

Explore 2011

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Gill Akhtar www.balkanspeacepark.org

Gill is a committee member of the Balkans Peace Park Project (UK), a charity which aims to help the people of the remote mountain communities of Albania, Kosovo/a and Montenegro to make a living through eco-tourism, while caring for the environment. Gill has recently returned from working as a volunteer teacher in the charity's English summer school in the remote village of Thethi in Northern Albania. This summer whilst taking part in the project she also conducted educational research into the role of music in enhancing English language acquisition skills. This research formed part of an MSc in Music in the Community which she has just completed at Edinburgh University. Gill has a background in education, working as a teacher in Scotland, but is also passionate about the role of music in bringing about community regeneration. In this capacity she has worked as a volunteer with the organisation Sistema Scotland. Gill is a keen traveller and over the years has taken part in a variety of expeditions to Iceland, Cuba, Europe and Asia.

Tom Allen

<http://tomsbiketrip.com>



Tom Allen, 28, has undertaken bicycle journeys through more than 30 countries. He prefers to ride far from the beaten track, which has taken him on adventures in less-visited parts of the world including Ethiopia, Yemen, Sudan, Mongolia and Lapland. His first book and feature-length documentary will be out in 2012.

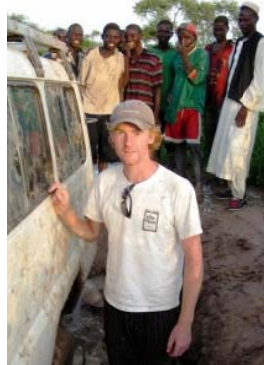
Sarah Batten

www.landrover.com



Sarah has been working with the Land Rover Experience for a number of years. Their client base is wide and varied and they actively assist with the specialist training of Police traffic officers, mountain rescue teams and other emergency services, VIP's, Civil Dignitaries and the Royal Household, to name but a few. To date Sarah has been involved in the selection and training process of the competitors on both the G4 Global Challenges and worked on the G4 Challenge in 2006. Sarah's role as a Lead Instructor in the Training and Development department often finds her visiting the 30 odd global Land Rover Experience Centres. She has also been involved in a number of Global Launches for new Land Rover Products. Currently Sarah is working on developing new courses and ensuring standards are maintained across the Land Rover Experience network of centres. .

Tim van Berkel - www.heartofborneo.org



Tim is founder and Scientific Director of the Heart of Borneo Project - a charity established to continue the exploration research and education work of the Murung Raya Expedition to Kalimantan, Borneo for which he was the lead researcher. Tim's interest in the natural environment and a passion for traveling developed from a very young age. He has travelled and carried out research in over 20 countries in Europe, Asia, South America and Africa, where he spent time in remote environments. The human-carnivore conflict, especially wild cats, has grabbed his attention since his research on lions with the University of Leiden. He has a MSc in Conservation & Biodiversity from

the University of Exeter and has recently returned from being the Science leader on the BSES Peruvian Amazon expedition.

Ollie Bray www.olliebray.com

Ollie Bray speaks to global audiences on creativity and innovation in education and is a national adviser for learning and technology futures. He has been a school leader, head of department and is an award winning teacher for innovative classroom practice, especially with the use of ICT, and project development. Ollie is also one of Scotland's leading experts on internet safety and responsible use for schools. He has a particular interest in social media in schools, computer games in education, mobile technologies, school design, 21st century school leadership, and outdoor learning, and is a full member of the Association of Mountaineering Instructors.

Jamie Buchanan-Dunlop - www.digitalexplorer.com



Jamie is director of Digital Explorer, an organization that creates education programmes based on expeditions and fieldwork. He is interested in communicating from the field and is happy to try to answer questions on: using the web, digital media (including filmmaking), Google Earth and the like, GPS, remote communications, youth expeditions and how to make your expedition relevant to the classroom. He has been on expeditions to India, Pakistan, Tibet, Morocco, Oman, Antarctica and the Arctic. He is also a member of the RGS-IBG Council and sits on the Society's Education Committee

Simon Carr



Simon Carr is a Senior Lecturer in Physical Geography at Queen Mary College, University of London. He examines the interactions between climate, glaciers and landscape on short to long timescales. This work is directed towards reconciling the climatic and glaciological modelling of ice-mass behaviour with the geomorphological and sedimentary evidence of recent and Quaternary glaciation. Simon's research is centred around field investigations of modern glaciers and evidence of past glaciation, and has participated in or led field-work expeditions since 1996. In particular, Simon has extensive experience of field research in Iceland, where he is currently leading a long term project examining marginal glaciers in Iceland, building up a picture of past glacier variations, current glacier dynamics and likely future responses to climate change. Simon has also conducted field research on glacial sediments and landforms in southern Iceland, the European High Arctic, and examined past glacial dynamics in the mountains of Central Europe and the Drakensberg Escarpment of Lesotho, southern Africa.

Phil Coates phil@philcoates.tv www.philcoates.tv



Phil Coates is a remote location filmmaker and photographer who has worked on assignment in challenging and extreme environments across the globe, in temperatures from -43°C to +48°C and altitudes of up to 8,000 metres. Previous documentary productions for the BBC, ITV, Channel 4, Channel 5, Discovery International and National Geographic Television include; 'North Pole: Living On Thin Ice', 'Everest Beyond The Limit', 'Blizzard Race To The Pole', 'Ice Break Heart', 'Going North' and 'Five Miles High'. Most recently Phil filmed in

temperatures down to minus 43°C as embedded director cameraman on the Catlin Arctic Survey pulling a sled weighing well over 100kg in the process! The resulting HD documentary special about cutting edge polar science and exploration is currently in post-production. www.catlinarcticsurvey.com

Chris Coe www.chriscoe.com

Since turning professional in 1992, Chris has photographed landscapes, people, architecture, gardens, travel destinations and wildlife around the world. Most of his work is commissioned for specific advertising and editorial projects or for stock libraries. He has shot over 40 travel and coffee table books and has undertaken commissions for a wide range of major multinational companies. Chris runs the Photo Iconic series of photography courses and digital imaging courses in the UK and overseas and is a board member of the Young Photographers' Alliance - a charitable trust set up to guide and mentor aspiring young photographers. In 2003, Chris founded the now prestigious international photography awards Travel Photographer of the Year www.tpoty.com.

Luce Choules www.lucechoules.com



Luce is an arts practitioner, large-format publisher, managing director of design studio Chalet Alpin, and drawing tutor for MA Communication Design at Central St Martins, London. Inspired by exploration, Luce's arts practice documents experiences of journeys through a collection of written and visual details. An archival record of photographs, drawings, routes, itineraries, weather reports and kit lists are made for each cycle tour, walk, field trip, climb or expedition. New online photographic work looks at a relationship of people and place through a growing archive of photography-led narratives – the twin websites of *Mappalogue* and *Guidetohere* show details of field studies, reports, artworks, exhibitions, recent publications, commissions and residencies. .

Dave Cornthwaite www.davecornthwaite.com



Dave is a world-record breaking adventurer and author with a history of undertaking varied and content-rich expeditions. Dave is an experienced speaker who has motivated and entertained thousands of people across four continents since mid 2010, and he is four journeys into Expedition 1000, 25 separate expeditions of at least a 1000 miles in distance, each using a different mode of non-motorised transport. His experience kayaking the length of Australia's Murray River and descending the Mississippi from source to sea on a Stand Up Paddleboard means he knows exactly what it takes to organise a long river trip, successfully.

Ann Daniels www.anndaniels.com

Dan Darley www.northpolechallenge.co.uk



Dan went to Trinity College Cambridge where he got involved in rowing both at a University and College level. In May 2004, Dan represented GB at the age-group world tri champs and at the end of 2005 he took part in the Atlantic Rowing Race with Rich Dewire where they finished 4th after 58 days at sea. Following this, in 2007, he cycled the Raid Pyrenees and in 2008 the Route des Grandes Alpes. In 2010 Dan, along with his girlfriend Amelia Russell, walked 500 miles in 58 days unsupported and unguided from Cape Discovery on the northern Canadian coast to the Geographic North Pole.

Helen Findlay

www.catlinarcticsurvey.com



Helen Findlay started her research career by running wildlife clubs at school and volunteering at Fawley Aquatic Research Laboratories. She went on to study biology at the University of York and experienced her first taste of marine fieldwork researching Great White Sharks in South Africa. After her degree, Helen travelled around South America predominately trekking in the Andes and climbing her first 6000 m peak. Helen completed an MSc in oceanography at the National Oceanography Centre, Southampton, before moving to Plymouth to do a PhD in biological oceanography at Plymouth Marine Laboratory (PML). During her PhD Helen coordinated several fieldwork expeditions to Svalbard and Antarctica. In 2010 she was awarded the Lord Kingsland Research

Fellowship at PML to continue investigating the impacts of climate change and ocean acidification on marine ecosystems; to carryout this research she received the Ralph Brown Expedition Grant from the RGS-IBG for fieldwork in the Canadian High Arctic and teaming up with the Catlin Arctic Survey.

Alexandra Foley

Alexandra Foley specializes in strategic communications for international expeditions and adventure challenges. She works with expedition leaders, title sponsors and other stakeholders to maximise value. After a nine year career in New York including being press director on the 1996 Titanic Expedition, Alex returned to the UK and in 2001 founded Alex Foley and Associates Ltd. The agency has represented numerous explorers and expeditions including David Hempleman-Adams, Rosie Stancer's Snickers South Pole Solo Challenge, Mikael Strandberg's Expedition Siberia 2004, Monty Halls' Full Circle Expedition, Roz Savage's Atlantic Row and Jason Lewis's Expedition 360. The agency also works in the wealth management and corporate sectors.

Ian Forbes www.lifesignsgroup.co.uk

During his 24 year military career in The Royal and Electrical Mechanical Engineers primarily as a Recovery Mechanic, Ian gained invaluable professional experience devising, managing and leading global expeditions which included Project Management of overseas youth programmes and work with Combined Cadet Force and gap year sectors. Since 2003 this knowledge has proved invaluable to the Lifesigns Group. He has personally lead over 50 overseas expeditions in often hostile and challenging environments. Ian is a qualified Mountain Leader and Trauma medic and has worked on several Television Programmes including "SAS are you tough enough" and the ground breaking "Human Planet" series where he was employed as a technical advisor responsible for the pre-departure planning, training of the staff in and outside of the UK.

Charles Foster

www.charlesfoster.co.uk



A writer and traveller, Charles has extensive experience organising desert expeditions, particularly involving camels. He read law and veterinary medicine at Cambridge, was a research fellow at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem and is a barrister and a tutor in medical law and ethics at the University of Oxford. He is a Fellow of Green Templeton College, Oxford. His expeditions have included the Western Desert, Sinai and the Algerian Sahara. He has skied to the North Pole, run the Marathon des Sables, and studied the immobilization of gazelles in Saudi Arabia, the transmission of rinderpest by leeches in the Kumaon

hills, water metabolism in mules in the Ethiopian Danakil Depression, and the comparative anatomy of the Himalayan Hispid Hare

David Fletcher

Morgan Gibson



Morgan is a recent Geology and Physical Geography graduate from the University of Edinburgh and now working as a 'freelance academic' for the year; disseminating the results from the Brathay Exploration Club's 2011 expedition to the Tunsberg glacier in Norway which she co-ordinated, co-ordinating the same expedition in 2012 and involving herself in a few other little jaunts and expeditions around the world. All this whilst also applying for Graduate study in North America in the field of Glaciology with the hope she gets to go to even more far flung cold places in the future!

Paul Goodyer

www.nomadtravel.co.uk



Paul Goodyer is the CEO of Nomad Travellers Store & Medical Centres. The idea for this company was conceived 21 years ago combining his experience in tropical travel and his retailing of army surplus. His travels over the last 30 years include trips to Africa, Asia, South/ central America and the Middle East. The diversity of the trips has given him specialist knowledge on travel equipment and staying healthy which is the foundation of the Travellers Stores and his own range of travel products. Paul personally tests the products he recommends and sells and has had numerous expeditions and independent journeys into rainforest and desert doing just that. He also runs the Karmi Farm Clinic a health care clinic in the foot hills of the Himalayas outside of Darjeeling that takes care of around 2000 subsistence farmers in the local area.

Dr Andy Grieve

Andy is a RAF GP Registrar currently posted to RAF Leeming in North Yorkshire. He has been involved in wilderness and expedition medicine since 2003 when he founded the Oxford University Wilderness Medical Society. His first real expedition was as a medical student when he went to Nepal with a group of students to study altitude illness. He was also lucky to work at the Everest Base Camp medical clinic, where he cared for sick sherpas and climbers. His most recent military expeditions have taken him to North-East Uganda where he led a small military team traversing a new route on Mt Elgon; and Lesotho where he looked after 60 Cadets and their adult leaders on the Cadet-150 expedition. He enjoys travelling, hiking and adventure motorcycling- having completed journeys by bike through Australia, Madagascar, Vietnam , Cambodia and Europe. In 2012 he will be acting as medical Officer to a Defence Medical Services team who will climb new routes in the Cordillera Real in Bolivia.

Dominic Hall www.fieldskills.com



Dominic Hall runs Fieldskills UK, providing training and logistical support for expeditioners both in the UK and in North Borneo. He has built up experience over more than twenty expeditions including Gap year programs to Belize and Borneo - clocking up more than two years living in his jungle hammock - school expeditions to Norway, Costa Rica and Peru and science volunteer expeditions in Oman and Slovakia. He is a first aid and offsite safety management trainer and mountain leader and regular works training and in the field with teams ranging from school children through to blue chip exploration organisations.

Martin Hartley www.martinhartley.com



One of the world's leading expedition and adventure travel photographers, Martin Hartley specialises in documenting the most inaccessible places on earth. He has documented 20 unique polar assignments and is one of the only professional photographers to have crossed the Arctic Ocean on foot and with dogs (Adventure Ecology Top of the World Trans-Arctic Expedition 2006, Catlin Arctic Survey 2009 and 2010). His first book Face to Face: Polar Portraits was published in collaboration with the Scott Polar Research Institute.

Alastair Humphreys www.alastairhumphreys.com



Alastair Humphreys, 34, cycled off-road across England when he was 14. Later he cycled from Pakistan to China, Mexico to Panama and Argentina to Peru. Alastair attended Explore in 2000 and, upon graduating in 2001, was inspired to cycle round the world. His journey, in support of 'Hope and Homes for Children', covered 46,000 miles, 60 countries and 5 continents. Alastair has written 3 books about his journey. He has done some work with Sustrans promoting their schools' cycling campaign. He ran the 2008 Marathon de Sables and, after a short stint as a teacher, walked across India. He is now

preparing for SOUTH, the first unsupported return journey to the South Pole.

Patrick Hutton www.amazonsourcetosea.wordpress.com

Summitting Mount Kilimanjaro whilst in his first year of University Patrick resolved to dedicate himself to a life of adventure, and his ideas have snowballed in size and ambition. 2008 saw a one month unsupported cycle over 2000 miles from London to Marrakech. The next year he and three university friends organised and underwent a six month expedition to follow the entire 4000 miles of the Amazon river from its 5,600m high source in the Andes to the Atlantic Ocean. They built a river-worthy catamaran along the way and rowed, paddled and trekked over 2000 miles of it before powering themselves on to the ocean. Most recently, despite obtaining his degree in Product Design, he postponed the idea of a desk-job and organised an expedition to cross 1000km of the Gobi desert by Bactrian Camel, completed successfully in September 2011.

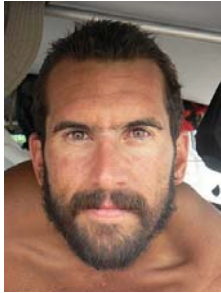
Tori James

Scotty Johnson



Sixteen weeks in Svalbard as a 19 year old gave Scotty a passion for combining education and adventure. He divides his time between running youth expeditions, independent adventures, and people development events for business teams. He has spent around 18 months on expeditions to Svalbard with BSES Expeditions and was chief leader on their 2011 Leadership Development Programme to Morocco. His corporate work in the fields of Coaching, Leadership, Team Alignment, and Community Engagement has enabled him to work with organisations such as the UN, UBS, Sky, Sony Music, and the British Lions rugby squad. He is a lead facilitator on the Oman based Connecting Cultures wilderness programmes and a commercial Yachtmaster.

Mark Kalch www.markkalch.com



Mark is a professional explorer, adventurer and expedition paddler. In 2008 he completed a full source to sea paddling descent of the 4000+ mile Amazon River from the snow-covered Andes in Peru to the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Brazil. In 2012 Mark will paddle alone, the 4000+ mile Missouri-Mississippi River from Montana, across the United States, to the Gulf of Mexico. This continues his 7 rivers, 7 continents project - source to sea paddling descents of the longest river on each continent, with a combined paddling distance of more than 22 000 miles. In 2010, off river, Mark walked alone across the Islamic Republic of Iran from the Caspian Sea to the Persian Gulf.

Alex Kumar



Alexander Kumar is an acute care trainee doctor working in the Oxford Deanery. Suffering from dromomania, he has travelled through over 50 countries and worked and conducted health research in the Arctic, India, Israel, Brazil and joined expeditions to the Peruvian Amazon and Tanzania (Mt. Kilimanjaro). He holds an International Health degree and completed the first piece of research on HIV among Inuit. His interests include natural history, film-making, arctic health, expedition & tropical medicine, and he has recently returned from a research placement in the Brazilian Amazon region. For the next year he will be conducting research in Antarctica for the European Space Agency.

Jane Labous

Chris Leadbeater

Chris is an award-winning freelance travel writer who contributes regularly to publications including The Independent and the Daily Mail. His work has taken him all over the world. In the past five years he has visited destinations as varied as Peru, Guyana, Ukraine, Montenegro, Syria, Croatia, Indonesia, Russia and Mozambique, as well as more familiar locations in Spain, France and the United States.

Ceri Lewis



Ceri Lewis is an experienced marine biologist interested in how environmental change affects reproductive processes in marine animals. During her undergraduate degree in Marine Biology at Swansea University she spent 2 months volunteering on a Coral Cay Expedition to a remote Atoll in Belize to conduct sub aqua surveys of coral reef biodiversity, providing valuable data that lead to its establishment as a marine protected area. She then went on to study for a PhD at Newcastle University on the impacts of climate change on reproductive processes in marine worms. Ceri then spent three years working for an NGO developing sustainable aquaculture research in South Africa as part of a Community Development project, before returning to the U.K. and traditional academia in 2005. She currently holds a prestigious NERC Independent Research Fellowship at Exeter University, where she's continuing her research on understanding how marine animals adapt and respond to environmental change, such as ocean acidification, climate change and increasing pollution. As part of this research Ceri recently joined the Catlin Arctic Survey to study ocean acidification processes in the High Arctic during the winter-spring transition period, enduring temperatures as low as -40°C in the pursuit of vital scientific data on climate change.

Dr Peter Longwww.peterlong.net

Peter Long works as a research fellow in the Department of Zoology, University of Oxford. His research involves developing web-based decision support tools for optimal land use planning in future environmental scenarios taking account of biodiversity conservation goals and ecosystem service provision. This work involves lots of remote sensing, databases, environmental modelling and close working with other disciplines, especially e-science, physical geography and economics. In order to validate global models, expeditions to collect high-quality field data sets are essential. Peter co-ordinates long-term biodiversity monitoring programmes in Madagascar and Honduras in association with Operation Wallacea and develops land management projects within the voluntary carbon sector for these sites. These projects also permit conservation capacity building, especially in relation to GIS and RS.

Mac Mackenneywww.maxadventure.co.uk mac@maxadventure.co.uk

Mac is Director of Max Adventure Ltd, a company specialising in expedition consultancy and logistics since 1994. Expeditions to date include the Land Rover Global Expedition led by Sir Ranulph Fiennes; Xtreme Everest medical research expedition; Ran Fiennes' North Pole expedition; London to Cape Town overland driving record; First amphibious crossing of the Bering Strait. Mac is also an Expedition consultant to Land Rover and writer for Land Rover Monthly magazine on expedition matters.

Sam Maynard

Sam is Executive Producer, Head of US Factual with RAW TV and has made hugely successful series for National Geographic (Locked Up Abroad) and Discovery Channel (Gold Rush, Bangla Bangers & Get Out Alive. Prior to working at Raw, Sam travelled the world series producing and directing in extreme locations including West Papua to make Living with the Mek (Travel and Discovery), and Kenya for Mission Africa (BBC1). He's also shot and directed programmes for all major UK, and many international TV broadcasters. Sam also used to run his own independent TV and cross-platform company, where he won two Scottish Baftas and a Prix Circom Europe Award for his programmes and interactive projects. He regularly publishes photos on his blog, Hebrides.com

Duncan Milliganwww.tourdeforceuk.com

Duncan runs Tour de Force, an adventure logistics company, specialising in weird and wonderful overland travel. After many years backpacking around SE Asia, he worked for 5 years as a tour leader / driver for a well-respected Overland company. During this time he spent a year in South America, has driven from the UK to Cameroon and back, Nairobi to Cape Town, Kathmandu to the UK via China, Tibet and Central Asia as well as many trips to the Sahara region. Since setting up Tour de Force, Duncan was a team member on an expedition to take a flying car to Tombouctou, was part of the support crew to get over 100 classic cars (some as old as 1907) overland from Beijing to Paris. He also project managed The Africa Rally in 2009 for The Adventurists and has given presentations to Adventurists teams taking part in both the Africa and Mongol Rallies. In January 2011 he will be part of the support team on a journey from London to Cape Town. He also advises numerous clients wanting to complete their own independent overland adventures.

James Moore www.travelhealthconsultancy.co.uk

James Moore is a specialist in Travel and Expedition Medicine and Director of Travel Health Consultancy. As an expedition medic he has worked in locations from the jungles of Borneo and Papua New Guinea to the deserts of Sudan and Ethiopian mountains, with individuals such as Ben Fogle and Joanna Lumley. For over a decade he has taught expedition medicine to medics and lay

people alike, for organisations such as the BBC, Tiger Productions and World Challenge. He is a contributor to the Oxford Handbook of Expedition and Wilderness Medicine and co-author of 'Expedition Medicine', in Paul Auerbach's 'Wilderness Medicine'.

Lynn Morris

www.atlanticrising.org



Lynn Morris is a nomadic multimedia journalist. She has worked for the BBC, the Press Association, the Ecologist, Go! and Women's Adventure among other websites and magazines. She has a degree in anthropology from Cambridge University and a Masters in visual anthropology from Manchester University. She is also a director of an environmental education charity called Atlantic Rising. In the last couple of years she travelled 28,000 miles around the edge of the Atlantic Ocean overland as part of an environmental education project. She mostly writes about travel, the environment and people doing adventurous things but is prepared to turn her hand to virtually anything, except golf.

Tim Moss

www.thenextchallenge.org



Tim has organised expeditions to all seven continents and runs his own business, The Next Challenge, which offers support and free advice to anyone planning an adventure or dreaming of one. He has travelled around the world in eighty ways, climbed some big mountains and currently organises the logistics for Sarah Outen's human-powered trip around the world. His book *How To Get To The North Pole* will be published in Spring 2012.

Dr Gareth Mottram



Gareth worked as a remote sensing analyst at Plymouth Marine Laboratory before returning to London to undertake a PhD at King's College London focused on developing a new methodology for mapping forest fire intensity and severity in the boreal zone (north of 50°). Since then Gareth has undertaken two exploratory mountaineering expeditions to the Western Kokshaal-Too mountains in southern Kyrgyzstan. He works on web development projects (preferably with a mapping component) and on contract outdoor companies. The latest project is an independent hardware project is to build a family of

GPS loggers for expedition mapping and research projects.

Dr Mark Mulligan

Mark Mulligan, Reader in Geography at King's College London is an active researcher who promotes the importance of field research as fundamental to understanding and better managing environments and ecosystems. He has led successful field teaching and research programmes throughout Europe, Latin America and South-east Asia including RGS-IBG sponsored fieldwork in Colombia, Brunei and Nepal and has supervised more than 12 successful student expeditions at undergraduate, masters and PhD levels. Mark works extensively with GIS, modelling, remote sensing and laboratory experimentation to upscale field research for use in policy support and makes a number of global and regional datasets and policy support systems available online at www.kcl.ac.uk/geodata. Mark is a member of the RGS-IBG Expeditions and Fieldwork Division Committee and is also senior fellow of the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre. Mark currently leads research projects on: water, food and poverty in the Andes for the Challenge Programme on Water and Food (supported by DfID); desertification in Southern Europe and North

Africa (supported by the European Commission); and the environmental services provided to humanity by the world's protected areas (supported by UNEP). (

Professor Adrian Parker

Adrian is a geographer / archaeologist specialising in desert geomorphology, geoarchaeology and climatic change in the sub-tropics. He is the co-author of *Global Environments through the Quaternary* (OUP 2007) and has published over 70 articles in learned journals, monographs and book chapters. His field research has largely been spent in the Middle East (UAE, Oman, Saudi Arabia) and occasionally in North Africa. In his spare time he tinkers with Land Rovers.

Charlie Paton www.extremeoutdooradventures.co.uk



Ex-Royal Marine and ex-biathlete, Charlie Paton's years in the service gave him experience and expertise covering some of the world's most extreme environments. He has trekked thousands of kilometres across the Arctic Ocean and has stood on the Geographical North Pole a total of 8 times. In May 2000, Charlie along with Royal Marine Alan Chambers MBE, succeeded in becoming the first British team to walk unsupported from the Canadian coastline to the Geographical North Pole (Team Polar 2000). He has spent many years in the Ultra fit cross-training scene and held the Scottish champion title 6 times. Charlie has skied across Greenland both in spring and summer and traversed South

Georgia following Shackleton's footsteps. In 2009-2010 he was a member of the Caitlin Arctic Survey team. Charlie is about to head down to Antarctica in Nov 2011 to guide the Messner route to the South Pole and is looking forward to crossing the South Patagonia Ice cap in 2012. Charlie is the founder and owner of Extreme Outdoor Adventures.

Louisa Richmond-Coggan

http://www.earthwatch.org/europe/expeditions/exped_research_focus/rf-scott11.html



Louisa graduated with a BSc Geography from Lancaster University (2004), a MSc in Conservation Biology from the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology, University and Kent (2006) and is currently undertaking a PhD at Nottingham Trent University. She has completed research in Kenya both inside the Masai Mara National Reserve and the surrounding community group ranches. Her PhD aims to understand the factors that affect the density and distribution of brown hyaena between protected areas and farmland across South Africa using GPS collars and remote camera traps covering an area of 25,000km². For the last three years she has also been a scientific team

leader for the Earthwatch volunteer project 'Brown Hyaenas of South Africa'. She has also travelled extensively including climbing Mount Kinabalu, Borneo and driving the length of India and Nepal in a tuk-tuk

Paul Rose www.paulrose.org



Paul is currently the Society's Vice-President representing Expeditions and Fieldwork. He was the Base Commander of Rothera Research Station, Antarctica for the British Antarctic Survey for 10 years. Paul is a mountain and polar guide leading Greenland Icecap crossing expeditions, polar science support logistics and mountaineering expeditions. Paul works with the BBC Science & Factual department. His series credits include 'Meltdown - A Global Warming Journey', 'Voyages of Discovery', 'Oceans', and most recently 'Britain's Secret Seas'. He has just returned from making a 305 meter science support dive to the bottom of Lake Geneva aboard the Mir Submarine.

Ninette Rowland



Ninette graduated with a BSc Biological Science with Honours (Plant Science) from Edinburgh University in 2010. She led an expedition to Angavo, southern Madagascar in 2010. The team consisted of students, guides and a botanical specialist from WWF Madagascar; and conducted baseline biodiversity research on plants, lemurs, birds and levels of human disturbance in order to inform an on-going conservation initiative to have the region recognised as a New Protected Area. She then proposed and co-ordinated a second expedition to Kobokara, southern Madagascar in 2011, which took place this summer.

Dominic Rowland

www.brinccepedition.org



Dominic first went to Indonesian Borneo to conduct research for his undergraduate dissertation on Orang-utan nesting preferences in the Sabangau peat swamp forests. After graduating from Oxford University with a degree in Biological Sciences he returned to Borneo to assist with volunteers teaching various aspects of tropical ecology. Dominic continued his education at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine where he focused on social sciences and tropical infectious diseases. Dominic is also a keen climber and mountaineer, and has taken part or lead numerous expeditions to the Alps and also bagged a few peaks in South America. His research interests are in EcoHealth, the

anthropology and sociology of health in indigenous communities and Rights Based Approaches to conservation.

Amelia Russell

www.northpolechallenge.co.uk



Amelia has always loved outdoor activities, competing for her county and university at various sports. After qualifying from the University of Cambridge medical school, she set her sights on a surgical career but is now hoping to combine that with expedition medicine. During preparation for her successful 2010 unsupported and unguided Geographic North Pole trip with boyfriend Dan Darley, she took part in various training expeditions including a polar medicine course in Norway. After becoming the first British woman to make it to the GNP unsupported she has returned to work as a surgeon in Peterborough but already is getting itchy feet for the next adventure.

Ivan Scales



Ivan is a lecturer in Human Geography at St Catharine's College, University of Cambridge. His research focuses on the socio-economic dimensions of deforestation in western Madagascar and his interests lie within the broad themes of tropical deforestation, community based conservation and rural livelihoods in Africa. Ivan has also carried out research on conflicts over forest resources in Cameroon, led an expedition to the Amazonian rainforest of French Guiana to study amphibian diversity, and worked for the Tropical Biology Association running its field courses in the tropical dry forests of Madagascar. Ivan has a PhD in Geography, an MSc in Anthropology and a BSc in Ecology.

Nick Smith



Nick Smith is the UK editor of the *Explorers Journal* as well as being a columnist on *Outdoor Photography Magazine*. He is a regular travel writer for *The Daily Telegraph* and a former editor of *Geographical magazine*. A fellow

of the Explorers Club and of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG), this year Nick has travelled in Mongolia, Mozambique and Kenya. His latest book - 'Travels in the World of Books' - was published last year, and the sequel 'A Library in my Luggage' will be published in May 2012. .

Oliver Steeds www.oliversteeds.com @oliversteeds on Twitter Oliver is an investigative journalist and documentary maker. He currently reports for the UK's leading international investigative series, 'Unreported World' and Dispatches and his reports have featured on ABC News, ABC Nightline, BBC, Channel 4 and Al Jazeera amongst others. Oliver also presents adventure, historical, current-affairs, scientific programming in the US and UK for Discovery Channel, Travel Channel, BBC Knowledge. Oliver is also a Director of Digital Explorer. www.digitalexplorer.com.

Richard Teeuw



Richard Teeuw is a lecturer in applied geomorphology and remote sensing at the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Portsmouth University. His first expeditionary fieldwork was with Brathay in Iceland and Kenya. Richard's PhD focused on diamond prospecting in Sierra Leone. Since then he has used remote sensing for many projects, mostly in the tropics: water exploration in Ghana; biodiversity and deforestation surveys in Guyana; soil erosion assessment in Zambia; mineral exploration in Borneo, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Guinea and Mauritania. His enthusiasm for technology transfer and low-cost remote sensing applications has recently been focused on the disaster risk reduction sector.

Emma Thomson

www.ethomson.co.uk



Formerly Commissioning Editor at Bradt Travel Guides, Emma is a freelance travel writer and photographer who writes for international magazines, newspapers and publishers. In May 2011, she joined a team of ten explorers who completed the world's first unsupported trek along Namibia's Skeleton Coast from Terrace Bay to the Angolan border – a journey of over 500km filmed for television.

Geordie Torr

www.geographical.co.uk



Geordie Torr has been the editor of *Geographical* since 2006, having started as the magazine's deputy editor in 2002. He trained as a biologist in his native Australia before taking a job on Australian Geographic, where he worked for three years before moving to the UK. He has travelled to more than 40 countries, and his articles and photographs have appeared in numerous newspapers, magazines and books, including BBC Wildlife, Nature Australia and Australian Gourmet Traveller. (*Saturday only*)

Craig Turner - www.edgeofexistence.org

Craig Turner is currently working as a Conservation Biologist with the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), working on the EDGE (Evolutionarily Distinct Globally Endangered) programme. This focuses on the 'weird and wonderful' species that are not only unique but also globally endangered. Much of his conservation work has focused on the Asia-Pacific region though Craig is currently involved in EDGE species conservation work in Sri Lanka, New Guinea and Panama. In addition to undertaking independent expeditions to the Philippines, he co-ordinates the EDGE of Existence expeditions and manages the Erasmus Darwin Barlow Expedition Grant on behalf of ZSL. Craig is a Fellow of the RGS and the Linnean Society of London.

Keith Wilson



Keith Wilson is best known as the founder of *Outdoor Photography*, the UK's leading magazine dedicated to landscape, nature, adventure and travel photography, which he edited until 2007. He is also the founder of *Black+White Photography* and was the award-winning editor of *Amateur Photographer* from 1989 to 1998.

He also writes on exploration and adventure and has interviewed many of the UK's leading explorers, including Chris Bonington, Doug Scott, David Hempelman-Adams, Ranulph Fiennes and Wally Herbert. Keith is no stranger to adventure himself having trekked across Nepal from India to Everest, slept on the ice in East Greenland and slipped off the ice down Ben Nevis!

The author of two books on travel photography and a regular contributor to *Geographical*, the magazine of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBF), Keith was recently made a Fellow of the RGS and now works as a freelance editor, writer and photographer.