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The Adel ie Blizzard

Mawson's forgotten newspaper, 1913

A facsimile edition of the periodic newsletter produced by members of the Australasian Antarctic Expedition during the winter of 1913 at Cape Denison, Commonwealth Bay.

A limited edition of 750 copies with full colour plates and maps. The first 150 are numbered and bound in half leather.



This facsimile reproduction of the *Adelie Blizzard* newspaper gives an insight into the lives of the members of Douglas Mawson's 1911-1914 Antarctic expeditionary team. Over 200 pages are reproduced in full colour with additional coloured illustrations and maps. An informative introduction has been written by Antarctic scholar Elizabeth Leane and the manager of the Mawson Centre, Mark Pharaoh.

The harsh winter climate confined the expeditioners to long periods in their hut and Mawson realised that they needed intellectual stimulation to keep boredom and depression at bay. The newspaper was a collection of poetry, scientific results,

observations, comedy and fiction written by and for the social enjoyment of the young expeditioners during that long cold dark winter and whilst Mawson recovered his health.





Mawson recalled in The Home of Blizzard:

Anything from light doggerel to heavy blank verse was welcomed, and original articles, letters to the Editor, plays, reviews of books and serial stories were accepted.

News received by radio was a highlight as the team members were the first in the Antarctic to have radio contact with the outside world.

> Each monthly issue was prepared on single foolscap sheets using a manual typewriter, making full use of its black, blue and red ribbons, and was enriched with numerous freehand sketches. Pencilled editorial notes and amendments by Mawson and Archie MacLean have been retained faithfully.

A single copy of *The Adelie Blizzard* was made. It was read aloud as it was passed around between the men. Only five monthly issues were produced and none has been published before.





