

2nd January 1990

I called up NCB Ireland to wish Paul a Happy Birthday only to find out they have broken their boom – again! They are very fed up indeed. We are now in another high pressure system. The strain of being so close all the time is getting to me. I know I had covered myself in Australia by telling people that I thought we probably couldn't win this leg but now here we are with a good chance.

I am anxious that we do not fall into a hole with no wind and throw the chance we have away. But I am much more confident in myself that we can win this one. My old neck problem has started so I know I am stressed.

Miles to go: 1,271



