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MARION NEWS LETTER

SEPTEMBER 1989

GREETINGS TO ALL THE FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE MARION 46 TEAM.
HERE FOLLOWS THE LOCAL NEWS AND A COUPLE OF THINGS THAT OCCURED
DURING THE MONTH.

SEEING THAT THE SHIP HAS LEFT US ,THE WHOLE ISLAND IS AT PEACE
AGAIN FOR A CHANGE.SOME OF US SWALLOW THE LUMP IN OUR THROATS
WITH REALIZING THAT ONCE THE 'LITTLE RED SHIP' ARRIVES AGAIN,IT
WILL BE TIME FOR US TO RETURN HOME.THE NEW CAT TEAM AND SCIENCE
PERSONNEL ARE ADAPTING VERY WELL AND THERE ARE NO COMPLAINTS
FROM THEIR SIDE.'

SUMMER IS ON ITS WAY AND ALMOST ALL THE WILDLIFE HAS RETURNED TO
THEIR LITTLE SANCTUARY HERE ON THE ISLAND.THE SEALS ARE BREEDING
AND ALREADY THERE ARE PUPS TO BE SEEN ON VARIOUS BEACHES.THE SOOTY
ALBATROSS AS WELL AS THE GREYHEADED ALBATROS ARE IN MATING SEASON,
AND THE GIANT PETREL S ARE MOSTLY ALL ON EGGS.THE WANDERING
ALBATROS CHICKS WHICH HAVE BEEN WITH US FOR SOME TIME NOW ARE NOW
SHEDDING THEIR DOWN AND THERE ARE A COUPLE ALREADY WHO
ARE STRETCHING THEIR WINGS IN THE WIND LEARNING TO FLY.SO I SUPPOSE
IT WILL NOT BE LONG NOW BEFORE THEY DEPART TO SEA FOR SEVEN YEARS.

THE KILLER WHALES ARE BACK IN FULL STRENGTH AND UP TO EIGHT
SIGHTINGS HAVE BEEN RECORDED IN ONE DAY.A COUPLE OF KILLER
WATCHES HAVE BEEN ORGANIZED OF WHICH ONE WAS QUITE AN EXPENSIVE
EVENT FOR MARC AND MYSELF,SEEING THAT WE BELIEVED THE WATER WAS
COOL ENOUGH TO KEEP OUR BEERS COLD IT WAS NOT LONG BEFORE 22
BEERS WERE DRIFTING OFF TO SEA...'

WE HAVE ALSO HAD A SIGHTING OF SOUTHERN RIGHT WHALES ABOUT 200M
OFFSHORE AND I WAS TOLD THAT THEY ARE QUITE RARE IN THIS AREA.WE
HAVE ALSO HEARD THE NEWS THAT THE PENGUIN S TAKEN FROM HERE HAVE
SAFELY ARRIVED IN PRETORIA BUT ARE UNFORTUNATLY NOT ON DISPLAY YET.

THE CAT HUNTING IS GOING WELL AND THERE ARE ALREADY SIXTEEN ON THE
TALLY SHEET.
THERE ARE THE ODD HUNTERS THAT MANAGED TO LOSE THEIR BEARINGS
AND SLEPT IN THE COUNTRYSIDE,ONE OF THEM 500 M FROM HIS DESTINATION.
THE HUNTING AT BASE HAS BECOME A QUEST FOR THE HUNTERS AND SOME
OF THE BASE PERSONEL,FOR TWO CATS WHO APPEAR TO HAVE MORE THAN THEIR
ALLOTTED NINE LIVES. THAPPER JOHN ALIAS TADBY ALIAS ROBIN HAS BEEN IN
BUSINESS AND IT IS NOW NOT ONLY HIPS TO AVOID,PUT TRAPS AS WELL.

DURING THE MONTH WE HAVE HAD EXCEPTIONALLY STRONG WINDS,UP TO 150
KILOMETRES PER HOUR,WHICH CAUSED VERY STORMY SEAS.THE RESULT OF THE
HIGH SEAS WAS THE DISAPPEARING OF THE TRYBOT ON TRYBOT BEACH AND THE
SEARCH FOR IT CONTINUES AS DOES THE SEARCH FOR THE BEERS.'
DURING THE WINDS PETR SYKOPA S ANTENNA S FOR HIS HAM STATION GOT A
BIT DEFORMED,ALTHOUGH THIS DID NOT PUT HIM OFF AND A COUPLE OF
DAYS LATER HE HAD CONTACT WITH ICELAND FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE
HE HAS BEEN LICENCED SEVEN YEARS AGO.'

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NEWLETTER CONT.

A LITTLE BIT MORE ON THE LIGHTER SIDE OF THINGS, AN AUSTRALIAN SHIP THE ADVENTURER PASSED US ON THE 23RD SEPTEMBER AND AT FIRST MOST OF US THOUGHT IT WAS A JOKE BEING PLAYED ON US AGAIN. ALTHOUGH ONCE WE SAW IT WAS TRUE EVERYBODY WAS YELLING AND GRABBING CAMERAS WITH LENSES THAT WOULD MAKE A PROFESSIONAL SHY. VINCE, OUR RADIO OPP, WAS ON THE RADIO AND WITH ENCOURAGEMENT FROM OTHER MEMBERS INVITED ALL THE FEMALES ON BOARD FOR A PARTY. UNFORTUNATELY THERE WERE NONE. THE SAME QUESTION WAS ASKED OF US.

A PRAAT WAS HELD WHILE THE CAT-HUNTERS WERE IN AND BELIEVE ME IT WENT DOWN VERY WELL.

THAT SAME NIGHT WE HAD A MARION NEIL ARMSTRONG WHO'S WALK WAS VERY SIMILAR TO HIS ON THE MOON. NAMES ARE EXCLUDED- OWNERS COPYRIGHTS.

ACCORDING TO SUSPECT SOURCES THERE IS A GHOST IN THE WATER-TUNNEL AREA WHO LOCKED GLEN IN THE HUT. SEEING THE BOOKS THAT GLEN READS I DO NOT BLAME THE GHOST.

WALKING AROUND THE ISLAND SEEMS TO BE FULL OF EVENTS. SAMPLE (SEAL PROGRAM) SAW A CAT, STALKED IT FOR APPROXIMATELY 200M ONLY TO FIND IT WAS IN A TRAP.

WE HAD THE DOUBLE BIRTHDAY OF GLEN AND MARC IN THE BEGINNING OF THE MONTH. ONE WHICH MARC WILL NOT FORGET VERY SOON. HE SEEMS TO THINK THAT I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS DOWNFALL. LITERALLY AND PHYSICALLY SPEAKING. SINCE THEN SOME RATHER FUNNY OCCURENCES HAVE BEEN HAPPENING, LIKE SEEING RUSSES DRIVING AROUND IN PAINTINGS, PLAYING FRISBEE IN THE NINES (DIRTY STORIES) AND EVEN STARTING TO WEAR BRACES BECAUSE IT IS THE FASHION. I WILL NOT COMMENT ON SOME OF THE REPLIES THAT WE RECEIVED FROM HOME AFTER SENDING PHOTOS AND VIDEO TAPES BACK.

WELL! FOLKS THAT ABOUT CONCLUDES THIS MONTHS NEWS LETTER SO HERE IS THE WEATHER DATA.

MAX TEMP	14.5 DEG C
MIN TEMP	-3.1 DEG C
AVE TEMP	1.3 DEG C
AVE HUMIDITY	84 PERCENT
TOTAL RAINFALL	155 MM
HIGHEST DAILY RAINFALL	21MM ON THE 11TH
AMOUNT OF RAINY DAYS	26
DAYS WITH SUNSHINE	24
TOTAL SUNSHINE	37.1 HOURS
AVE DAILY SUNSHINE	2.7 HOURS
LOWEST PRESSURE	967.7 HPA ON THE 22ND AT 12H45
HIGHEST WINDGUST	130 KPH AT 19H55 ON THE 22ND

WEATHER DATA SUPPLIED BY HENDRIK SWART (SENIOR MET) AND NEWS LETTER WRITTEN BY STEPHEN NAUDE (DIESEL MECH)

RS