

## Papers from a workshop on Macquarie Island ozone data

Macquarie Island is located at 55°S, 159°E, between Australia and the Antarctic coast, in a very data-sparse region. Interest in the Antarctic ozone hole led to a dramatic increase in the number of ozone sounding stations in Antarctica after 1980. However, there was not a similar increase in southern hemisphere mid-latitudes. In 1994, weekly ozone soundings were carried out at Macquarie Island as part of the NASA/NOAA Airborne Southern Hemisphere Ozone Experiment (ASHOE), funded by the CRC for Southern Hemisphere Meteorology, the Bureau of Meteorology and the Australian Antarctic Division. The success of this program demonstrated the feasibility and value of ozone soundings from Macquarie Island. Hence, in November 1996, a four-year program of regular ozone soundings was started at Macquarie Island, funded by an Antarctic Science research grant, the CRC for Southern Hemisphere Meteorology, the Bureau of Meteorology and the Australian Antarctic Division. Macquarie Island has been the only regular ozone sounding station between 45°S and 65°S, in a critical region of the Southern Ocean.

With the closure of the CRC for Southern Hemisphere Meteorology on 30 June 2000 and near the end of the four-year ozone sounding program, a workshop on this Macquarie Island ozone dataset was held in the Bureau of Meteorology on 13 June 2000. Papers presented at this workshop highlighted the value of these data, illustrated the wide range of research that could be undertaken using the data and confirmed the desirability of continuing the program. Four of the papers presented at the workshop are included in this issue of AMM. It is pleasing to note that the Bureau of Meteorology has been able to find funds to continue this very valuable ozone sounding program at Macquarie Island since 2000.

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**Fig. 1** Launch of an ozone sonde at Macquarie Island (photo by Jim Easson, Observations and Engineering Branch, Bureau of Meteorology).

