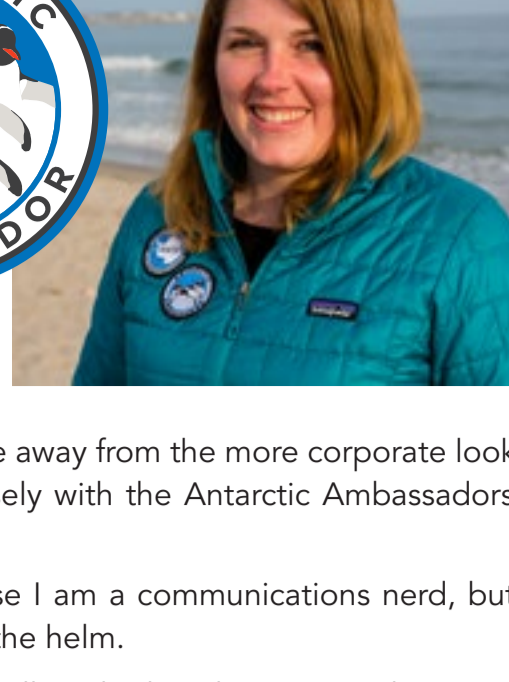
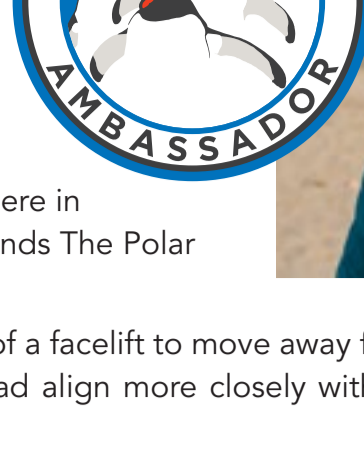




Dear Field Staff colleagues,

Antarctic Ambassadors is going its own way – well, in a manner of speaking at least.

Over the coming months, across IAATO and Antarctic Ambassador channels, you will start to see more field staff-led content; from our 'Meet an Antarctic Ambassador' profiles on Instagram and Facebook and blogs on IAATO.org and Linkedln, to science and research news here in Freeze Frame; brought to you by our friends The Polar Citizen Science Collective.



This newsletter will also be getting a bit of a facelift to move away from the more corporate look of IAATO's other publications and instead align more closely with the Antarctic Ambassadors brand.

I am really excited about this change, and not just because I am a communications nerd, but because of the potential this e-publication has with you at the helm.

We want to make Freeze Frame essential reading for you all – whether that's expanding your network by introducing you to other colleagues in the field, sharing with you learning and developments or giving you a platform from which to ask a sea of fellow experts a question (see Help Wanted, below), we want you to see your monthly e-mail as a must-read.

If you've got any ideas of your own for Freeze Frame, I'd love to hear them. [Email me here](#), and enjoy the first edition of your new must-read monthly.

Hayley Collings

Communications and Engagement Manager
International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators

Dream Job Alert!

IAATO is looking for an exceptional candidate to join the Secretariat as **Operations Manager**.

The successful applicant will work with Lisa Kelley, Director of Operations and Government Affairs to support member Operators throughout the year in their goal to maintain and encourage IAATO's mission of promoting safe and environmentally responsible travel to Antarctica.

The Operations Manager monitors Operator feedback on the day-to-day implementation of policies, programs and procedures, and liaises with the Director of Operations and Government Affairs to evaluate the feedback, make decisions for operational activities, and set strategic goals for the organisation. The Operations Manager supports the work of committees and working groups to enhance or create new programs and procedures which will further IAATO's mission.

Applicants should submit a CV/résumé and cover letter explaining your motivation for the job to recruitment@iaato.org with 'Operations Manager' and your name in the subject line. **Applications for this position will not be considered without a CV, cover letter and application form.** Please include the names and contact details of three references in your covering letter. Qualified candidates will be asked to participate in a profile assessment as part of the interview process.

[Find out more](#) and [apply here](#).

Meet the 2019/20 Port Lockroy Team

This year's Port Lockroy team consists of (l-r) Lucy Dorman, Vicky Inglis, Kit Adams, Lauren Elliott and Heidi Ahvenainen (front).



Lucy was a member of the 2016/17 Port Lockroy team. She returned south the following season working on the expedition team of one of the leading Antarctic tour operators. For the last 12 months Lucy has been providing maternity leave cover for the Antarctic Operations Manager in Cambridge. Having spent a year in the UKAHT office she is excited to get back to Port Lockroy.

Joining Lucy will be **Vicky Inglis**. Vicky has recently been working seasonally as a countryside ranger, specialising in public engagement. She has also worked as a deckhand and wildlife guide on a traditional sailing vessel. Vicky will be responsible for the Wildlife Survey along with other duties whilst at Port Lockroy.

Also joining the team is **Kit Adams**. Kit is a keen mountaineer and ski tourer so whilst working in a Swiss boarding school he took the opportunity to get involved with Expeditions program and the Ski department. Kit will be our official Port Lockroy Postmaster this season, taking care to ensure the 80,000+ postcards get to their destination.

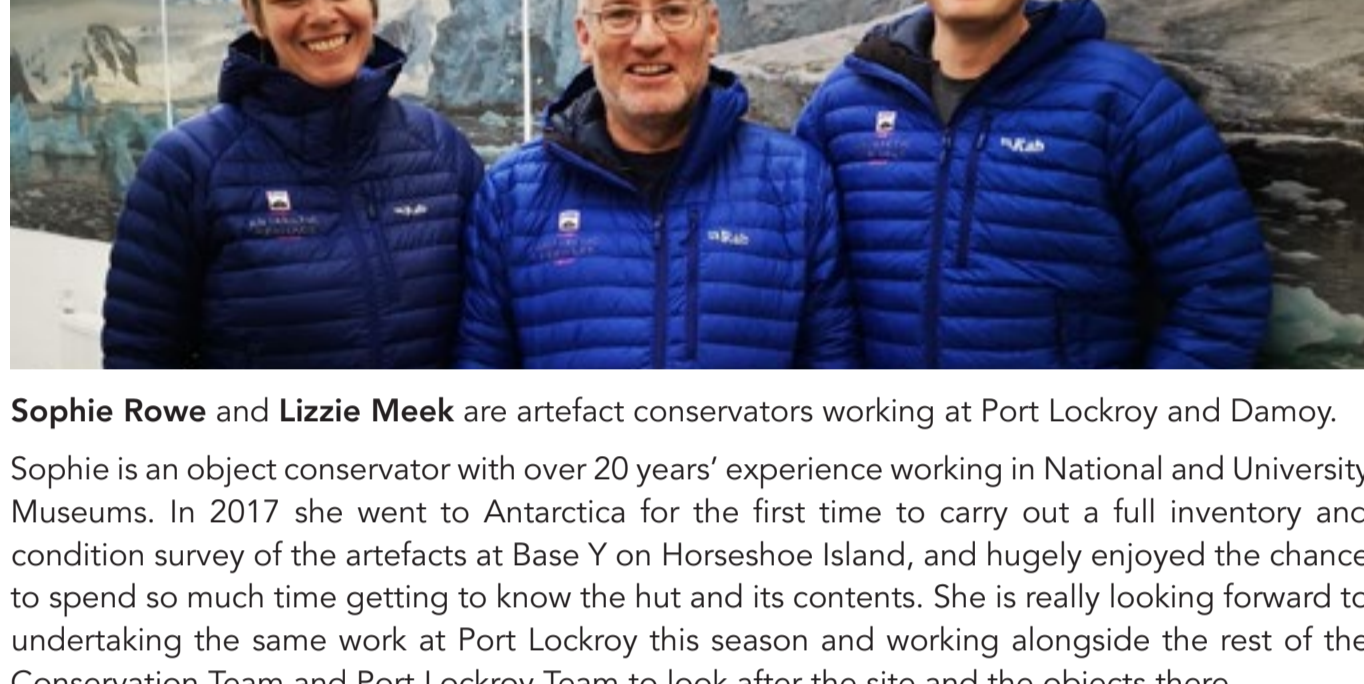
Lauren Elliott will also be joining this year's team managing the shop at Port Lockroy among other things. Lauren has an incredible amount of experience in customer service, visual merchandising, stock management and managing a very busy store. Lauren can't wait to see how things work at Port Lockroy and how she can bring her experience to the operation.

Our final team member is **Heidi Ahvenainen**. Many of you will recognise Heidi from last season as she was the Base Leader. Heidi will return to Port Lockroy in January 2020, coming in to help the team out, at what is usually a very busy time.

The team are all very excited about the upcoming season and are looking forward to welcoming you all at Port Lockroy.

Meet the conservation team

l-r Sophie Rowe, Geoff cooper and Nathan Fenney



Sophie Rowe and **Lizzie Meek** are artefact conservators working at Port Lockroy and Damoy.

Sophie is an object conservator with over 20 years' experience working in National and University Museums. In 2017 she went to Antarctica for the first time to carry out a full inventory and condition survey of the artefacts at Base Y on Horseshoe Island, and hugely enjoyed the chance to spend so much time getting to know the hut and its contents. She is really looking forward to undertaking the same work at Port Lockroy this season and working alongside the rest of the Conservation Team and Port Lockroy Team to look after the site and the objects there.

Lizzie Meek is currently the Programme Manager – Artefacts for the New Zealand Antarctic Heritage Trust. For the past eleven years, Lizzie has led and worked with teams conserving the heroic era expedition bases in Antarctica, including the winter at Scott Base.

Nathan Fenney – photogrammetry. Based in Cambridge, UK, Nathan is a Geomatics Specialist with the Mapping and Geographic Information Centre (MAGIC) at the British Antarctic Survey (BAS). Nathan provides geomatics support for both science and operational teams working in the Polar Regions. In 2018, as part of the UKAHT conservation team Nathan was deployed to Stonington Island to undertake the 3D data capture of the site. He aims to capture Port Lockroy, Damoy and Wordie House this coming season.

Geoff Cooper – Conservation Project Manager. Geoff leads the Port Lockroy and Damoy in addition to carrying out the building conservation surveys and conducting any necessary emergency repairs.

Finally, why not check out the [Port Lockroy Team's weekly blog](#).

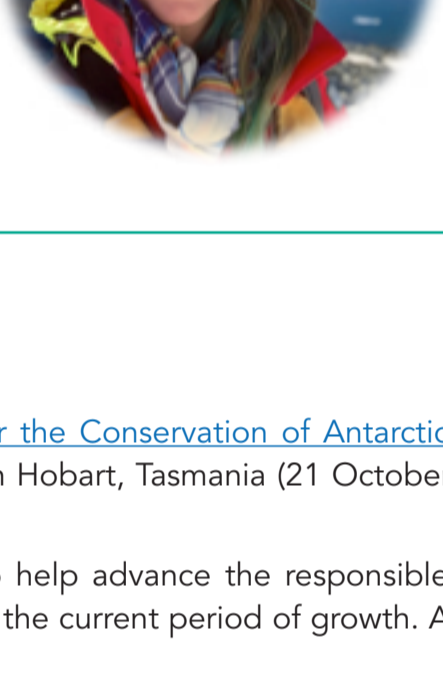
Help Wanted

Allison Cusick asks...

Does anybody have any favorite examples or analogies for explaining genetics and sequencing workflow to a completely non-science audience? I know baking is a common example... But what else?

[Reply to Allison here](#)

Got a question for Help Wanted? [Email the Freeze Frame team](#).



CCAMLR and SC-CAMLR

IAATO was at the recent 38th Meeting of the [Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources \(CCAMLR\)](#) and Scientific Committee in Hobart, Tasmania (21 October – 1 November).

IAATO applied for Observer status at the meeting in 2018 to help advance the responsible management of human activity across Antarctica, particularly in the current period of growth. A more detailed report will be sent to IAATO members soon.

Many of you will have seen [in the news](#) that proposals to establish three new Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and research and monitoring plans for existing MPAs were deferred for another year. Read CCAMLR's Press Release about the meeting [here](#).

News from The Polar Citizen Science Collective

We made it – the long-awaited season has begun. Like the penguins, we are busy, establishing our routines for these first trips: there are boxes to unpack, offices to be set up, information material to be posted, seasonal updates to become familiar with, and then, what about testing that on-board citizen science programme? But how to manage that in addition to the many daily tasks you have... Here is the trick:

START SMALL; there are projects you can do that require very little time.

Take [Polar Tag](#) for example: Tags, such as rings on a bird's leg or a tag on a seal's flipper allow scientists to study important ecological questions, such as general distribution and migration patterns, lifespan, survival and population health. All we need to do to help is photograph any tags we see and submit them to [Polar Tag](#). The team there then locates the tag owner, i.e. the responsible scientist/organization and shares information about the photographed animal with the submitter, making our wildlife encounters a tiny bit more personal. Instead of a seal with a tag, we can suddenly talk about 'a five-year-old old female Weddell seal calling Cierva Cove her home'. It really can't get much easier than that. Download a flyer to post on board [here](#).

Another really easy and fun project is the [Secchi Disk Study](#) measuring the amount of phytoplankton (algae) in the water. All you need is the Secchi app on a smartphone and a white Secchi disk (which you can even build yourself - see instructions in the Secchi app). You can do this project easily when out on a Zodiac cruise. Simply have a guest lower the Secchi disk over the side of your Zodiac and record at which depth the disk disappears out of sight, upload your measurement in the app, done in around 5min. At the same time, you have a great starting point for a conversation about the Antarctic food web and the global importance of phytoplankton.

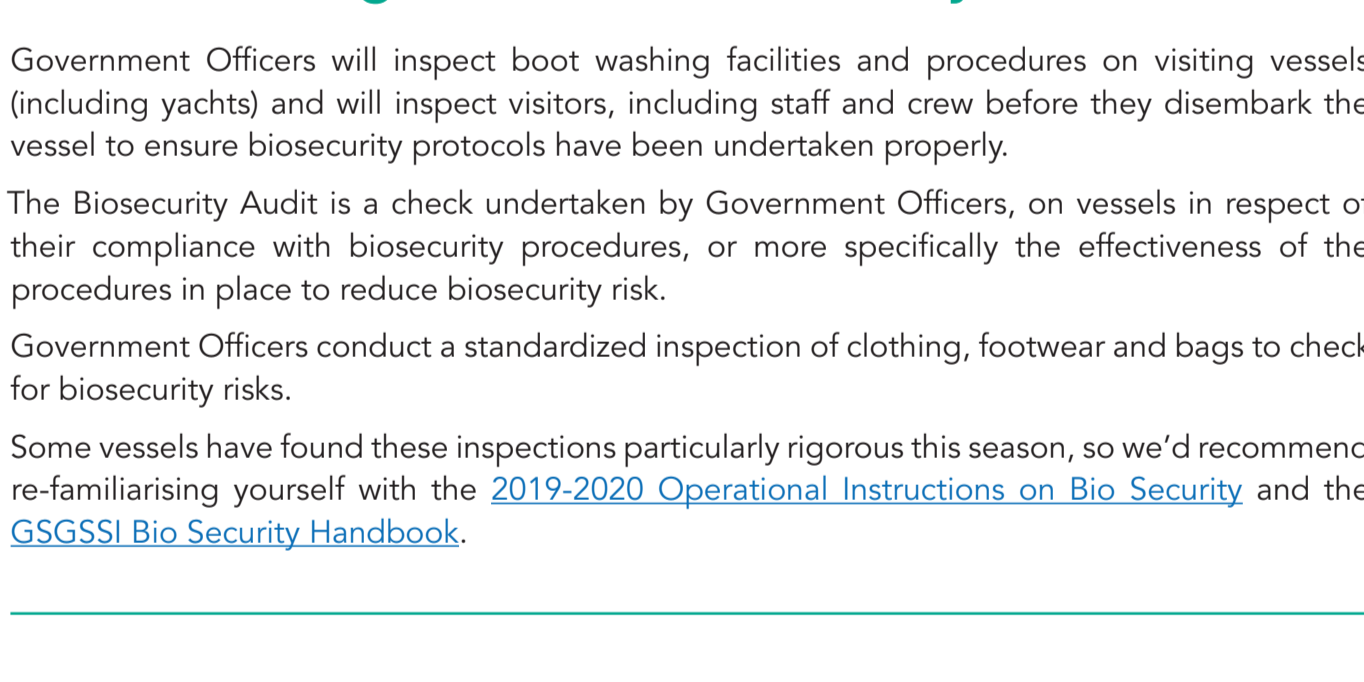
You can [view your uploaded data](#) within the next 48h. A really nice hands-on project for the guest and at the same time it provides important information to a worldwide study measuring the changes of phytoplankton density as a result of climate change.

Guests love these kinds of projects, no matter how many or few, how easy or complicated. Give it a try and you will see the reward is fantastic. It gives our guests the feeling of being more than a visitor; of giving back to the places we visit during our trips, the places we want them to get so deeply connected with.

For all you citizen science champions out there we recommend checking that all your apps are up to date before heading South.

As always, the Polar Citizen Science Collective is here to help you be successful. For any questions, [drop us a line](#).

Happy sciencing to you all!



South Georgia and Bio Security

Government Officers will inspect boot washing facilities and procedures on visiting vessels (including yachts) and will inspect visitors, including staff and crew before they disembark the vessel to ensure biosecurity protocols have been undertaken properly.

The Biosecurity Audit is a check undertaken by Government Officers, on vessels in respect of their compliance with biosecurity procedures, or more specifically the effectiveness of the procedures in place to reduce biosecurity risk.

Government Officers conduct a standardized inspection of clothing, footwear and bags to check for biosecurity risks.

Some vessels have found these inspections particularly rigorous this season, so we'd recommend re-familiarising yourself with the [2019-2020 Operational Instructions on Bio Security](#) and the [GSGSSI Bio Security Handbook](#).

In the news...

Biosecurity Dog Programme Commences ([gov.gs](#))

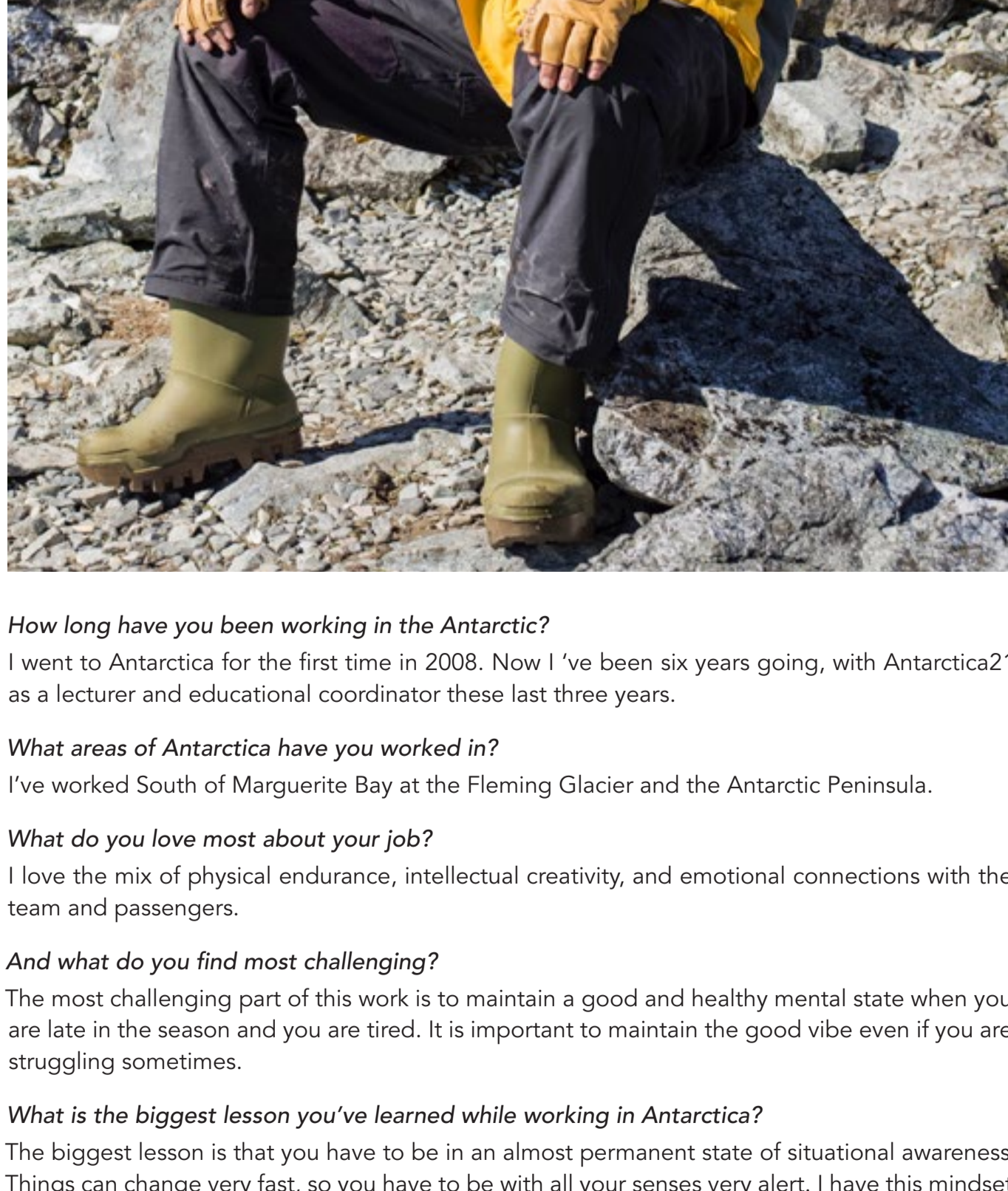
The Government of South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands (GSGSSI) is delighted to announce the start of a new Biosecurity Dog Programme. This long-term programme follows intensive pilot studies and trials using specially trained rodent detection dogs to 'sniff out' rodents hiding on vessels or in cargo bound for South Georgia, and therefore to prevent them reaching South Georgia.

Microplastics in gentoo penguins from the Antarctic region ([nature.org](#))

To our knowledge, this is the first study to show that microplastics are present in the gastrointestinal tract of penguins feeding in Antarctic waters and therefore potentially widespread in the Antarctic marine food web.

Ice-breaker

Pablo Zenteno | Lecturer & Educational Coordinator, Antarctica 21



How long have you been working in the Antarctic?

I went to Antarctica for the first time in 2008. Now I've been six years going, with Antarctica21 as a lecturer and educational coordinator these last three years.

What areas of Antarctica have you worked in?

I've worked South of Marguerite Bay at the Fleming Glacier and the Antarctic Peninsula.

What do you love most about your job?

I love the mix of physical endurance, intellectual creativity, and emotional connections with the team and passengers.

And what do you find most challenging?

The most challenging part of this work is to maintain a good and healthy mental state when you are late in the season and you are tired. It is important to maintain the good vibe even if you are struggling sometimes.

What is the biggest lesson you've learned while working in Antarctica?

The biggest lesson is that you have to be in an almost permanent state of situational awareness. Things can change very fast, so you have to be with all your senses very alert. I have this mindset on board as well as on landings.

Tell us about a special polar memory...

Once with my good friend Mike we were surrounded by five Orcas in the Gerlache Strait. We were the only Zodiac in the water. The pod was training the young ones. We experienced that for more than 20 minutes. They were doing coordinated movements, swimming under our zodiac and spy hopping.

What item(s) do you always pack for your time South?

I'll always pack essentials: multitool, knife, rope, duct tape, snow-probe, carabiners, headlamp, bottle of water and lots of vitamin C. Always a set of maps of the Peninsula and GPS.

I **always** carry some chocolate, good coffee, ginger and herbs for infusions.

Interested in being featured?

Speak to your employer and [contact Hayley](#) in the IAATO Secretariat

