19th February 1990

2,832 miles to go

Early this morning the wind finally came aft. Unfortunately it dropped as well. Then I made mistake number three: we headed south again, thinking that the Low was passing over us as it showed on the Russian Ice Station chart. WRONG! It was just beginning and I should have worked that out, I have been using these useless weather faxes for long enough; L’Esprit worked it out and they went north.

We ended up too close to the centre with no wind. I figured we could do the Great Circle route and wait for the next Low to go over without realising. We are really stuffed now.

Funnily, it was a lovely day for sailing; the wind dropped this evening. L’Esprit have taken another 17 miles. We have to start they get caught out going up the coat of Argentina; there is a small chance of that.

I don’t know if the crew are fed up with my bad decisions, but they cannot be as angry as I am with myself right now. I am going through a period of self-loathing!