

TRANSCRIPT OF CONVERSATION BETWEEN ANDREW BURDEN IN THE  
RCC AND BRETT GAGE OF THE BUREAU OF METEOROLOGY ON  
DECEMBER 26 03.28 UTC

Maritime Search & Rescue Andrew Burden speaking.

*Goody Andrew. My name's Brett Gage from the Bureau of Meteorology.  
How are you.*

Good. How are you.

*Oh, busy mate. I just want to ring and let you know both the Victorian RSC  
and I am in the Sydney forecasting centre. We've just both issued storm  
warnings for Bass Strait and also in the south coast of New South Wales.*

Oh, right.

*I guess I just wanted to let you know all the Sydney to Hobart guys are going  
down there.*

Yep.

*Do you receive those warnings through our fax do you or.*

Yes we receive the weather warnings as they come out but what sort of  
conditions are your expecting down there?

*OK the Victorian one. We've got a west to south west change 20 to 30 knots  
this afternoon. Oh, this is east of Wilson's Prom so this is a bit different so I'll  
just read you out theirs.*

Yep.

*Increase in the 35 to 45 knots tomorrow morning and a 45 to 55 knots late  
Sunday afternoon.*

55 knots.

Hmm.

45 to 55

Hmm

*They've got seas 2 to 3 metres this afternoon, 3 to 4 tomorrow morning and 4  
to 6 metres tomorrow afternoon.*

So that's when it's at its worst I take it - tomorrow afternoon.

Ah yeah, there is a real strong jet coming through Bass Strait and sort of clipping the south coast of New South Wales as well.

Uhhum.

We've just issued a gale warning, sorry a storm warning for our ocean waters too. For New South Wales west to north-west winds 45 – 55 knots south of 37 south late Sunday afternoon.

Uhhum.

Otherwise we have got gusty west to south west change 30 to 40 knots tonight. Actually when we put out a new ... Sorry Pete, can I just borrow that. I am just grabbing a quick look. Actually this is a better description. I'll read this out. Let's see will I read the whole warning out?

Yeah, if you could. Thanks. Yeah.

We've got a priority storm warning for coastal waters south of Merimbula. A gale warning for coastal waters south of Broken Bay and a strong wind warning between Broken Bay and Seal Rocks.

Hmm.

OK. Basically there will be a deep low developing just east of Tasmania during tomorrow but there will be a cold front moving up the coast tonight. The warning reads north to north east winds reaching 20 to 25 knots between Broken Bay and Ulladulla

Uhuh

25 to 30 knots south from Ulladulla ahead of a gusty west to south west change 30 to 40 knots expected on the south coast late tonight then west to south west 25 to 35 knots Illawarra and Sydney coast early Sunday morning.

Uhuh.

and west to south west 25 to 30 knots Hunter coast later Sunday morning.

Uhuh.

Then we have got westerly winds increasing to 45 to 55 knots south of Merimbula late Sunday afternoon.

Alright. OK

Mostly a little bit offshore but hmm

Are you able to fax just that through to me what information

*Well sure, I will fax you all the warnings off*

I will just give you our fax number 02 6230 6868.

6868

Sounds like we are going to be in for an interesting couple of days down there.

*Yeah. Well certainly. Sorry, what was your name again.*

Andrew Burden (spells it out)

*OK. I thought we had better get on to you now because we might need a bit of support in the area.*

Yeah.

*I am also going to ring Eden Coastal Patrol, the Sydney Hobart Media Centre and also my Regional Director.*

OK

*Is there anyone else you think would need to know, or*

um Do you guys normally liaise with the Navy at all?

*Not a lot no.*

Right, um maybe the people that

*We thought you guys would probably*

They have got their own met section anyway. They would be aware of it I suppose.

*They have only got a very small section now um.*

Yeah.

*It might be worth if you need any navy support whatever perhaps if you could contact them.*

Yeah.

*Their services are very small. It is basically only for a runway at Nowra apart from their offshore stuff*

Yeah

*but they will only be looking at that if they have ships in the area.*

Mm.

*They just sort of do specialised forecasts for their ships.*

Yeah well that's. The fleet operation centre up in MHQ Aust we deal with a bit and they would be aware of all this I would imagine anyway, so

*It might be worth calling them yeah if you want their help.*

Yeah.

*You might need it,*

Alright well that's great. Thanks Brett for that information. If you could fax that through to us

*Yep. Certainly am*

And um I would imagine we are in for an interesting few days as I said.

*Yeah, yeah, it's not looking good.*

Alright.

*Better to let you know this is just what our high risk model is saying. If it's not as bad as this well I guess there is no harm done apart from getting a few people off holidays but yeah if we don't forecast it we are going to be in for an awful amount of criticism so.*

Mm yeah for sure. Well thanks for that that's great.

*You're welcome Andrew.*

OK Thanks mate.

*Bye*