

## ● Gold Medal Winners

The Gold Medals (Founder's and Patron's Medals) originated as an annual gift of fifty guineas from King William IV. It was awarded for the first time in 1831, for the encouragement and promotion of geographical science and discovery. In 1839 the Society decided that this sum should be converted into two gold medals of equal value, to be designated the Founder's Medal and the Patron's medal. Today both medals are approved by Her Majesty The Queen.

Gold Medal winners are listed in full below:

### **1832**

Founder's Medal - Richard Lander

For important services in determining the course and termination of the Niger

### **1833**

Founder's Medal - John Biscoe

For his discovery of Graham's Land and Enderby's Land in the Antarctic

### **1834**

Founder's Medal - Captain Sir John Ross

For his discovery of Boothia Felix and King William Land and for his famous sojourn of four winters in the Arctic

### **1835**

Founder's Medal - Sir Alexander Burnes

For his remarkable and important journeys through Persia

### **1836**

Founder's Medal - Captain Sir George Back

For his recent discoveries in the Arctic, and his memorable journey down the Great Fish River

### **1837**

Founder's Medal - Captain Robert Fitzroy

For his survey of the coasts of South America, from the Rio de la Plata to Guayaquil in Peru

### **1838**

Founder's Medal - Colonel Francis Rawdon Chesney

For valuable materials in comparative and physical geography in Syria, Mesopotamia and the delta of Susiana

### **1839**

Founder's Medal - Thomas Simpson

For tracing the hitherto unexplored coast of North America

Patron's Medal - Dr. Edward Rüppell

For his travels and researches in Nubia, Arabia and Abyssinia

### **1840**

Founder's Medal - Major Henry Rawlinson

For researches in Persian Guayana





**1848**

Founder's Medal - Sir James Brooke

For his expedition to Borneo, and the zeal he has shown in promoting geographical discovery

Patron's Medal - Captain Charles Wilkes, USN

For the talent and perseverance he displayed in a voyage in the Antarctic regions ... and for splendid scientific work

**1849**

Founder's Medal - Austen Henry Layard

For important contributions to Asiatic Geography, interesting researches in Mesopotamia, and for his discovery of the remains of Nineveh

Patron's Medal - Baron Charles von Hugel

For his enterprising exploration of Cashmere

**1850**

Patron's Medal - John Charles Frémont of the U.S. Topographical Engineers

For his important geographical labours in the far West of the American Continent

Chronometer Watch presented to - Rev. David Livingston, the enterprising missionary

For his journey to the great lake of Ngami

**1851**

Founder's Medal - Dr. George Wallin

For his interesting and important travels in Arabia

Patron's Medal - Thomas Brunner

For meritorious labours in exploring the Middle Island of New Zealand

**1852**

Founder's Medal - Dr. John Rae

For his survey of Boothia undermost severe privations ... and for his very important contributions to the Geography of the Arctic

Patron's Medal - Captain Henry Strachey

For extensive explorations and surveys in Western Tibet

**1853**

Founder's Medal - Francis Gallton

For fitting out and conducting in Expedition to explore the centre of Southern Africa

Patron's Medal - Commander E. A. Inglefield

For his enterprising Survey of the coasts of Baffin Bay, Smith Sound and Lancaster Sound

**1854**

Founder's Medal - Admiral William Smyth

For his valuable Maritime Surveys in the Mediterranean

Patron's Medal - Captain Robert McClure

For his remarkable exertions ... in navigating his ship through the ice of the Polar Seas, and for his discovery of the North West Passage



**1855**

Founder's Medal - Rev. David Livingstone  
For his recent explorations in Africa

Patron's Medal - Charles Andersson  
For travels in South Western Africa

**1856**

Founder's Medal - Elislia Kent Kane  
For services and discoveries in the Polar Regions during the American Expeditions in search of Sir John Franklin

Patron's Medal - Heinrich Barth  
For his extensive explorations in Central Africa, his excursions about Lake Chad and his perilous journey to Timbuctu

**1857**

Founder's Medal - Augustus C. Gregory  
For extensive and important explorations in Western and Northern Australia

Patron's Medal - Colonel Andrew Scott Waugh  
For geodetical operations, as remarkable for their extent as for their accuracy, whereby [India] has been covered by triangulation

**1858**

Founder's Medal - Captain Richard Collison  
For discoveries in the Arctic Regions

Patron's Medal - Professor Alexander Bache  
For extensive and accurate surveys of America

**1859**

Founder's Medal - Captain Richard F. Burton  
For his various exploratory enterprises, and especially for his perilous expedition with Captain. J. H. Speke to the great lakes in Eastern Africa

Patron's Medal - Captain John Palliser for the valuable results of his explorations in the Rocky mountains of North America

**1860**

Founder's Medal - Lady Franklin  
For self-sacrificing perseverance in sending out expeditions to ascertain the fate of her husband

Patron's Medal - Captain Sir F. L. McClintock  
For the skill and fortitude displayed by him and his companion in their search for records of the lost [Franklin] expedition and for valuable coast surveys

**1861**

Founder's Medal - Captain John Hanning Speke  
For his eminent geographical discoveries in Africa, and especially his discovery of the great lake Victoria Nyanza

Patron's Medal - John McDouall Stuart  
For very remarkable explorations in the interior of Australia

**1862**

Founder's Medal – Robert O'Hara Burke





**1870**

Founder's Medal - George W. Hayward  
For his journey into Eastern Turkistan, and for reaching the Pamir Steppe

Patron's Medal - Lieutenant Francis Garnier  
For his extensive surveys ... from Cambodia to the Yatig-tsze-Kiang ... and for bringing his expedition to safety after the death of his chief

**1871**

Founder's Medal - Sir Roderick Murchison  
Who for 40 years watched over the Society with more than paternal solicitude, and has at length placed it among the foremost of our scientific Societies

Patron's Medal - A. Keith Johnson  
For distinguished services in the promotion of Physical Geography

**1872**

Founder's Medal - Colonel Henry Yule  
For eminent services to Geography

Patron's Medal - Robert B. Shaw  
For journeys in Eastern Turkistan, and for his extensive astronomical and hypsometrical observations

**1873**

Founder's Medal - Ney Elias  
For his enterprise and ability in surveying the course of the Yellow River, and for his journey through Western Mongolia

Patron's Medal - Henry Morton Stanley  
For his Relief of Livingstone, and for bringing his valuable journal and papers to England

**1874**

Founder's Medal - Dr. Georg Schweinfurth  
For his explorations in Africa

Patron's Medal - Colonel P. Egerton Warburton  
For his successful journey across the previously unknown western interior of Australia

**1875**

Founder's Medal - Lieutenant Karl Weyprecht  
For his enterprise and ability in command of expeditions to Spitzbergen and Nova Zembla

Patron's Medal - Lieutenant Julius Payer  
For explorations and discoveries in the Arctic regions

**1876**

Founder's Medal - Lieutenant Verney Lovett Cameron  
For his journey across Africa from Zanzibar to Benguela, and his survey of Lake Tanganyika

Patron's Medal - John Forrest  
For his numerous successful explorations in Western Australia

**1877**

Founder's Medal - Captain Sir George Nares  
For having commanded the Arctic Expedition of 1875/6, during which ships and sledge parties reached a higher Northern latitude than had previously been attained





**1885**

Founder's Medal - Joseph Thomson

For his zeal, promptitude and success during two expeditions into East Central Africa

Patron's Medal - H. E. O'Neill

For his 13 journeys of exploration along the coast and into the interior of Mozambique

**1886**

Founder's Medal - Major A. W. Greely

For having so considerably added to our knowledge of the shores of the Polar Sea and the interior of Grinnell Land

Patron's Medal - Guido Cora

For important services as a writer and cartographer

**1887**

Founder's Medal - Lieutenant-Colonel T. H. Holdich

For zeal and devotion in carrying out surveys of Afghanistan

Patron's Medal - Rev. G. Grenfell

For extensive explorations in the Cameroons and Congo

**1888**

Founder's Medal - Clements R. Markham

In acknowledgment of the value of his numerous contributions to geographical literature ... on his retirement from the Secretaryship of the Society after 25 years' service

Patron's Medal - Lieutenant H. Wissmann

In recognition of his great achievements as an explorer in Central Africa

**1889**

Founder's Medal - A. D. Carey

For his remarkable journey in Central Asia during which he travelled 4750 miles through regions never visited by an Englishman

Patron's Medal - Dr. G. Radde

For a life devoted to the promotion of Scientific Geography

**1890**

Founder's Medal - Emin Pasha

For the great services he rendered to Geography during his twelve years' administration of the Equatorial Province of Egypt

Patron's Medal - Lieutenant F. E. Younghusband

For his journey from Machuria and Peking to Kashmir, and especially for his route-surveys and topographical notes

**1891**

Founder's Medal - Sir James Hector

For investigations pursued as Naturalist to the Palliser expedition

Patron's Medal - Dr. Fridtjof Nansen

For having been first to cross the inland ice of Greenland ... as well as for his qualities as a scientific geographer

**1892**

Founder's Medal - Alfred Russel Wallace

The well-known naturalist and traveller and co-discoverer with Charles Darwin of the theory of natural selection, in recognition of the high geographical value of his great works





For exploring and survey work in Central Asia

Patron's Medal - James McCarthy

For great services to geographical science in exploring and mapping all parts of the kingdom of Siam

**1901**

Founder's Medal - H. R. H. The Duke of the Abruzzi

For his journey to the summit of Mount St. Elias, and for his Arctic voyage in the Stella Polare

Patron's Medal - Dr. Donaldson Smith

For memorable journey across the unknown parts of Lake Rudolf and the Omo

**1902**

Founder's Medal - General Sir Frederick Lugard

For persistent attention to African Geography

Patron's Medal - Major Molesworth Sykes

For journeys in Persia and for the support given by him to native explorers

**1903**

Founder's Medal - Douglas Freshfield

In recognition of his valuable contributions to our knowledge of the Caucasus

Patron's Medal - Captain Otto Sverdrup

For important discoveries in Jones Sound and for the important part he played as captain of the Fram during Dr. Nansen's famous expedition

**1904**

Founder's Medal - Sir Harry Johnston

For his many valuable services towards the exploration of Africa

Patron's Medal - Commander Robert Scott: "For services as leader of the National Antarctic Expedition, and for his great sledge journey to 82° 17'S"

**1905**

Founder's Medal - Sir Martin Conway

For explorations in the mountain regions of Spitsbergen

Patron's Medal - Captain C. H. D. Ryder

For his survey of Yunnan and his work in connection with the Tibet Mission

**1906**

Founder's Medal - Alfred Grandidier

The veteran French savant who for forty years has devoted himself to the exploration of Madagascar, and for his monumental work on the island in 52 large quarto volumes

Patron's Medal - Dr. Robert Bell

Who during forty-five years of field work has mapped an immense area of Canada previously unknown

**1907**

Founder's Medal - Dr. Francisco Moreno

For extensive explorations in the Patagonian Andes

Patron's Medal - Captain Roald Amundsen

For his daring voyage for the purposes of research in the region of the North Magnetic Pole, and for his first accomplishment by any vessel of the famous North-West Passage



### **1908**

Founder's Medal - Lieutenant Boyd Alexander  
For his three years' journey across Africa from the Niger to the Nile

Patron's Medal - HSH. The Prince of Monaco  
For oceanographical studies off the coast of Spitsbergen

### **1909**

Founder's Medal - Dr. M. A. Stein  
For his extensive explorations in Central Asia, and in particular his archaeological work

Patron's Medal - Colonel M. G. Talbot  
For the large amount of excellent survey work done by him on the Afghan frontier and in the Sudan

### **1910**

Founder's Medal - Colonel H. H. Godwin-Austen  
For geographical discoveries and surveys along the North-eastern frontier of India, especially his pioneer exploring in the Karakoram

Patron's Medal - Dr. William Spiers Bruce  
For explorations in the Arctic and Antarctic

### **1911**

Founder's Medal - Colonel P. K. Koziuff  
For explorations in the Gobi desert, Northern Tibet and Mongolia

Patron's Medal - Dr. J. B. Charcot  
For his important expeditions to the Antarctic, during which he conducted investigations of high scientific value in geology, meteorology, magnetic conditions and biology

### **1912**

Founder's Medal - Charles M. Doughty  
For his remarkable exploration in Northern Arabia, and for his classic work in which the results were described

Patron's Medal - Douglas Carruthers  
For important expeditions to Ruwenzori, Turkestan, Arabia and Mongolia

### **1913**

The Founder's Medal was not awarded, but an inscribed casket was presented to Lady Scott containing the Patron's Medal and the Special Antarctic Medal awarded to her late husband.

Patron's Medal - The late Dr. E. A. Wilson  
For his excellent work in the study of the zoology of the Antarctic ... and for his skill as an artist

### **1914**

Founder's Medal - Professor Albrecht Penck  
For his advancement of almost every branch of scientific geography, and in particular his idea of an International map of the world on the millionth scale

Patron's Medal - Dr. Hamilton Rice  
For his meritorious work on the head waters of the Orinoco and the Northern tributaries of the Amazon".

### **1915**

Founder's Medal - Sir Douglas Mawson  
For his conduct of the Australian Antarctic Expedition which achieved highly important scientific results









**1938**

Founder's Medal - John Rymill  
For the valuable scientific work of his British Grahamland Expedition

Patron's Medal - Eric Shipton  
For his most distinguished record of mountain climbing

**1939**

Founder's Medal - Arthur M. Champion  
For his surveys of the Turkana Province (Kenya) and the volcanoes south of lake Rudolf

Patron's Medal - Professor Hans Ahlmann  
For exploration and glaciological studies in the Arctic

**1940**

Founder's Medal - Mr. and Mrs. Harold Ingrams  
For exploration and studies in the Hadhramaut

Patron's Medal - Lieutenant Alexander Glen  
For his expeditions in Spitsbergen and North east Land

**1941**

Founder's Medal - Captain P. A. Clayton  
For his surveys in the Libyan desert, and his application of his experience to desert warfare.

Patron's Medal - Dr. Isaiah Bowman  
For his travels in South America and for his great services to the science of Geography

**1942**

Founder's Medal - Freya Stark  
For her travels in the East and her account of them

Patron's Medal - Owen Lattimore  
For his travels and studies in Central Asia

**1943**

No medals awarded.

**1944**

No medals awarded.

**1945**

Founder's Medal - Dr. Charles Camsell  
For his contributions to the geology of the North

Patron's Medal - Sir Halford Mackinder  
For his long and distinguished service in the advancement of the science of Geography

**1946**

Founder's Medal - Brigadier Edward A. Glennie  
For his work on geodesy in India and his contributions to mapping in the Far East

Patron's Medal - Inspector Henry A. Larsen, RCMP  
For his achievement of the North West Passage from both west to east and east to west

**1947**

Founder's Medal - Brigadier M. Hotine  
For research work in Air Survey ... and for his cartographic work

Patron's Medal - Colonel Daniel van der Meulen  
For exploratory journeys in the Hadhramaut, and his contributions to the geography of Southern Arabia

**1948**

Founder's Medal - Wilfred Thesiger  
For contributions to the Geography of Southern Arabia and for his crossing of the Rub al Khali desert

Patron's Medal - Thomas H. Manning  
For exploration and survey work in the Arctic

**1949**

Founder's Medal - Professor L. Dudley Stamp  
For his work in organising the Land Utilisation Survey of Great Britain and his application of Geography to National planning

Patron's Medal - Professor Hans Pettersson  
For his leadership of the recent oceanographical cruise in the Albatross

**1950**

Founder's Medal - George F. Walpole  
For contributions to the mapping of the Western Desert of Egypt

Patron's Medal - Professor Harald Sverdrup  
For contributions to polar exploration and for oceanographic investigations

**1951**

Founder's Medal - Dr. Vivian E. Fuchs  
For his contributions to Antarctic exploration and his research as leader of the survey 1948-50

Patron's Medal - Dr. Donald Thomson  
For geographical exploration and studies in Arnhem land

**1952**

Founder's Medal - H. W. Tilman  
For exploratory work among the mountains of East Africa and Central Asia

Patron's Medal - Paul-Emile Victor  
For contributions to Polar exploration and for his geophysical investigations of the Greenland Icecap

**1953**

Founder's Medal - P. D. Baird  
For explorations in the Canadian Arctic

Patron's Medal - Count Eigil Knuth  
For exploration in Northern Greenland ... and for his contributions to Eskimo archaeology

**1954**

Founder's Medal - Brigadier Sir John Hunt  
Leader of the British Mount Everest Expedition

Patron's Medal - Dr. N. A. Mackintosh  
For research and exploration in the Southern Ocean



**1955**

Founder's Medal - Dr. John K. Wright  
For services in the development of geographical research and exploration

Patron's Medal - Commander C. J. W. Simpson  
Leader of the British Expedition to North Greenland

**1956**

Founder's Medal - John Giaever  
Leader of the Norwegian-British-Swedish Antarctic Expedition, for contributions to Polar exploration

Patron's Medal - Charles Evans  
For contributions to Himalayan exploration

**1957**

Founder's Medal - Professor Ardito Desio  
For geographical exploration and surveys in the Himalayas

Patron's Medal - Sir George Binney  
For contributions to Arctic exploration ... the pioneer use of the air survey technique ... and to the development of the university exploring expedition

**1958**

Founder's Medal - Dr. Paul A. Siple  
For contributions to Antarctic exploration and research

Patron's Medal - Sir Edmund Hillary  
For Antarctic and Himalayan exploration

**1959**

Founder's Medal - Commander W. R. Anderson, USN  
For the first trans-Polar submarine voyage in command of USS Nautilus

Patron's Medal - Sir Raymond Priestly  
For services to Antarctic exploration

**1960**

Founder's Medal - Professor Theodore Monod  
For geographical exploration and research in the Sahara

Patron's Medal - Phillip G. Law  
For Antarctic exploration and research

**1961**

Founder's Medal - Dr. Mikhail M. Somov  
For Antarctic exploration and research

Patron's Medal - Dr. John Bartholomew  
Editor 'The Times Atlas of the World', for contributions to cartography

**1962**

Founder's Medal - Captain Erwin McDonald, USN  
For coastal explorations in the Bellingshausen Sea (Antarctica)

Patron's Medal - Tom Harrison

Government Ethnologist and Curator Sarawak Museum, for explorations in Central Borneo

**1963**

Founder's Medal - Capitaine Jacques-Yves Cousteau  
For underwater exploration and research

Patron's Medal - Dr. Albert P. Crary  
For Antarctic research and exploration

**1964**

Founder's Medal - Dr. L. S. H. Leakey  
For palaeographical exploration and discoveries in East Africa

Patron's Medal - Dr. Thor Heyerdahl  
For geographical explorations in the South Pacific Ocean

**1965**

Founder's Medal - Dr. E. F. Rootes  
For Polar exploration and research, with special reference to the Canadian Arctic

Patron's Medal - Professor Lester C. King  
For geomorphological exploration in the Southern Hemisphere

**1966**

Founder's Medal - Professor E. J. H. Corner  
For botanical exploration in North Borneo and the Solomon Islands

Patron's Medal - Dr. G. Hattersley-Smith  
For glaciological investigations in the Canadian Arctic

**1967**

Founder's Medal - Claudio and Orlando Vilas Boas  
For contributions to exploration and development in the Mato Grosso

Patron's Medal - Professor Eduard Imhof  
For contributions to cartography

**1968**

Founder's Medal - Dr. W. Brian Harland  
For Arctic exploration and research

Patron's Medal - Professor Augusto Gansser  
For geological exploration and mapping in the Himalaya

**1969**

Founder's Medal - Rear Admiral Rodolfo N. M. Panzarini  
For services to Antarctic exploration and research and to international co-operation in Antarctic science

Patron's Medal - Drs. R. Thorsteinsson and E. T. Tozer  
For contributions to exploration and economic development in the Canadian Arctic

**1970**

Founder's Medal - Walter William Herbert  
For Arctic and Antarctic exploration and surveys

Patron's Medal - Dr. Haroun Tazieff



Patron's Medal - Professor Mieczyslaw Klirnaszewski  
For his contributions to geomorphology and international understanding in Geography

**1979**

Founder's Medal - Dr. David Stoddart  
For contributions to geomorphology, the study of coral reefs and the history of academic Geography

Patron's Medal - Robin Hanbury-Tenison  
For leadership of scientific expeditions, including the Mulu Expedition, and for his work on behalf of primitive peoples

**1980**

Founder's Medal - Professor William R Mead  
Patron's Medal - Professor Preston James

**1981**

Founder's Medal - Professor Keith J Miller  
Patron's Medal - Professor Valter Schytt

**1982**

Founder's Medal - Mr Michael Ward FRCS  
Patron's Medal - Mr Douglas Warren CMG

**1983**

Founder's Medal - Sir Peter Scott CBE DSC  
Patron's Medal - Commander John Young NASA

**1984**

Founder's Medal - Sir Ranulph Twistleton-Wykeham-Fiennes Bt  
Patron's Medal - Professor Pierre Gourou

**1985**

Founder's Medal - Mr David Attenborough CBE FRS  
Patron's Medal - Walter Smith CB OBE

**1986**

Founder's Medal - Mr Timothy Severin  
Patron's Medal - Professor Peter Haggett

**1987**

Founder's Medal - Dr Anthony Laughton FRS  
Patron's Medal - Professor Richard J Chorley

**1988**

Founder's Medal - Professor Peter Hall FBA  
Patron's Medal - Mr Nigel de N Winser

**1989**

Founder's Medal - Dr Monica Kristensen  
Patron's Medal - Professor Keith Clayton CBE

**1990**

Founder's Medal - Dr John Hemming  
Patron's Medal - Dr Richard Leakey



**1991**

Founder's Medal - Professor Andrew Goudie  
Patron's Medal - Dr Helge and Dr Anne Stine Ingstad

**1992**

Founder's Medal - Professor Alan Wilson  
Patron's Medal - Dr Martin Holdgate CB

**1993**

Founder's Medal - Professor Kenneth Gregory  
Patron's Medal - Colonel John Blashford-Snell MBE

**1994**

Founder's Medal - Professor Ronald Cooke  
Patron's Medal - Professor Ghillean Prance FRS

**1995**

Founder's Medal - The Earl of Cranbrook  
Patron's Medal - Professor David Harvey

**1996**

Founder's Medal - Professor John Woods CBE  
Patron's Medal - Professor John Thornes

**1997**

Founder's Medal - Professor Sir Tony Wrigley  
Patron's Medal - Professor David Rhind

**1998**

Founder's Medal - Professor Robert Bennett  
Patron's Medal - Dr David Drewry

**1999**

Founder's Medal - Professor Mike Kirkby  
For contributions to the development of process-based and modelling approaches in geomorphology  
Patron's Medal - Doug Scott, CBE: "for contributions to mountaineering and the knowledge of mountain regions"

**2000**

Founder's Medal - Professor Brian Robson  
For contributions to urban geography and geographical perspectives to urban policy

Patron's Medal - Sir Crispin Tickell GCMG KCVO  
For contributions to promoting the understanding of global environmental issues in governmental and wider public arena

**2001**

Founder's Medal - Professor William Graf  
For contributions to research on dryland river processes, and the interactions of science and public policy

Patron's Medal - Reinhold Messner  
For contributions to mountaineering and mountain regions

**2002**

Founder's Medal - Bruno Messerli  
For contributions to mountain research and the public awareness of mountain issues



Patron's Medal - Dr David Keeble  
For advancing knowledge in economic and industrial geography'

**2003**

Founder's Medal - Professor Mike Goodchild  
For contributions to geographical information science

Patron's Medal - Harish Kapadia  
For contributions to geographical discovery and mountaineering in the Himalayas

**2004**

Founder's Medal - Professor Leszek Starkel  
For advancing international understanding of palaeohydrology and geomorphology

Patron's Medal - Sydney Possuelo  
For contributions to Brazilian people's rights and explorations in Amazonia

**2005**

Founder's Medal - Professor Sir Nicholas Shackleton  
For research on Quaternary palaeoclimatology

Patron's Medal - Professor Jean Malaurie  
For a lifelong study of the Arctic and its peoples

**2006**

Founder's Medal - Professor Derek Gregory  
For international leadership of research in human geography and social theory

Patron's Medal - Professor Jack Ives  
For his role internationally in establishing the global importance of mountain regions