

# Transcript of Worsley's Navigational Log Book

Brad Morris (you may contact me thru the NavList)

Version 2.2 6April09

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

<b>T</b>	A character I cannot read
<b>{☉}</b>	Lower Limb of Sun Symbol
<b>{*}</b>	Midpoint of Sun Symbol (line thru middle of sun)

## The log only contains entries for the following dates

Monday April 24<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday April 25<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday April 26<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April  
Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April  
*Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April*  
*Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May*  
*Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May*  
*Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May*  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May  
Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May  
Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May  
Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May

## 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.

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

Wild Camp for Rating Chron

			<u>192</u>
Slow 10.51			262
24.40.1	{☉}	8 <sup>o</sup> 21 ½' AM	<b>TTTT</b> 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>ty</sup> known to
3.37.19		86. 8 ½	990.05... us, allow 1minute+4sec more
54 <sup>o</sup> 19'.45"		77.47	144 37...slow = <u>11<sup>min</sup>55<sup>sec</sup></u> slow

Took departure from Wild Camp in "James Caird" at 11 / 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 + North  
tuesday to noon West 6-

Tuesday April 25<sup>th</sup>

North 64<sup>m</sup> from CWild = WSW 6 o'cast 60<sup>o</sup>0'S 54<sup>o</sup>50'  
High NW swell cross seas  
Chron 192 April 25<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>M</sup>0" slow losing 5 sec  
262 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 = 147	59°50'		<u>58°42' 52°17'</u>
2.23.29	TT	NE	
26 7	2.26. 6 {⊙}15°50 AM		<u>59°46' 50°49'</u>
<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 <b>T</b>
<b>TTTTT</b>	50°32'30"	73.46 137 34 Heavy Seas	<u>13 32 <b>T</b></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	<u>59°46' 50°48'</u>
	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			<u>58.42' 48°40'</u>
3 . 7. 30	N35E85DR 24hrs		
14. 29. 45	12 9.8 6.9 = 13		<u>58°38' 50°0'</u>
<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>	58.48 285.65	58.38 50.0.	to Leith <u>110</u>
25 1 47	104.28 013.99	274 66 <b>T</b> =3.63.8	548
21. 39. 41	174.37` 671.74		<b>TT</b>
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 57.34 48.36  
Hove to SW/S gale Heavy sea o'cast

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May

DR 57.34 48.36  
N40°E 30<sup>m</sup> 23+13=35 57.11 48.1  
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 56.42 46 58

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 55 53 44°53'  
Slow 46 56°13' 45°38'  
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 53  
24.31.6 173.17 767.75 56.13. 45.38 347  
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 40 <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>		
				18° 27'		
25.19.11	15°36'				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>55.37</u> <u>44 .43</u>
confused sea SW swell clear T						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' 44°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 **TT.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  
misty and foggy with some clear intervals  
W<sup>ly</sup>+ N<sup>ly</sup> swells + lumpy confused sea  
DR N78°E 90<sup>m</sup> 18.7 88.0 =152

54° 38 39 34  
19 2 32  
54°.19 37. 2

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