



*These rarely seen nacreous clouds, photographed some 20 km up in the stratosphere over Mawson, only occur at high polar latitudes in winter, at temperatures less than  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The beautiful Mother-of-Pearl-coloured clouds promote chemical changes in the atmosphere that destroy ozone. But the clouds were a special and welcome sight as the end of winter neared, and the sun returned to Antarctic skies.*

## FREEZE FRAME

Renaë Baker is a weather observer for the Australian Bureau of Meteorology. Her most memorable experiences on her first visit to Antarctica include seeing killer whales, emperor penguins, watching the aurora australis light up the sky, and experiencing the subtle, day-to-day changes in the environment.

