

## The people behind the ice

From December to August a drama takes place off the southern tip of Greenland. Huge amounts of ice follow the sea currents along the east coast of Greenland towards the southernmost point of Greenland, Cape Farewell.

At Cape Farewell the field ice is gripped of new sea currents, which are leading the field ice northwards again - but now along the west coast of Greenland.

The field ice is mixed up with ice from the local glaciers in the southern part of Greenland. The ice can form large ice fields, even the largest ships must try to avoid.

The supplies to the southern Greenlandic towns on board the ice-strengthened, transatlantic ships are often delayed or prevented entirely by the huge amounts of ice. The Atlantic storms often pack the field

ice inside the fiords and in the archipelago along the coast.

In the time of the whaling ships the whalers choose to navigate around the field ice and first made land further north.

Some believe this explains, why the indigenous people of southern Greenland is more dark-haired than the Inuits further north - there was not the same mixing of genes from the whalers to the people behind the field ice, as it is supposed to have been the reality further north.

But who knows? Perhaps this is just another Greenlandic hoax?

This beautiful day in May the ice is just beautiful figures in the landscape in the view from the helicopter just above the town Narsaq in the southern part of Greenland.



*Narsaq, May 2009*