

## **So long & thanks for all the Rocks!**

Bridie & Becca here, the two remaining (until Sunday ☺) volcanologists. As our time is coming to an end we wanted to thank the MANY people who have helped us out these past weeks.

We arrived in December, just in time for the Christmas Eve parade (we had Christmas at sea in our heads for weeks!) - right from the start everyone on Island made us all feel really welcome.

We have been busily making notes on all the weird & wonderful rocks that the Island has kindly put on display for us & have collected almost enough samples to raise the Island by a couple of metres (you'll thank us when the climate emergency raises global sea levels!). Seven weeks in the field including 4 weeks of trekking down to letterbox & back is pretty hard work, but it would undoubtedly have been 100 x harder without the help of some very enthusiastic, helpful & generally awesome people.

The wider Island community has been super friendly & helpful but there are a few special mentions we **have** to make;

The team at Conservation; **Dee** - you're a logistical angel, without you we wouldn't be on Ascension! **Mountain Matt** – without your unwavering willingness to read rambling notes day & night, who would know that we made it back safe from Letterbox??? **Sophie & Laura** – you saved our legs, & we can never repay you...ever. **Will** (aka Sunday Roast) our honorary volcanologist – you put up with our Sunday wining & made an excellent field assistant. Other special mentions to **Vicky, Lucie, James, New Matt, Dan** for your excellent company over games night etc.

**Al – Hash king!** So many reasons to thank you, not least for feeding us haggis & giving us a Burns night we will never forget! See you on the runway! (sobs...loudly).

**Sunday's Volunteer Army:** Times were tough & you dug us out of a tight spot (pun intended). Without you Becca would only have half a PhD (Look for your names in her thesis!) **Rob, Al, Duncan, Will, Hugh, Bex, Lucie, James**. Extra thanks to **Hugh** for his excellent work in NE Bay – you are a digging machine!

Those who fed us; **Rick, Anne, Lucie, Vinnie, Vicky** (awesome Brownies), **James**. Food is definitely the way to our hearts!

Everyone at Two Boats School: You made us feel so welcome, asked **GREAT** volcano questions & we **LOVE** our thankyou card!

**Steve, Kitty & everyone at AIG** – Thanks for making our trip possible, the warm welcome & helping us out at every turn.

**Syrena @ JAMS** – the air con was a life-saver, sorry if we left the room smelly!

There are many more people we could thank but we are running out of space – if we've spoken to you / waved at you / you've stood close of us after a day in the field without cringing at the smell.

Then thank you – Our time here has been amazing!

Volcano Love until next time (we hope!),

Bridie & Becca

