22nd February 1990

2,059 miles to go

Well, it finally looks like the Southern Ocean down here: massive swell and waves with a very impressive sky with huge hanging grey clouds, 30 knots of wind with us hurtling along with a poled-out Blast Reacher. Bloody love this kind of sailing! Dawn gybed this morning and the wind has come a little more forward. We should go round the Horn on Saturday night or Sunday morning. I still can't get any weather charts from Buenos Aires.

I have started trying Antarctica again. I found out from the other boats that the New Zealand weather charts are wrong. Great; all the boats using them have done badly. All the boats doing well are using alternative satellite images.

Steinlager and F&P went round the Horn yesterday, NCB Ireland will go round today with a whole load of others. I just hope we don't end up going round in the dark with 70 knots; which would be our luck round about now.