's Antarctic CRC and its future as the Antarctic, Climate and Ecosystems CRC, with superb photos and graphics throughout.

ICE BLINK by Scott Cookman. Published by Wiley and Sons. Price: \$34.95

- Traces the various causes of the failure of Sir John Franklin's 1845-48 expedition to find the North-West Passage linking the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.

MACQUARIE ISLAND, NATURE RESERVE AND WORLD HERITAGE AREA, Draft Management Plan 2003 prepared by Leslie Frost. Published by Parks and Wildlife Service Tasmania.

- Copies available at Service Tasmania Shops and at <http://www.dpiwe.tas.gov.au/inter.nsf/WebPages/SJON-58M6RX?open>

THE DISCOVERY OF GLOBAL WARMING by Spencer Weart. Published by Harvard University Press. Price: \$40.00.

- Describes the possible effects of the greenhouse effect on the future of civilisation, according mostly to USA sources.

VIDEOS:

WANDERERS OF THE DEEP – DOLPHINS AND WHALES, plus bonus book 'Whale Watching'. Price: \$59.97 plus postage. Contact Readers Digest for further details.

COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS IN ICE BREAKER (IB)

AAD – Australian Antarctic Division

AT – Antarctic Tasmania

TMAG – Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery

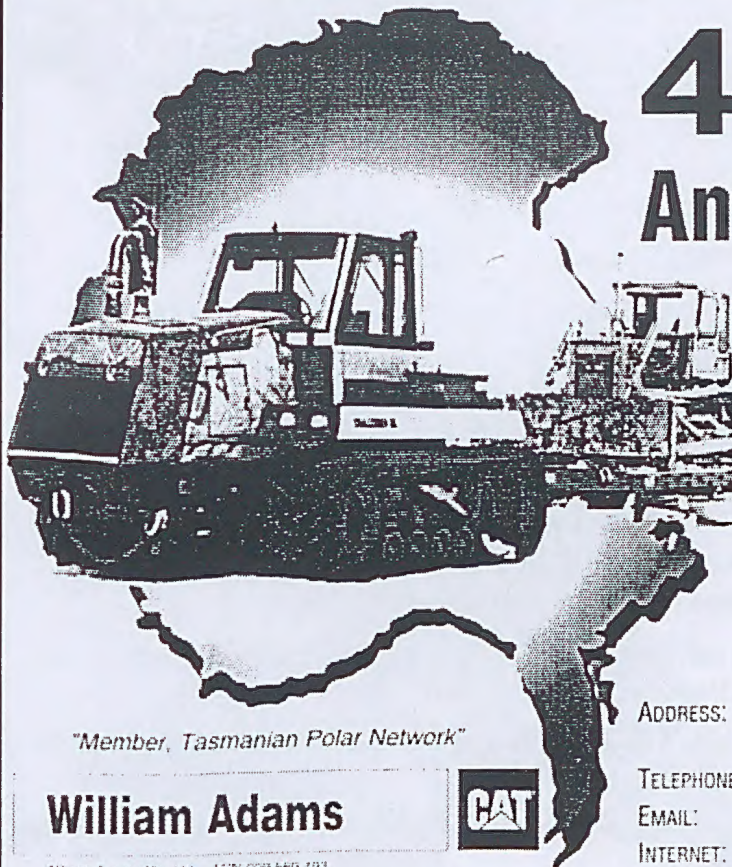
RTBG -- Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens

ACE CRC – Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems Co-operative Research Centre

CCAMLR – Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources

COMNAP – Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs

SCAR – Scientific Committee for Antarctic research



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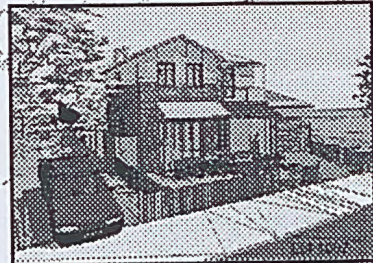
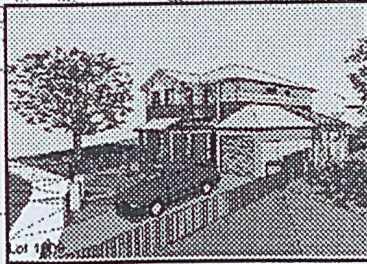
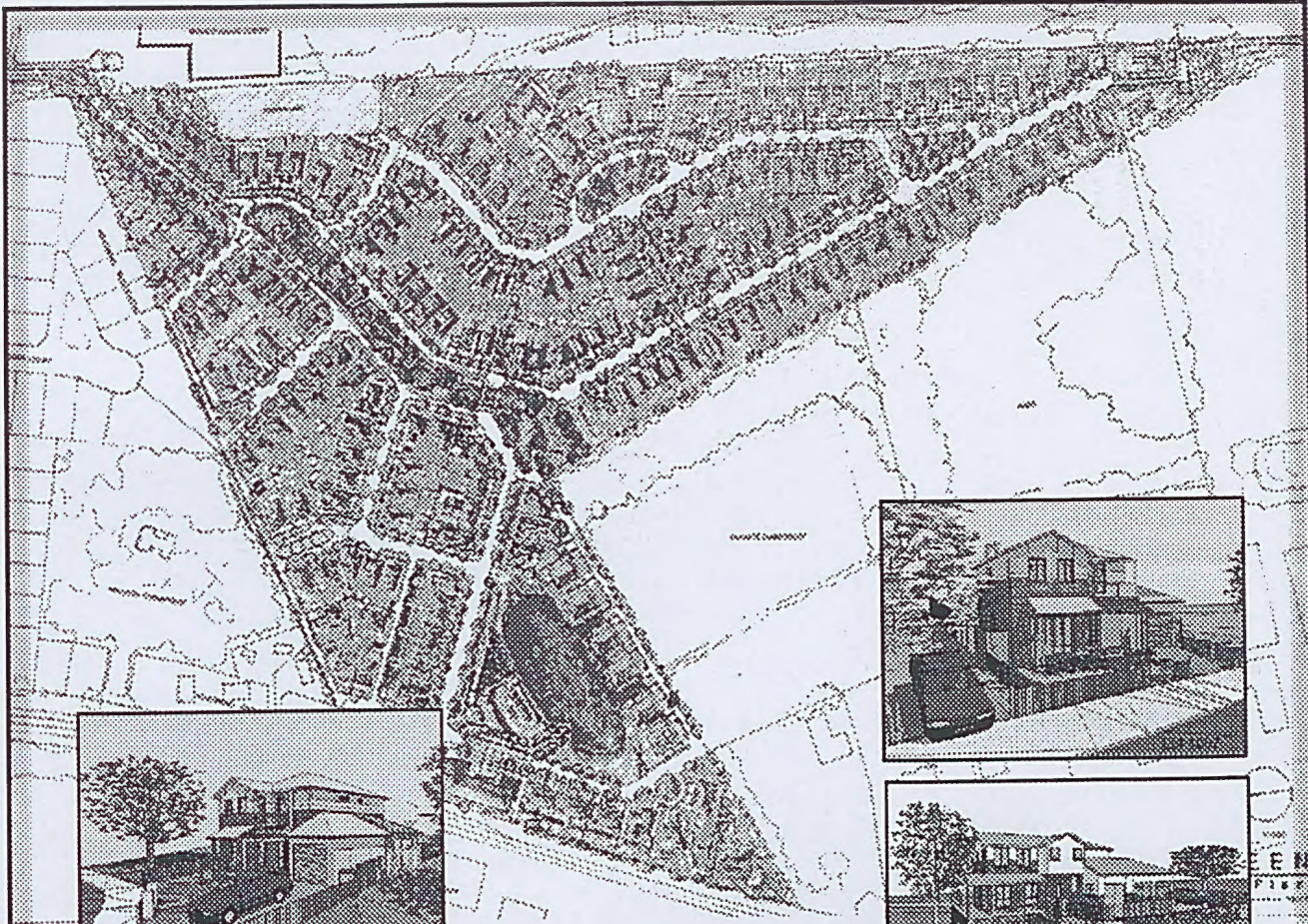
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1-4	December	2003	Deep Sea Conference. Queenstown, NZ
4-5	December	2003	Symposium of Polar Biology. Tokyo, Japan.
5	December	2003	TPN Meeting 11.00am –1.00pm. Hotel Grand Chancellor. Hobart, Tas.
5	December	2003	Last day for submissions to the 'External Territories Inquiry into the adequacy of funding for Australia's Antarctic Program'. Further info is available on http://www.apf.gov.au/house/committee/ncet/index.htm
15-20	December	2003	2 nd Meeting International Council for Science (ICSU) International Polar Year Planning Group. Paris, France.
20	January	2004	Antarctic, Sub-Antarctic and Southern Ocean policy development forum. Hobart Tas. Contact Antarctic Tasmania on 6233 5493.
?	February	2004	Skytraders takes delivery of the first CASA-212 aircraft to be used for the Hobart to Casey Base air link.
?	March	2004	Launch of Tasmania's new 'Antarctic, Sub-Antarctic and Southern Ocean Policy'. Hobart, Tas.
28	March	2004	Open Day, Marine Discovery Centre and Woodbridge School. Woodbridge, Tas.
27-30	April	2004	International Association of Antarctic Tour Operators (IAATO) Annual General Meeting. Christchurch, NZ.
3-5	May	2004	2 nd Malaysian International Seminar on Antarctica: Global Laboratory for Scientific and International Cooperation. Penang, Malaysia.
24-28	May	2004	Committee for Environmental Protection Meeting. Cape Town, S. Africa.
24	May	2004-	27 th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting. Cape Town, South Africa.
4	June	2004	
18-27	June	2004	Antarctic Tasmania Midwinter Festival. Hobart, Tas.
?	July	2004	International Whaling Commission meetings. Italy.
13-17	July	2004	International Symposium on Cold Region Development (ISCORD). Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan. Contact: sasaki@decnet.or.jp *
25-31	July	2004	COMNAP XVI and SCAR 28 Meetings. Bremen, Germany. Further details www.comnap16.org and www.scar28.org

**Topics to be discussed at next year's ISCORD include:* Cold Winter Environment and Human Evolution; How Experience in Cold Region Development Can Contribute to Developing Countries; Cold Regions and Global Warming; Design, Construction, Management and Rebuilding of Residential Environment, Architecture and Urban Areas in Cold regions; Design, Construction, Maintenance and Rebuilding of Infrastructure in Cold Regions; Educational Environment, Human Development and Industrial Development in Cold Regions; Industrial and Human Design appropriate for Daily life in Cold Regions; Regional Revitalisation through Tourism Development in Cold Regions; R&D of Renewable Energy and its Application in Cold Regions and Environmental Preservation and Waste Treatment in Cold Regions. Paper contributions on these topics are being sought. See <http://www.iscord2004.com> for further details.



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ANTARCTIC AND SOUTHERN OCEAN SHIPPING CALENDAR

2	December	2003	STHN. SUPPORTER V3	Departs Fremantle, W.A. for Heard Island.
2-6	December	2003	L'ASTROLABE	Arrives Hobart, departs for Antarctica.
3	December	2003	KAP. KHLEBNIKOV V2.1	Arrives Hobart, departs for Macquarie Is.
5-8	December	2003	AURORA AUSTRALIS V2	Arrives Fremantle, departs for Macquarie Is.
6-7	December	2003	KAP. KHLEBNIKOV V3.2	Macquarie Island.
8	December	2003	AKAD. SHOKALSKI V3.1	Arrives Dunedin, NZ.
11-16	December	2003	STHN. SUPPORTER V3	Heard Island.
11-20	December	2003	L'ASTROLABE	Dumont d'Urville.
18	December	2003-	AURORA AUSTRALIS V4	Departs Fremantle, Marine Science.
27	January	2004		
26	December	2003	STHN. SUPPORTER V3	Arrives Hobart.
26-28	December	2003	L'ASTROLABE	Hobart.
26-30	December	2003	VASILY GOLOVKIN V5	Arrives Hobart, departs for Casey Base.
27-28	December	2003	KAP.KHLEBNIKOV V3.2	Arrives and departs Lyttleton, NZ.
4-22	January	2004	L'ASTROLABE	Dumont d'Urville.
7	January	2004	AKAD. SHOKALSKI V5.1	Departs Bluff, NZ.
8-14	January	2004	VASILY GOLOVKIN V5	Casey Base.
10-11	January	2004	AKAD. SHOKALSKI V5.1	Macquarie Island.
16-17	January	2004	KAP.KHLEBNIKOV V4.1	Macquarie Island.
20	January	2004	KAP. KHLEBNIKOV V4.1	Arrives Hobart, departs for Macquarie Is.
21-27	January	2004	VASILY GOLOVKIN V5	Mawson Base.
23-24	January	2004	KAP.KHLEBNIKOV V5.2	Macquarie Island.
28-30	January	2004	L'ASTROLABE	Hobart.
30	January	2004	AKAD. SHOKALSKI V5.1	Arrives Bluff, NZ.
30	January	2004-	VASILY GOLOVKIN V5	Davis Base.
5	February	2004		
31	January	2004	AURORA AUSTRALIS V4	Zhong Shan.
1-3	February	2004	AURORA AUSTRALIS V4	Davis Base.
4	February	2004	AURORA AUSTRALIA V4	Zhong Shan.
6	February	2004	STHN. SUPPORTER V6	Departs Esperance, WA.
7-11	February	2004	L'ASTROLABE	Dumont d'Urville
12	February	2004	KAP. KHLEBNIKOV V5.2	Arrives Hobart
14-17	February	2004	AURORA AUSTRALIS V4	Arrives Hobart, departs for Casey Base.
15-19	February	2004	STHN.SUPPORTER V6	Heard Island
16-18	February	2004	VASILY GOLOVKIN V5	Arrives Hobart. Off-hire.
17-18	February	2004	L'ASTROLABE	Hobart.
25-28	February	2004	L'ASTROLABE	Dumont d'Urville.
26-28	February	2004	AURORA AUSTRALIS V7	Casey Base.
27	February	2004	STHN. SUPPORTER V5	Arrives Fremantle, W.A. Off-hire.
5	March	2004	L'ASTROLABE	Hobart.
5-11	March	2004	AURORA AUSTRALIS V7	Macquarie Island.
14-15	March	2004	AURORA AUSTRALIS V7	Arrives Hobart. Off-hire.

For updates: www.hpc.com.au/expected and www.aad.gov.au/goingsouth