

Diary 10 – 14 August 2013

Every week in Zackenberg starts and ends on Wednesday. Farewells to those who are leaving the station behind and welcomes to those arriving, this weekly ritual was this time performed in mist and rain. What might be bad weather for most of us was good news for Jenny who finally got a rain event for her soil moisture analysis.

Otherwise, the days have been warm and clear with sudden bursts of strong wind from unpredictable directions. This has made the logisticians Kenny and Jonas to go around the station securing research gear left lying outside (including some lawn edge rolls from yours truly, my apologies...). Thought I dare to claim that most of the work and rush has been a result of constant air traffic from Daneborg, keeping also the four stone carriers Henrik, Paw and two Jacobs busy. So during the past few days, a random look out of the window now and then has usually been rewarded with a sight of a Twin Otter landing or taking off over the station.

My ninth and final week has been as busy as the previous ones with long but beautiful days. Fast moving clouds and the sun shining lower every evening have created some stunning and dramatic views over the fjord. After final rounds of sampling I have spend my last days by taking down the experiment, sorting samples, washing small yellow cups (my acknowledgements to BioBasis) and packing everything up to be stored till next year's field season. Work that might otherwise turn slightly boring has gone swiftly with the discovery that my GPS can store and play music! I hereby need to take back all my bad words about the unlogical design, short battery life and unreliable satellite connection since what would make washing dishes more fun than to do it while listening Danish ska (thanks to Jannik), Scanian rap (thanks to Ulrika) or the soundtrack of "Commitments" found from the dining room shelf? Thought I must say that the station's CD collection is not to be trusted in the case of musical emergency, as few Saturdays and the "Best of the 70s" have showed.....

So few minutes past midnight and thus the deadline of writing this letter, I am finished with my work. The sun is still staying up with me tonight but in few days, it will finally have to give up to the autumn and go down over the horizon. With this letter, I will sign out from Zackenberg: thank you for the station and everyone who shared their time with me during these two months! We might meet again,

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