Dear All

So we get some time to ourselves. We are rocking and rolling as the pressure drops and the waves roll. White caps everywhere, people falling over, the plastic mugs have been brought out replacng the China ones , but it is still sunny.

We did go out for a nearly 2 hour zodiac cruise this morning and managed to find a leopard seal on a low ice floe. We went right round him viewing him from every angle, and he didn't slip into the sea. They are remarkably snake like as they slither about, they are very long and slim and their faces are also very like a snake. Then we saw a couple of craabeater seals. They were young (not many scars yet) and very pretty. Their heads are very like a dog, pointed and with whiskers.

Wow! a huge wave has just soaked/splashed our bedroom window. And we are on deck 4. The port holes below us are shut when it is really bad.

After lunch the captain took us on a ship cruise through Graham channe l which was pretty and everyone was called out on deck and the front bow was opened for a while till the wind started to really get up and we started to roll.

I will go up to the bridge and see what is going in there.

Best wishes

Ruth x

Dear all,

We left the Antarctic peninsula at lunchtime yesterday and sailed through the Gordon Channel with spectacular mountains and ice/snow backdrops. We are heading north back to Ushuaia.

Out at sea the wind was up to 60mph and whipping the water off the tops of the waves. Yet the sun shone all afternoon.

The prevailing winds are from the west and as we go north the waves and wind is broadside to our port side - where our cabin is. Thankfully during the evening the winds subsided a little. We had a rocky night but slept OK.

Sarah says a big storm is coming on Tuesday. That is OK as we should be in the shelter of the Beagle Channel late on Monday and docking in Ushuaia before breakfast Tuesday.

This morning is cloudy, the white horses are fewer and the wave height not so impressive ;-)

**Crossing the Drake**

"I find the greatest thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as is which direction we are moving. To reach the port of heaven, we must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it, but we must sail, and not drift, nor lie at anchor" - Oliver Wendell Holmes

0800 - 0900 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room (Deck 3)

0930 Presentation: **'Save the Albatross'** will be presented by our ornithologist **Liliana** in the Main Lounge

1130 Presentation: **'British Imperial Expeditions to International Polar Science '** will be presented by our historian **Justine** in the Main Lounge

1230 - 1330 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room (Deck 3)

1400 **Ocean Diamond Cinema** - Join us in the Main Lounge for a screening of **Mr. Poppers Penguins**

1545 **Afternoon tea** is served in The Club (Deck 4 aft)

1600 Presentation: **'Beyond Bases**' will be presented by our penguinologist **Tom** in the Main Lounge

1730 Join the Expedition Team for a **Recap & Briefing** in the Main Lounge

1830 Come to the Main Lounge to join us for a **Toast to Antarctica & Charity Auction** in support of **Penguin Watch.**

1930 - 2100 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room (Deck 3)

After Dinner - Join **Liliana** in the Club for a casual bar talk **Pantry Essentials for a Polar Scientist** …followed by an evening of Classic Rock n' Roll!