

JAIMIE CLEELAND

I am a PhD Candidate at the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies. I have been lucky enough to spend 18 months working on subAntarctic Macquarie Island as a field biologist working with albatrosses and petrels. I am currently on a fellowship at the British Antarctic Survey in Cambridge, UK, for three months working with scientists here to better understand what drives top predator populations in the Southern Ocean. Longline and trawl fisheries have previously been linked to reducing albatross populations through by-catch, less known is the influence of climate and oceanographic and breeding habitat change. To protect these populations as well as the prey that they rely on we aim to address these ecological questions. I love being able to meet these birds in person, analyse their behaviours at the computer, share their story through publication and then advocate for their protection at international meetings. I love being a woman in science, but it is not without its challenges. I believe positive change is required to encourage more women into academic careers and leadership positions and the best way to do this is to celebrate the strong women we currently have in such positions.