



**Commonwealth
of Australia**

Gazette

No. S 99, Tuesday, 21 June 2011
Published by the Commonwealth of Australia

SPECIAL



**Government House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
21 June 2011**

MIDWINTER'S DAY 2011 HONOURS LIST

The Governor-General is pleased to announce the following award:

AUSTRALIAN ANTARCTIC MEDAL

Captain Murray Patrick DOYLE

9/95-99 Mount Street, Coogee NSW 2034
For outstanding service in support of Australian Antarctic expeditions.

Dr Stephen NICOL

Taroona Tas 7053
For outstanding service in support of Australian Antarctic expeditions.

By Her Excellency's Command

Stephen Brady
Official Secretary to
the Governor-General

THE AUSTRALIAN ANTARCTIC MEDAL

(21 June 2011)

Captain Murray Patrick DOYLE

9/95-99 Mount Street, Coogee NSW 2034

For outstanding service in support of Australian Antarctic expeditions.

Occupation In Antarctica:

Master of the RSV *Aurora Australis*

Service in Antarctica:

1996 — current. Directly supported the Australian Antarctic Program for 14 of the last 16 seasons on at least two voyages per season, and Master of the MV *Oceanic Viking* for two years engaged in protecting against Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported fishing in the Southern Ocean.

Captain Doyle has made an outstanding contribution to the on-going success of Australia's scientific and logistic activities in Antarctica as the Master of the RSV *Aurora Australis*. He has developed an exceptional level of experience and skill over 16 years of operating in the Southern Ocean and continually applied these with dedication and energy to his work, becoming an integral lynchpin in the shipping operations of the Australian Antarctic Program.

As Master of the RSV *Aurora Australis* Captain Doyle has responsibility for the safety of the vessel and all those sailing in her through the harsh sea and ice conditions of the Southern Ocean. Whilst never compromising safety Captain Doyle has made an extraordinary contribution, which goes well beyond the normal expectations of a ship's master, to ensure the scientific objectives of voyages have been successfully achieved.

His perception and judgement in dealing with the challenging conditions of the Southern Ocean instil confidence in the ship's crew and all expeditioners aboard the RSV *Aurora Australis*. Under Captain Doyle's leadership problems that could well have otherwise halted operations are often resolved because of his exceptional seamanship and his commitment and enthusiasm to do whatever is possible to achieve the voyage objectives. Under his guidance crew and scientists work side-by-side to undertake complex scientific tasks.

Captain Doyle recently exhibited these skills to ensure the RSV *Aurora Australis* was able to safely refuel Mawson Station when an iceberg was blocking the harbour entrance and displayed calmness and leadership when the weather conditions deteriorated rapidly and both the operation and assets were put at considerable risk. His commitment to the goals and people of the Australian Antarctic program and the application of his skills and experience mean that Captain Doyle clearly goes 'above and beyond' as a ship's master, and the ongoing success of Australia's activities in Antarctica are testament to this.

Phone Nos: Work (03)6224 0666 Mobile 0438 536 636

THE AUSTRALIAN ANTARCTIC MEDAL

(21 June 2011)

Dr Stephen NICOL

Taroona Tas 7053

For outstanding service in support of Australian Antarctic expeditions.

Occupation In Antarctica:

Marine Biologist/Voyage Leader

Service in Antarctica:

Dr Nicol spent almost two years in the Southern Ocean on nine Marine Science Voyages between 1987/88 and 2005/06. Of these voyages he led four of them and designed two.

Dr Nicol is the world's most eminent krill scientist and the Program Leader of the Southern Ocean Ecosystem Change program at the Australian Antarctic Division (AAD). Since joining the Division he has transformed the world's understanding of the biology, conservation and management of Antarctic krill and their central role in feeding other Southern Ocean animals.

Dr Nicol has published extensively (well over 100 peer-reviewed publications) including in prestigious journals such as Nature. Perhaps more significant though is the way he has applied his research to achieve outcomes for the conservation and management of krill and the broader Antarctic marine ecosystem. Dr Nicol has dedicated himself to working with international institutions to ensure the results of his work have been directly used in better protecting and managing marine living resources.

His work has provided the foundation to the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources' (CCAMLR) work to set precautionary catch limits for the Antarctic krill fishery. He has participated in every CCAMLR Scientific Committee between 1987 and 2010. His scientific contributions and interests in CCAMLR were diverse, however he is best known for his work on improving CCAMLR's knowledge of what actually drives the krill fishery, and for predicting (well before anyone else) that the krill fishery was likely to expand markedly -- a prophecy which has been fulfilled.

Related to his work in CCAMLR, a key achievement of Dr Nicol's dedication to Southern Ocean research was the instrumental role he played in establishing the AMLR (Antarctic Marine Living Resources) program within the AAD. He saw the importance of ensuring Australia's scientific contribution was influential within CCAMLR (and the Antarctic Treaty system more generally) and therefore contributing to achieving Australia's Antarctic policy objectives.

The AMLR program conducts strategic research into issues such as stock assessment of fish and krill populations, incidental mortality of seabirds in long-line fisheries, ecosystem monitoring, development of novel techniques to examine ecosystem interactions, ecosystem modelling and research into the life history parameters of harvested and dependent species. Today, the AMLR program is recognised Antarctic marine living resources, and has been duplicated by other countries involved in CCAMLR scientific research.

Dr Nicol has also played a major role in seeing the AAD take an effective science leadership role in the International Whaling Commission and more recently in the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels.

Dr Nicol is also a highly effective communicator with particular skill in translating his science into plain language that appeals to a wide audience. His professional manner and ability to work cooperatively with others combined with his natural leadership style has contributed to the positive development of many other science leaders within the AAD.

Phone Nos: Work (03)6232 3324 Mobile 0418 664 442