



# Discovery Worksheets

## Time traveller

You are a keen, alert journalist who specialises in time travel. Last month you interviewed Alexander the Great and Captain James Cook. You arrived back yesterday from speaking to Christopher Columbus and found the note below on your desk.

### MEMORANDUM

To: Time traveller

From: Editor-in-chief, *Past Times Alive*

Well done! Your interview with Cook is perfect for our next month's 'Great explorers' edition. It'll be a nice follow-up to January's 'Great architecture' edition. I want to also have a clear focus in our next edition on past Australian explorers. Could you please interview Douglas Mawson? I need your article on my desk by Monday morning.

*Peter Bosscocky*  
Editor-in-chief

You decide the best time to catch up with Mawson would be just after he staggered back into Commonwealth Bay on 8 February 1912. You're keen to find out how he was able to survive after he lost his companions and supplies. You also want to know how he felt when he missed the boat back to Australia by only eight hours, and had to spend another winter in Antarctica.

When you step out of your time machine, the first thing you notice is the wind. It's like a great hand pushing you down, driving snow into the gaps in your clothing. You feel the cold seeping into your bones as you push through the door of a small wooden hut. After the blinding whiteness outside, it is quite dark inside and very cramped.

You say 'hi' to the five men seated around the table playing cards as you head for the bunk in the corner where Mawson is lying. You know from your research that he was a large, imposing man, but you are struck by how terribly thin he is. His skin and eyes have a yellowish tinge. You listen intently as he tells you slowly (as he is in pain) one of the greatest survival stories ever told. You realise your article is going to be one of the most exciting you have ever written for the magazine.

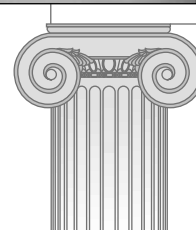
What do you write?

## PAST TIMES ALIVE

The next best thing to being there...

JANUARY 2004

### Great architecture



FREE in this month's edition, tickets to the Colosseum, lions vs Christians!



*Atlas of Discovery*, pp. 42–43, 110–113;  
encyclopaedia, library and Internet sources on Douglas Mawson