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MARION NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 1990

THIS MONTH WAS CHARACTERIZED BY TRIPS AROUND THE ISLAND. PETR, MARC, GLEN, ANTON, AND HENDRIK ALL WENT AROUND. GLEN WENT ON A QUICK FIVE DAY JAUNT THAT COINCIDED WITH CHRISTO'S BIRTHDAY. THIS WAS ALSO THE HIGH POINT OF HIS TRIP. MORE OF THIS LATER. MARC SAYS HE OBTAINED CEHA.

NC RIAAN STRANGELY. DURING MARC'S TRIP HE OBTAINED PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE OF RIAAN IN THE ACT OF TEACHING A MACARONI PENQUIN THE RUDIMENTS OF KARATE. PETR SAYS HE ENCOUNTERED NO PROBLEMS LUGGING HIS VIDEO EQUIPMENT AROUND THE ISLAND. HE GOT SOME GREAT FOOTAGE FOR HIS TROUBLE. ANTON MET UP WITH CHRIS ON HIS WAY BACK FROM HIS TRIP. THE TWO OF THEM THEN HAD THE GREAT FORTUNE OF SEEING ABOUT A HUNDRED PILOT WHALES. A RARE SIGHTING INDEED.

PADDY VINCE, HENDRIK, JERRY, CHRIS AND PETR ALL VISITED THE ICE-PLATEAU DURING THIS MONTH. FIRST TO GO WAS HENDRIK AND JERRY. THEY FOUND ICE CAVES AND TOOK INTERESTING PHOTOS. NEXT TO GO WAS PADDY AND VINCE. THEY ALSO FOUND ICE CAVES, BUT DIFFERENT ONES THAN HENDRIK AND JERRY'S. ALL THIS ICE PLATEAU TALK GOT PETR VERY INTERESTED. HE CONVINCED A VERY RELUCTANT CHRIS AND VINCE TO ACCOMPANY HIM. THEY HAD TO HELP CARRY THE VIDEO EQUIPMENT. WELL WHAT'S TO BE WRITTEN ABOUT THEIR TRIP, EXCEPT THAT THEY RETURNED WITH ABOUT FIVE MINUTES OF VIDEO FOOTAGE OF A MOSTLY MOLTEN ICE PLATEAU. CHRIS HINES TALK OF THE TRIP IS A AMUSING EXPERIENCE.

THIS MONTH HAS ALSO SEEN TWO BIRTHDAYS. FIRST ALONG WAS CHRISTO (ROOIBAARD). HIS BIRTHDAY WAS CELEBRATED BY GLEN, MARC, ANDRE BOTHA, DIRK AND RIAAN. THEY ALL GOT TOGETHER AT SWARTKOP HUT FOR THE OCCASION. PETE'S BIRTHDAY AT CAPE DAVIS WAS A MUCH QUIETER AFFAIR AS HE PREFERRED SPENDING IT ALONE. THE PARTY BACK AT BASE OF COURSE WAS NOT A QUIET AFFAIR. THIS WAS ON SATURDAY THE 24TH.

KILLER WHALE SIGHTINGS ARE GETTING FEWER AS ARE THE NUMBERS OF A LOT OF OTHER ANIMALS. THIS IS NORMAL WITH THE APPROACH OF WINTER. A FEW ADULT AND SUB-ADULT MALE ELEPHANT SEALS REMAIN ON THE BEACHES. THE GAZELLA FUR SEAL PUPS HAS WEANED AND THE TROPICALIS FUR SEALS ARE STILL AROUND IN FAIR NUMBERS. THE ROCKY PENGUIN CHICKS ARE GETTING BIGGER BY THE DAY AND THE KING PENGUINS HAVE FINISHED MOULTING.

COOKING AT BASE DURING THE LAST MONTH HAS BEEN VERY GOOD. I HAVE EXPERIMENTED WITH VARIOUS PUDDINGS AND AM NOW ACCUSED OF SABOTAGING THE WEIGHT WATCHING EFFORTS OF SOME TEAM MEMBERS.

NEWSLETTER BY RICHARD GREEN

WEATHER DATA TO FOLLOW.

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE	8,4 DEGREES
HIGHEST TEMPERATURE	18,7 DEGREES C
LOWEST TEMPERATURE	1,5 DEGREES C
TOTAL SUNSHINE FOR THE MONTH	159 HOURS
AVERAGE DAILY SUNSHINE	5,7 HOURS
DAYS WITHOUT SUNSHINE	ONLY THE 23RD FEBRUARY
HIGHEST RAINFALL DAY	27 MM ON THE 23RD FEB
TOTAL RAINFALL FOR THE MONTH	73MM
TOTAL RAINFALL DAYS	15
AVERAGE PRESSURE	1014,8 HPA
AVERAGE HUMIDITY	82 PERCENT
AVERAGE SEA TEMPERATURE	6,5 DEGREES C

WEATHER DATA SUPPLIED BY HENDRIK SWART (SENIOR MET).

Handwritten signature and date: 1990-02-02