Dear People at home,

We had a great time ashore this morning. The sun came out and we got some good photos of all 4 types of penguin and the Albatross nesting sites. We also saw several other types of geese and ducks including the Falklands Steamer. The oyster catchers were eating crabs. We also saw a 15ft whale skeleton above the high tide mark and a glorious long sandy beach with big waves that the penguins were surfing. The Rock Hopper penguins lived up to their billing and we enjoyed watching them enter and leave the sea as the waves came crashing in.

**Sadly the weather is turning quickly and a big storm is brewing that will hit the region on 30/31st.**

So the captain has decided to abandon the Falklands early and has just set course at full speed for South Georgia - which is 2.5 days and 700 miles east of here. We are currently north of west Falklands travelling due east.

There is a possibility we may have dock in Stanley later today to get official papers sorted - but we will not go ashore. It is hoped that they will not require us to stop and we can sail past, getting an electronic clearance to the leave the Falklands.

The Tanoy has just announced that whales have been sighted near the ship - we will go on deck to see if we can photo them.

Anyway - enough for now.

BTW - the plan now is to rush to South Georgia and hide in the lee of the islands before the storm arrives.