



# Digitising humanities of an extreme environment?

Antarctic Legacy of South Africa preserving historical human interaction records; documents and images can lead to a better understanding of humans in an extreme environment.

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## Composition of Repository

### 2009 – 2017

Mostly material of a human nature  
A collection and interview of a specific person  
Images with:  
• Human structures  
• Humans and their activities  
• Human artefacts

Images and documentation up until 2009

### 2017+

Material from heroic age until present  
Digitising of the documents previously not available online (re Newsletters, SAJAR)

### 2018 -2020

Identifying environmental features on images  
Environmental pictures become part of a collection  
Geographic information such as longitudes and latitudes will be added  
Specific geographical features (re name of a hill) will become part of metadata

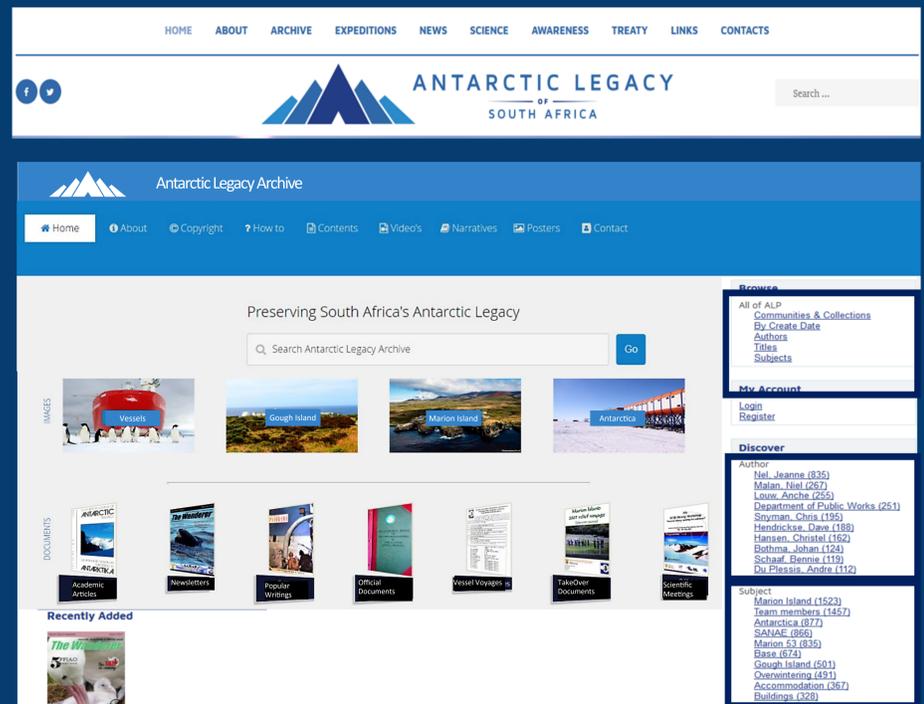
## Assessment of Material:

### Considerations:

- The archive is not comprehensive of all the years that South Africa is involved, the tendency is to rather collect a large amount of material, than not have anything at all
- Environmental analysis can be done with images if a comprehensive database covers all years
- Images need to be described in detail, if not possible the images will be added with a timeframe and the contributor and later research can lead to descriptions
- A research project in the humanities can lead to the analysis of images on the archive

### Access to Repository

- Open access policy
- Material may be used for research and academic purposes
- Retrieval through metadata
- Material can be downloaded and metadata can be exported



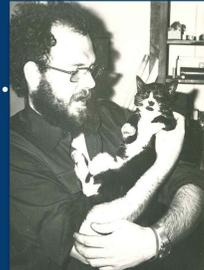
# HUMAN — MATERIAL — PRESERVE — VALUE — LEGACY

Story of: Prof Marthán Nieuwoudt Bester (Marion Island Marine Mammal Programme – Pretoria University). 40 years devoted to science. One human's life influence on Science, Environment and People

### Sealer



### Scientist



### Friend



### Mentor



### Cat Hunter



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Published by ALSA

Marthán Bester at ALSA office - Scanning slides and adding Metadata



Narrative—Quote  
PROEBER SLEGS JUL, BESTE  
DIT IS DIE EENIGSTE MANIER WAAOP  
ONS VAN DIE KATTE ONTSLAË GAAN RAAK!  
"HAPPINESS IS A CONFIRMED KILL."  
"PAIN FORMS THE CHARACTER"

Transcription (Afrikaans language)  
V: Nou wat was die lekkerste deel van katjag dan?  
A: Dit moet wees, vir my was om die kat te skiet.  
V: Is dit?  
A: Ek is nie 'n ... Ek sal nie katte nadelig beïnvloed nie, jy weet. Hulle spring baie keer op my skoot, as ek by mense is. Dan sê almal 'ja, as daai kat net weet wat ons weet'.

### Newsletter



### Scientific Articles (excerpt from ALSA bibliography)

South African Journal on Antarctic Research	
1975	Notes on the tagging of seals on Marion and Gough Islands.
1978	The mammals of Marion Island: a review.
1979	A note on winter seal observations in the South Atlantic pack ice.
1981	Fur seals <i>Arctocephalus gazella</i> and leopard seals <i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i> at the Courbet Peninsula, Kerguelen.
1982	An analysis of the southern elephant seal <i>Mirounga leonine</i> breeding population at Kerguelen.
1986	Summer presence of leopard seals <i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i> at the Courbet Peninsula, Iles Kerguelen.
1986	The second survey of Antarctic fur seals <i>Arctocephalus gazella</i> on the Courbet Peninsula, Iles Kerguelen.
1988	Is onshore human activity a factor in the decline of the southern elephant seal?
1990	Population trends of Subantarctic fur seals and southern elephant seals at Gough Island.
1990	Continued population increase in fur seals, <i>Arctocephalus tropicalis</i> and <i>A. gazella</i> , at the Prince Edward Islands.
1991	South African Research on Antarctic Seals.
1991	The Marion Island cat programme.
1993	Predation on king penguins by Antarctic fur seals.
1994	The diving behaviour of adult southern elephant seal, <i>Mirounga leonina</i> , cows from Marion Island.



## CONCLUSION:

Humans are the contributors of documents, images and narratives.

Humans are an essential part of science and research.

Countries involved in the Antarctic need to preserve their human legacy.



Go ARCHIVE

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Digital repository available at [www.antarcticlegacy.org/archive](http://www.antarcticlegacy.org/archive) (SCAN QR Code to go here)

