

# Transcript of Worsley's Navigational Log Book

Brad Morris (you may contact me thru the NavList)  
Version 3.0 25Jan2017

Any transcription errors remain my own.

This text is difficult to read and I am writing what I see. It may not be correct.

The spacing of characters is not exactly as shown.

Each page is kept separate, as it is in the log.

## KEY

- ☒ A character I cannot read
- {☉} Lower Limb of Sun Symbol
- {\*} Midpoint of Sun Symbol (line thru middle of sun)

## Note:

- (1) the log has now been updated with the missing data, 30 April 1916 thru 3 May 1916
- (2) the log has now been corrected via traverse calculations
- (3) I have received a better image of page 99, 4May thru 6 May 1916. This changes almost all of the illegible characters to legible!
- (4) For Monday 8 May the breezes are listed as NNWEWNW. Worsley did NOT use punctuation here. It could read NNW E WNW, but other combinations occur. This was a note to himself, not a record for us. It would have made sense to him for his DR.
- (5) After carefully re-reading the handwritten log and the Dennett transcription, I have modified the text associated with 24 April 1916.
- (6) Added journey planning feature ahead of 24April1916
- (7) Modest changes to some characters as equation checks provide clarity.
- (8) Typographical errors on 7May and 26April found and corrected.
- (9) Updated planning data for 29April based upon equation checks
- (10) Updated a single character for 4May, based upon analysis of Robin Stuart.
  - a. Was "DR N45°E40<sup>m</sup> 49.5 49.5 = 88"
  - b. Now is "DR N45°E70<sup>m</sup> 49.5 49.5 = 88"

Cape Belsham 61°4'S 54°50'  
 46'W of Wallis 54°4' 39°0'  
                   420 950  
 Cos M Lat 57°34' = 9.729.42  
 Log D Long 950 2.977 72  
                   12.707 14  
 -Log D Lat 420 2.623 25  
 =Tan Co =N50°30'E10.083 89 -

Sec C 10.19649  
 +logDLat 2.62325  
 =Log Dist 2.81974 = 661  
                   To Wallis= 27  
                   688  
                   To Leith Harb 62  
                   750

Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>

Wild Camp for Rating Chron

			<u>192</u>
Slow 10.51			262
24.40.1	{⊙}	8°21 ½' AM	☒☒☒☒ No Obs for Lat
+ 1 53		61 . 4	315.34 cd be obtained +
24 41 54		102.51 ½	011.03 Long. Of C. Belsham being
21. 4.35		172.17	827.95 only approx <sup>ly</sup> known to
3.37.19		86. 8 ½	990.05... us, allow 1minute+4sec more
54°19'.45"		77.47	144 37...slow = <u>11<sup>min</sup>55<sup>sec</sup></u> slow

11

Took departure from Wild Camp in "James Caird" at 12  
 Steered NNE 8<sup>m</sup> then E1<sup>m</sup> to a break in the stream ice here being  
 E+W. Mean of courses to noon on 25<sup>th</sup> = N64<sup>m</sup>Wind to 4<sup>P</sup>WNW  
                   to 6A.SE to North  
                   tuesday to noon West 6-

Tuesday April 25<sup>th</sup>

North 64<sup>m</sup> from CWild = WSW 6 o'cast 60°0'S 54°50'  
 High NW swell cross seas  
 Chron 192 April 25<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>M</sup>0" slow losing 5 sec  
                   26<sup>th</sup> 12 5  
                   27<sup>th</sup> 12 10  
                   28<sup>th</sup> 12 15  
                   29<sup>th</sup> 12 20  
                   30<sup>th</sup> 12 25

Wednesday April 26<sup>th</sup>

DR N45E110 = 77.8 77.8 = 153	59°50'	58°42' 52°17'
2.23.29	☒☒	NE
26 7	2.26.6 {☉}15°50 AM	59°46' 50°49'
<u>30 10</u>	+ 2.15 59 50 298.85	
19.46	2 28.21 103.32 012.23	
2.26.35		16°28'
Fast 29	23 6.11 179.12 843.93 WSW gale	16 37
<u>2.26. 6</u>	3.22.10 89.36 982.33 sq. cloudy	73. 20 ☒
☒☒☒☒☒☒	50°32'30" 73.46 137 34 Heavy Seas	<u>13 32</u> ☒
	+ 16	59 47.44
	50.48.30	

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April

Chron 192/262	12 <sup>m</sup> 10 <sup>s</sup> slow	59°46' 50°48'
	N <sup>ly</sup> gale o'cast + misty squally	

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April

59°52'S 50°0'W allowing AM o'cast PM cloudy  
 Light NW to fresh W<sup>ly</sup> o'cast+misty  
 High NW swell  
 1<sup>m</sup>4' more slow for rating from Wild  
 Camp = 50°16' Chron 12<sup>m</sup>15<sup>s</sup> slow 59°52' 50°16'

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April

6° 43'		
16 . 52. 30		58.42' 48°40'
3 . 7. 30	N35E85DR 24hrs	
14. 29. 45	12 9.8 6.9 = 13	58°38' 50°0'
<u>58. 37. 45</u>	27 <sup>m</sup> W. of Wallis	27 <sup>m</sup> W Wallis
24. 59. 5	=54°4'39°0'	N53E 458m
+ <u>2. 42</u>	58.38 50.0.	to Leith <u>90</u>
25 1 47	274 660=365.8	548
21. 39. 41	174.37` 671.74	☒☒
3. 22. 6	87.18½ 986.83 56 184.5	Fresh W <sup>ly</sup> to WSW breeze
50° 31 34	75. 57½ 958.21 57 <sup>s</sup> 179.7	Cloudy+misty High
	4.8	Lumpy sea
	2.6	
	183.4	

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April

N	58.38	50° 0
DR N35°E 78 mile 63.9 44.7 = 84	<u>57.34</u>	<u>48.36</u>

Hove to SW/S gale Heavy sea o'cast

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May

DR	23+19=35	57.34	48.36
N40°E 30 <sup>m</sup>		<u>57.11</u>	<u>48.1</u>

drift SSW mod gale heavy lumpy sea  
Boat lying to sea {**anchor symbol drawn here**} heavily iced up. o'cast

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

N50°E 45 <sup>m</sup>	Strong SW/S breeze	57.11	48° 1'
o'cast lumpy sea	28.9. 34.5	<u>56.42</u>	<u>46 58</u>

Wednesday 3<sup>d</sup> May

SW/S to W/S mod br A chron 12 <sup>m</sup> 40 <sup>s</sup> slow	56°42'	46°58'
N55°E 85 48.8 69.6 = 125	<u>55 53</u>	<u>44°53'</u>
Slow 46	<u>56°13'</u>	<u>45°38'</u>
24.27.9	11°14' {⊙} AMN38°E 12 = 12'E	
24.27.55	56.23 256.78	Bird I To W.P. <sup>1</sup> B.I. N63°E 294
+ 3.11	105.40 016.44	54°0'S 38°0'W To Leith Harb <u>53</u>
24.31.6	173.17 767.75	56.13. 45.38 <u>347</u>
21.27.44	86.38 ½ 985.76	133. 458=262
3. 3.22	75.24 ½ 026 73	66

45°50½ W -12 ½ E = 45°38'W

Blue sky passing cloud

PM Mod WSW to SSE light mod sea. S ly swell. Fine clear weather Able to reduce some parts of our clothing from wet to damp

1916 -  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May

DR N45°E 70 <sup>m</sup> 49.5 49.5 = 88						<u>56.13</u> <u>45.38</u>
Chron A N50°E 5 <sup>m</sup> 3.2N 3.8E = 7'				55°23'		<u>55.23</u> <u>44.10</u>
25.6.26 {⊙}	15°26'30"AM	eye 10 ft		15 59 16		<u>55°31'</u> <u>44.43</u>
Slow 12.45	<u>9.30</u>			71.22.16		N36E 52 41
				18 37 44		
				<u>10 44</u>		
25.19.11	15°36'			18° 27		Bird I <sup>s</sup> N69E 250m
+ 3.18	55.34	247.61				Leith Harb. <u>53</u>
25.22.29	<u>105.58</u>	017.09				<u>303</u>
27.23. 8	177. 8	398.18	SE mod breeze			
2.59.21	88.34	980.52	B.C Fine+clear	mod sea		
44°50'13"	72.58	643.40				

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May

SE fresh breeze squally o'cast lumpy						<u>55.31</u> 44 .43
confused sea SW swell clear ☒						1. 1 2. 7
DR N50° E90 <sup>m</sup>						<u>54°30</u> <u>42.36</u>
Wallis 54°4'S 38°14'W						
Breeze fairly to 8PM when					Bird Is	N79°E 163
Shifted to NNE light and gusty					Wallis	N80°E 155

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Mod NW gale o'cast clear weather						54° 30' 42°36
lumpy N <sup>y</sup> sea 1PM hove to sea to heavy						<u>4</u> <u>52</u>
to carry on						<u>54° 26' 40°44</u>
DR N30E 16	13.9 8.0		54 4	38 14		
to 1PM S80E 58	10.1 57.1		22	150	Wallis I <sup>d</sup>	
	3.8N 65.1E				N76E 91 <sup>m</sup>	

1916  
Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May

NNW gale High N<sup>w</sup> sea

Hove to till 1AM then carr<sup>d</sup> on again for  
the land. Mod NW/N w sea + high

54°26' 40°44'

3 1 4

NW swell. BC to 6 A when it became foggy

54°23' 39 40

DR S60° E 12<sup>m</sup> 6.5 10.4E

N70° E 28 9.6 26.3

54°38' 39°3'6

Slow 13<sup>m</sup>0<sup>s</sup> 16.1 36.7

25.24.51 {⊙} 16°55 AM ☒☒.44

Bird I<sup>d</sup> NE56° 68<sup>m</sup>

+ 3.32 54.39 237.64

Leith Harb 53

25.28.23 106.49 018.98

121

22.48.19 178.23 149.45

2.40. 4 89.11½ 978.88

40° 1' 72.16½ 384 95

Most unfavorable con-  
ditions for obs<sup>ing</sup>. Misty with  
boat jumping like a flea  
+no limb for early AM  
sight. Noon lat prob  
ably correct within  
a 10 mile limit

23.19.38 {\*} 7°21' AM

+ 3.32 54.41½ 238.09

23.23.10 106 47½ 018.92

20.44.22 168.50 988.08

2.38.48 84.25 988.84

39°42' 77. 4 233 93

30 16

5.10.14 26 {⊙} 9°49' P.M. N68°E 14<sup>m</sup> 5.2 13.0 = 23'

+ 13 54° 8

5.23.14 9°57

Lat proved to be correct within  
about

+ 3.33 54.33 236.58

^2<sup>m</sup> Long. ditto but chron was

5.26.47 106 52 019.10

much slower than I had

2.50 3 171.22 876.62

allowed which made us

2.36.44 85.41 986.40

about 20 <sup>mile</sup> so distance further

39°11' 75.44 118 70

astern than ob<sup>n</sup> showed

25

39.34 Noon

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May

Mod to strong NNWEWNW breezes o'cast	54° 38 39 34
misty and foggy with some clear intervals	<u>19</u> <u>2</u> <u>32</u>
W <sup>ly</sup> + N <sup>ly</sup> swells + lumpy confused sea	<u>54°.19</u> 37. 2
DR N78°E 90 <sup>m</sup> 18.7 88.0 =152	

12.30 PM sighted land about 9<sup>m</sup> ahead, extending 2 miles off Bad Reef

*{ Here Worsley sketches what he can see of South Georgia Island, noting another "island to the NE", a "Big Bay to NE of this Island", a "Glacier" between two mountain peaks and finally that "Bad Reef extends 1<sup>m</sup> N.W of Id" }*

3P.M. stood off Star tack                      wind NxE 5-6 OMR  
From 2<sup>m</sup> off shore                              Heavy W<sup>ly</sup>swell  
  Very bad lumpy confused sea  
Stood by for night wind WNW increase.g to a gale with  
Rain snow sleet + hail