

HEARD ISLAND DX ASSOCIATION

HIDXA PO BOX 90 NORFOLK ISLAND SOUTH PACIFIC 2899

AMATEUR RADIO AND SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION TO HEARD ISLAND

Dear

As a private group of radio-amateurs and scientists, we are aiming to undertake an expedition to Heard Island in the South Indian Ocean during January and February 1983.

Heard Island is a rarely visited, ice-covered island of about 25 km in diameter and dominated by a nearly 3000m high volcano. The remnants of the ANARE (Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions) buildings, abandoned in 1955 are surrounded by seals, penguins and other Antarctic birds.

A DX (long distance) radio contact with a station on Heard Island is of specific interest to hundreds of thousands of radio-amateurs (not to be confused with CB-ers) around the world, as a confirmation card (called QSL-card) of such a contact is regarded as a much sought after rarity. Such a card from Heard Island is the second 'most wanted' in the world, after Chinese.

Due to its remote location, the island is also of great interest to many meteorologists, glaciologists, marine and terrestrial biologists and geologists etc.

As a means of transport to the Island, H.I.DX.A. has negotiated a charter of the ex whale-chaser CHEYNES II, now based in Hobart, Tasmania. This vessel is particularly suitable for such a voyage. The vessel of 160 ft. length is steam-powered (max 1876 SHP), is ice-strengthened and is currently undergoing rework for survey as a deep sea trawler and salvage vessel.

We are planning to steam from Hobart via the southern route near the Antarctic Continent to Heard Island, and stay on the island for about two weeks. The return route takes us straight back to Hobart. During the stay of the main party on Heard Island, the vessel would be free for survey work in that region.

H.I.DX.A. is a non-profit organisation, and expeditioner/members will contribute equally towards the basic charter costs of CHEYNES II. There remain many additional costs such as fuel, accommodation (tents), food, etc. The logistics are considerable for a group of 18 amateur radio operators and scientists.

We are seeking your positive approach to assisting the H.I.DX.A.S venture in whatever way you can. A great deal of local and international publicity will be given to the expedition, as we will reserve berths to a film crew and journalists. The international interest through amateur radio will be extensive, and already a few expeditioners from overseas have joined us. The ABC-TV News has already commenced coverage of the plans.

A small booklet is enclosed to outline some of the factors regarding Heard Island. Your interest is very much appreciated and H.I.DX.A. looks forward to your support.

Yours sincerely,

J.B. SMITH
President
H.I.DX.A.

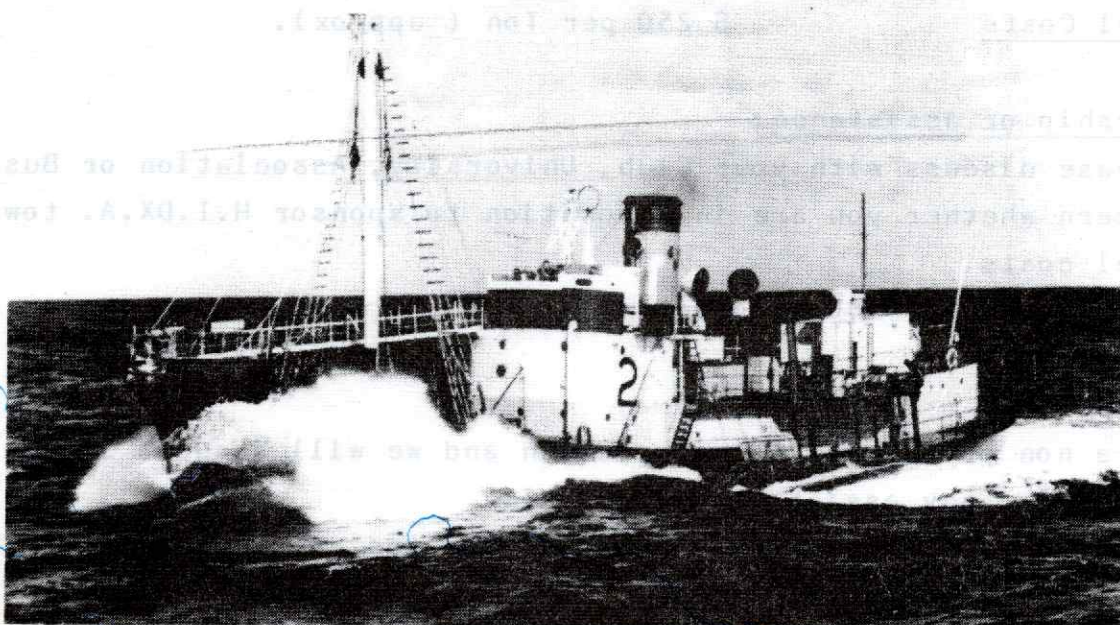
SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

There are two ways in which the scientific programme will be performed.

- a) By including scientists as participants of this expedition.
 - b) performing scientific projects for outside institutions.
- 1) At the date of writing we have arranged participation by 3 members of the University of New England, being Professor H. Heatwole, Zoology Department, studying the ecology of soil organisms and organisms living in mosses and lichens;
Dr. J.M.B. Smith, Geography Department, studying the flora distribution and seed dispersal in comparison with other sub-Antarctic islands;
Miss D.A. Ward, zoology assistant.
 - 2) Contributing to the marine science programme of the Antarctic Division (Department of Science & Technology). Marine biological studies will be performed and samples taken of the deep sea trawls made by the owners of the CHEYNES II.
Robert T. Jones, Veterinary Surgeon employed with the Department of Agriculture will join this expedition for that programme.
 - 3) On behalf of the Bureau of Meteorology, we will replace the automatic weather station on Heard Island and carry out weather observations for the duration of the expedition.
 - 4) For the Antarctic Division Glaciology section the automatic weather station will be either repaired by Mr. S. Jongens, ex A.N.A.R.E. Electronics Engineer, or retrieved - depending on the condition of the station.
 - 5) For C.S.I.R.O. Atmospheric Physics Department, an air sampling programme is negotiated.

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AN AMATEUR RADIO and SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION to HEARD ISLAND DURING JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1983 ***** FUEL SPONSORSHIP.

As you may have read in the various Amateur Radio, Newspaper and other outlets the above vessel is under charter agreement with the H.I.DX.A. for our expedition to Heard Island (sub Antarctica) this coming summer season.

Eighteen Expeditioners will form a multi interest, disciplined group, fully prepared for the rigours of a long sea voyage and a 14 day stay on the island - completely self supported in this hostile area.

Whichever interest is pursued by the individual expeditioner, it promises to be a very exciting and demanding period. Each expeditioner shares equally the basic charter costs at \$3,000 each.

Some Details of the vessel and voyage are:

<u>Name of Vessel</u>	CHEYNES II
<u>Description</u>	An ocean going, ice strengthened, ex whale chaser with 37 accredited voyages to the Antarctic areas.
<u>Length</u>	160 Feet.
<u>Tonnage</u>	441 Gross registered Tons.
<u>Propulsion</u>	Steam Powered- Oil burning-1900S.H.P.
<u>Distance</u>	Round trip voyage to and from Heard Island 5,740 N. Miles.

<u>Steaming Time</u>	At 10 knots - 25 Days approx.
<u>Fuel Consumption</u>	3 Tons per day(10 Knots)- 240 n.miles
<u>Total Consumption</u>	75 Tons (6000 n.miles approx).
<u>Fuel Capacity</u>	170 Tons
<u>Emergency Fuel</u>	It is impossible to consider a voyage to and from Heard Island without adequate fuel reserve. We plan to carry around 150 Tons.
<u>Fuel Costs</u>	\$ 250 per Ton (approx).

Sponsorship or assistance;

Please discuss with your Club, University, Association or Business concern whether you are in a position to sponsor H.I.DX.A. towards fuel costs.

1 TON of Fuel = 80 n. miles.

H.I.DX.A.

Is a non profit making association and we will issue a special receipt for any assistance with fuel.

This receipt will carry the amount donated and the distance the Cheynes II steams as a result of your assistance.

We are sure you will agree this is a very unusual and demanding expedition, a considerable amount of Scientific study is being carried out.

We also feel that the CHEYNES II is putting something back into the Antarctic area, this voyage to Heard Island is a peaceful and very International one.

Your interest is appreciated and if you can help please do so.

Donation

H.I.DX.A.(Fuel Account).
c/o Commonwealth Banking Corporation.
Burnt Pine,
Norfolk Island, Australia 2899.

Solicitors

Dowd, Hobart, Tasmania,Australia.



Many thanks,

J.B. Smith
President,
H.I.DX.A.