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M43/024 : 03/06/86

ATTN:- TANNIE VAN STADEN

NEWSLETTER MAY '86  
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HI FOLKS

WE WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME YOU INTO OUR EXCLUSIVE CLUB. THIS CLUB CATERS ONLY FOR THE ADVENTUROUS. BUT FIRST ALL LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO OUR MEMBERSHIP:

ADRIAAN VAN ZYL	SENIOR METEOROLOGIST
MARK BENNETT	ASSISTANT METEOROLOGIST (DEPUTY LEADER)
ROBERT FAURE	ASSISTANT METEOROLOGIST
ANDRIES HEYSTEK	MEDICAL ORDERLEY
JOHN HEYSER	DIESEL MECHANIC
ANDRE VAN DER MERWE	RADIO TECHNICIAN
STEVEN CHOWN	ENTOMOLOGIST
NIEL GARTSHORE	ASSISTANT ORNTHOLOGIST
ALAN (ARCHIE) MOORE	RADIO COMMUNICATOR (LEADER)

FOR US MAY HAS BEEN A VERY BUSY MONTH. FOR MOST OF THE MONTH WE WERE STILL IN THE TAKE OVER PERIOD. DURING THIS TAKE-OVER A NEW SECTION WAS BUILT ONTO THE OLDER MARION BASE.

THIS NEW SECTION CONSISTS OF MANY SHOWERS AND A FEW BATHROOMS, WITH FACILITIES FOR LADIES. TWELVE NEW BEDROOMS WERE CONSTRUCTED TO ACCOMODATE THE REST OF OUR TEAM, WHO ARRIVE IN SEPTEMBER. THE NEW BASE IS VERY COMFORTABLE AND MOUSE FREE AS WELL. THE CONSTRUCTION OF THIS NEW SECTION WENT SMOOTHLY AND THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TEAM DID A FINE JOB CONSTRUCTING SUCH A LARGE BUILDING IN SUCH A SHORT TIME.

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MONTH ANDRIES, ANDRE AND TWO OTHER CHAPS, ROELF VAN ROOYEN (TECHNICAL OBSERVER FOR THE WEATHER DEPARTMENT) AND THE DOMINIE, PIET MARAIS, WALKED AROUND THE ISLAND TESTING OUR NEW RADIO EQUIPMENT. ROELF, WHO HAS BEEN HERE BEFORE, APPARENTLY INITIATED THE OTHER THREE BY TAKING THEM ON NIGHT HIKES, AND LEADING THEM THROUGH MIRES. AFTER EIGHT DAYS THEY ARRIVED BACK AT MARION HOUSE LOOKING VERY WET AND BEDRAGGLED.

ON FRIDAY THE 9TH WE HAD OUR FIRST TASTE OF MARION WEATHER. WINDS AVERAGEING 150K/M PER HOUR AND GUSTING OVER 190K/M PER HOUR. ON THE 12TH THE S.A. AGULHAS TOLD US OVER THE RADIO THAT THEY HAD HAD ROUGH WEATHER AT SEA AS WELL, WITH 20 METER SEAS AND WINDS REACHING OVER 100KNOTS (APPROX 190-200 KM/H)

ON THURSDAY THE 15TH WE CELEBRATED DR VALDON SMITH (UNIVERSITY OF THE O.F.S.) BECOMMING A PROFFESOR WITH A PARTY IN THE ONE LABORATORY. HE WAS CROWNED KING VALDON AND ALL HIS SUBJECTS TOASTED HIM TILL THE EARLY HOURS. THE ARRIVAL OF THE S.A. AGULHAS ON THE 16TH WAS VERY WELCOME, AS ON BOARD THEY HAD VIDEO TAPES OF THE FIRST RUGBY TEST BETWEEN THE SPRINGBOKS AND THE ALL BLACKS AS WELL AS THE F.A. CUP FINAL.

THE SHIP DEPARTED FROM THE ISLAND ON THE 22ND WITH THE USUAL RUSH, WITH EVERYBODY RUNNING AROUND PACKING IN THINGS THEY HAD FORGOTTEN WITH MANY LOOKING VERY SORRY FOR THEMSELVES, AND ASKING ALL THE WISPER TO THEM, AS THEY HAD BEEN CELEBRATING THEIR DEPARTURE FOR MOST OF THE NIGHT. ONCE THE SHIP HAD LEFT HE STARTED WITH A



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ROB HAS BEEN SEEN ASKING NIEL STRANGE QUESTIONS EVERYTIME NIEL COMES BACK FROM ONE OF HIS LONG WALKS. WE DISCOVERED THAT ROB HAS BEEN ASKING NIEL TO INTRODUCE HIM TO ALL THE BIRDS HE REGULARLY VISITS, SHAME, I WONDER IF ROB REALIZES WHAT SORT OF BIRDS NIEL SPENDS SO MUCH TIME WITH. HE EVEN WENT SO FAR AS TO SPEND MOST OF A COLD AND WET DAY WITH NIEL AT ARCHWAY BAY, WATCHING THE BIRDS.

ON THE 31ST WE HAD A REAL GOOD PARTY, CELEBRATING..... UMM LETS SEE, WHAT WERE WE CELEBRATING, REPUBLIC DAY.. THE SPRINGBOKS VICTORY OVER THE ALL BLACKS.. OH YES, ROOF WETTING OF THE NEW BASE. MARK TELLS US THAT WHEN HE CAME INTO THE BASE AT 0230 IN THE MORNING FROM THE UPPER AIR ROOM, HE FOUND ROB HAVING A PARTY ALL ON HIS OWN, THE REST HAVING FADED MUCH SOONER.

WELL FOLKS, THAT ABOUT SUMS UP THE MONTH OF MAY. BUT DONT GO AWAY, THIS FAIRY TALE CARRIES ON. THE NEXT EXCITING EPISODE WILL REACH YOU ABOUT FOUR WEEKS.

MARION GREETINGS TO ALL

MARION 43

WEATHER DATA FOR MAY:

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MAX TEMP	13,8 DEG C
MIN TEMP	-2,1 DEG C
MAX PRESSURE	1025,0 MB
MIN PRESSURE	970,2 MB
HIGHEST HOURLY WIND	36,4 M/S (72KNOTS)
HIGHEST WIND GUST	51,5 M/S (103KNOTS) BOTH ON 9TH MAY
TOTAL RAINFALL FOR MONTH	266,2 MM

WEATHER DATA SUPPLIED BY :- A. VAN ZYL  
NEWSLETTER BY :- A. MOORE