

## ● Gold Medal recipients

The Gold Medals (Founder's and Patron's Medals) originated as an annual gift of 50 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 His Majesty The King.

Gold Medal recipients 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

Patron's Medal - Robert H. Schomburgk

For his perseverance and success in exploring the territory and investigating the resources of British Guyana

**1841**

Founder's Medal - Lieutenant H. Raper

For excellent work on Practical Navigation and Nautical Astronomy

Patron's Medal - Lieutenant John Wood

For his journey to the source of the Oxus and for valuable labours on the Indus

**1842**

Founder's Medal - Captain Sir James Clark Ross

For his brilliant achievement at the South Pole, to within less than 12° of which he safely navigated his vessels, discovering a great Antarctic continent

Patron's Medal - Rev. Dr. E. Robinson

For his valuable work 'Biblical Researches in Palestine, Mount Sinai and Arabia'

**1843**

Founder's Medal - Edward John Eyre

For his enterprising and extensive explorations in Australia, under circumstances of peculiar difficulty

Patron's Medal - Lieut. J. F. A. Symonds

For his triangulation over Palestine and for his determination of the difference between the level of the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea

**1844**

Founder's Medal - W. J. Hamilton

For valuable researches in Asia Minor

Patron's Medal - Professor Adolph Erman

For important geographical labours in Siberia and Kamstchatka

**1845**

Founder's Medal - Dr. Charles Beke

For his exploration in Abyssinia

Patron's Medal - Professor Carl Ritter

For his important geographical labours

**1846**

Founder's Medal - Count P. E. de Strzelecki

For exploration in the south eastern portion of Australia

Patron's Medal - Professor A. Middendorff

For explorations in Northern and Eastern Siberia



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 - Richard O'Hara Burke

In remembrance of that gallant explorer who with his companion Wills, perished after having traversed the continent of Australia

Patron's Medal - Captain Thomas Blakiston

For his survey of the Yang-tsze-Kiang

**1863**

Founder's Medal - Frank T. Gregory

For successful explorations in Western Australia

Patron's Medal - John Arrowsmith

For the very important services (in cartography) he has rendered to geographical science

**1864**

Founder's Medal - Captain J. A. Grant

For his journey across Eastern Equatorial Africa with Captain Speke

Patron's Medal - Baron C. von der Decken

For his Geographical Surveys of the lofty mountains of Kilimandjaro

**1865**

Founder's Medal - Captain T. G. Montgomerie

For his great trigonometrical journey from the plains of the Punjab to the Karakoram Range

Patron's Medal - Samuel Baker

For his vigorous explorations in the interior of Africa

**1866**

Founder's Medal - Dr. Thomas Thomson

For his researches in the Western Himalayas and Thibet

Patron's Medal - W. Chandless

For his Survey of the River Purus [South America]

**1867**

Founder's Medal - Admiral Alexis Boutakoff

For being first to launch and navigate ships in the Sea of Aral ... and for his survey of the mouths of the Oxus

Patron's Medal - Dr. Isaac Hayes

For his expedition towards the open Polar Sea

**1868**

Founder's Medal - Dr. Augustus Petermann

For his important services as a Writer and Cartographer

Patron's Medal - Gerhard Rohlfs

For his extensive travels in the interior of Northern Africa ... and especially for his traverse of the continent from Tripoli to Lagos

**1869**

Founder's Medal - Professor A. E. Nordenskiöld

For designing and carrying out the Swedish expeditions to Spitzbergen ... whereby great additions have been made to our acquaintance with zoology, botany, geology and meteorology

Patron's Medal - Mrs. Mary Somerville

Who throughout her very long life has been eminently distinguished by her proficiency in those branches of science which form the basis of Physical Geography

**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

Patron's Medal - The Pundit Nain Singh  
For his great journeys and surveys in Tibet and along the Upper Brahmaputra, during which he determined the position of Lhasa and added largely to our knowledge of the map of Asia

**1878**

Founder's Medal - Baron F. von Richthofen  
For his extensive travels and scientific explorations in China

Patron's Medal - Captain Henry Trotter  
For services to Geography which resulted in the connection of the Trigonometrical Survey of India with Russian Surveys from Siberia

**1879**

Founder's Medal - Colonel N. Prejevalsky  
For successive expeditions and route-surveys in Mongolia and the high plateau of Northern Tibet

Patron's Medal - Captain N. V. J. Gill  
For important work along the Northern frontier of Persia

**1880**

Founder's Medal - Lieutenant A. Louis Palander  
For his services in connection with the Swedish Arctic Expeditions in the Vega

Patron's Medal - Ernest Giles  
For his explorations and surveys in Australia

**1881**

Founder's Medal - Major Serpa Pinto  
For his journey across Africa ... during which he explored 500 miles of new country

Patron's Medal - Benjamin Leigh Smith  
For important discoveries along the coast of Franz-Josef Land

**1882**

Founder's Medal - Dr. Gustav Nachtigal  
For his journeys through the Eastern Sahara

Patron's Medal - Sir John Kirk  
For unremitting services to Geography, as a naturalist, as second-in-command to Dr. Livingstone, and as H.M. Consul-General at Zanzibar

**1883**

Founder's Medal - Sir Joseph Hooker  
For eminent services to scientific Geography

Patron's Medal - E. Colborne Baber  
For scientific works during his many exploratory journeys in the interior of China

**1884**



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

Patron's Medal - Edward Whymper  
For his route-map and detailed survey among the Great Andes of the Equator

**1893**

Founder's Medal - Frederick Selous  
In recognition of twenty years' exploration and surveys in South Africa

Patron's Medal - W. Woodville Rockill  
For his travels and explorations in Western China and Tibet

**1894**

Founder's Medal - Captain H. Bower  
For his remarkable journey across Tibet, from west to east

Patron's Medal - Elisée Reclus  
For eminent services rendered to Geography as the author of Nouvelle Géographie Univerelle

**1895**

Founder's Medal - Dr. John Murray  
For services to physical Geography, especially oceanography, and for his work on board the Challenger

Patron's Medal - The Hon. George Curzon  
For travels and researches in Persia, French Indo-China, the Hindu Kush, and Pamirs

**1896**

Founder's Medal - Sir William MacGregor  
For services to Geography in British New Guinea, in exploring, mapping and giving information on the natives

Patron's Medal - St. George Littledale  
For important journeys in the Pamirs and Central Asia

**1897**

Founder's Medal - P. Semenov  
For his long-continued efforts in promoting Russian exploration in Central Asia

Patron's Medal - Dr George M. Dawson  
For exploration in the North West Territories and Alaska

**1898**

Founder's Medal - Dr Sven Hedin  
For important exploring work in Central Asia

Patron's Medal - Lieutenant R. E. Peary, USN  
For explorations in Northern Greenland, and especially for discovering the northern termination of the Greenland ice



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

Patron's Medal - Dr. Filippo de Filippi

For his great expedition to the Karakoram and Eastern Turkestan

**1916**

Founder's Medal - Colonel P. H. Fawcett

For his contributions to the mapping of South America

Patron's Medal - Captain F. M. Bailey

For explorations on the border of India and Tibet ... and especially for tracing the course of the Tsang-po- Brahmaputra

**1917**

Founder's Medal - Commander D. G. Howarth For explorations in Asiatic Turkey

Patron's Medal - Brigadier-General C. G Rawling For explorations in Western Tibet and New Guinea

**1918**

Founder's Medal - Gertrude Bell

For her important explorations and travels in Asia Minor, Syria, Arabia and on the Euphrates

Patron's Medal - Commandant J. Tilho

For his long-continued surveys and explorations in Northern Africa

**1919**

Founder's Medal - Colonel E. M. Jack

For his geographical work on the Western Front

Patron's Medal - Professor William Davis

For his eminence in the development of Physical Geography

**1920**

Founder's Medal - H. St. John B. Philby

For his two journeys in South Central Arabia

Patron's Medal - Professor Jovan Cvijic

For his distinguished studies of the geography of the Balkan states and other parts of Europe.

**1921**

Founder's Medal - Vilhjalmur Stefansson

For his distinguished services in the exploration of the Arctic Ocean

Patron's Medal - General R. Bourgeois

For his long and eminent services to Geography and Geodesy



### **1922**

Founder's Medal - Colonel C. K. Howard-Bury  
For his distinguished services in command of the Mount Everest Expedition

Patron's Medal - E. de Kovan Leffingwell  
For surveys and investigations on the coast of Northern Alaska

### **1923**

Founder's Medal - Dr. Knud Rasmussen  
For exploration and research in the Arctic regions

Patron's Medal - The Hon. Miles Cater Smith  
For explorations in the unknown interior of Papua

### **1924**

Founder's Medal - Ahmed Hassanein Bey For his journey to Kutara and Darfur

Patron's Medal - Commander Frank Wild  
For his long services to Antarctic exploration.

### **1925**

Founder's Medal - Brigadier-General C. G. Bruce  
For lifelong geographical work in the exploration of the Himalaya ... and his leadership of the Mount Everest Expedition of 1922

Patron's Medal - A. F. R. Wollaston  
For his journeys in Central Africa and Dutch New Guinea

### **1926**

Founder's Medal - Colonel E. F. Norton  
For his distinguished leadership of the Mount Everest Expedition, 1924, and his ascent to 28,100 feet

Patron's Medal - Sir Edgeworth David  
For his work on the Funafuti atoll and for his leadership of the first ascent of Mount Erebus

### **1927**

Founder's Medal - Major Kenneth Mason  
For his connection between the surveys of India and Russian Turkestan, and his leadership of the Shakshagam Expedition

Patron's Medal - Dr. Lauge Kock  
For his very remarkable six years' exploration of Northern Greenland

### **1928**

Founder's Medal - Dr. Tom Longstaff  
For long-continued geographical work in the Himalaya

Patron's Medal - Captain G. H. Wilkins  
For his many years' systematic work in Polar Regions, culminating in his remarkable flight from Point Barrow to Spitsbergen

### **1929**

Founder's Medal - Francis Rennell Rodd  
For his journeys in the Sahara and his studies of the Tuareg people

Patron's Medal - C. H. Karius

For his crossing in Papua from the Fly River to the Sepik

**1930**

Founder's Medal - F. Kingdon-Ward

For geographical exploration, and work on botanical distribution in China and Tibet

Patron's Medal - Carsten E. Borchgrevink

For his pioneer Antarctic Expedition, which was first to winter in the Antarctic, to travel on the Ross Barrier and to obtain proof of its recession

**1931**

Founder's Medal - Bertram Thomas

For geographical work in Arabia and his successful crossing of the Rub al Khali

Patron's Medal - Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd, USN: "for his expedition to the Antarctic ... and for his flights over both North and South Poles".

**1932**

Founder's Medal - Henry George Watkins

For his work in the Arctic Regions, especially as leader of the British Arctic Air Route Expedition

Patron's Medal - HRH The Duke of Spoleto For work in the Himalaya

**1933**

Founder's Medal - J. M. Wordie For work in Polar explorations

Patron's Medal - Professor Erich von Drygalski

For researches in glaciology in the Arctic and Antarctic

**1934**

Founder's Medal - Hugh Ruttledge

For his journeys in the Himalayas and his leadership of the Mount Everest Expedition, 1933

Patron's Medal - Captain Ejnar Mikkelsen

For exploration in the Arctic and his work in Eskimo resettlement in Greenland

**1935**

Founder's Medal - Major R. A. Bagnold

For journeys in the Libyan Desert

Patron's Medal - W. Rickmer Rickmers

For long-continued travels in the Caucasus, culminating in his leadership of the Alai-Pamir Russo-German Expedition in 1928

**1936**

Founder's Medal - G. W. Murray

For explorations and surveys in the deserts of Sinai and Eastern Egypt, and his studies of the Badawin tribes

Patron's Medal - Major R. E. Cheesman

For explorations and surveys of the Blue Nile and Lake Tana

**1937**

Founder's Medal - Colonel C. G. Lewis

For surveys in Iraq, Syria and the Irrawaddy Delta, and for his work on the Afghan and Turco-Iraq Boundary Commissions

Patron's Medal - Lincoln Ellsworth  
For his work in developing the technique of aerial navigation in the Polar regions, culminating in his successful flight across the Antarctic

**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 - Phillip G. Law  
For Antarctic exploration and research

Patron's Medal – Professor Theodore Monod  
For geographical exploration and research in the Sahara

**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 - Captaine 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

For volcanological research and exploration

**1971**

Founder's Medal - Sir George Deacon  
For oceanographical research and exploration

Patron's Medal - Dr. Charles Swithinbank  
For glaciological research and exploration

**1972**

Founder's Medal - Rear Admiral G. S. Ritchie  
For hydrographical charting and oceanographical exploration

Patron's Medal - Dr. M. D. Gwynne  
Leader, the RGS's South Turkana (Kenya) Expedition

**1973**

Founder's Medal - N. L. Falcon  
Leader, the RGS's Musandam [North Oman] Expedition  
For contributions to the geographical history of the Persian Gulf region

Patron's Medal - Professor E. H. Thompson  
Professor of photogrammetry and surveying, University College London

**1974**

Founder's Medal - Christian J. S. Bonington  
For mountain explorations

Patron's Medal - Gordon de Q. Robin  
For polar research and exploration

**1975**

Founder's Medal - Sir Laurence Kirwan  
For contributions to the geographical history of the Nubian Nile valley and Eastern Africa, and for services to exploration

Patron's Medal - Dr. J. P. Kuettnner  
For explorations of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans

**1976**

Founder's Medal - Dr. Brian B. Roberts  
For Polar exploration, and for contributions to Antarctic research and political negotiation

Patron's Medal - Rear Admiral Sir Edmund Irving  
For services as Hydrographer of the Navy and for his encouragement of exploration

**1977**

Founder's Medal - Professor Michael Wise  
For economic Geography, and for his contributions to international understanding in geographical teaching

Patron's Medal - Professor Kenneth Hare For discoveries in Arctic Geography

**1978**

Founder's Medal - Major-General R. Brown For services to the science of map-making

Patron's Medal - Professor Mieczyslaw Klimaszewski  
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



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

**2007**

Founder's Medal - Professor Roger Barry  
For international leadership of research on climate and climate change

Patron's Medal - Professor Paul Curran  
For international development of geographical science through remote sensing and earth observation

**2008**



Founder's Medal - Professor Julian Dowdeswell  
For the encouragement, development and promotion of glaciology

Patron's Medal - Professor Jesse Walker  
For the encouragement, development and promotion of coastal geomorphology

**2009**

Founder's Medal - Dr Alan Baker  
For contributions to historical geography

Patron's Medal - Professor Lord Nicholas Stern  
For contributions to climate change policy

**2010**

Founder's Medal – Professor Diana Liverman  
For encouraging, developing and promoting understanding of the human dimensions of climate change

Patron's Medal – Jack Dangermond  
For promoting geographical science through the development of Geographical Information Systems

**2011**

Founder's Medal – Professor David Livingstone OBE  
For the encouragement and promotion of historical geography

Patron's Medal – Dr Sylvia Earle  
For the encouragement, development and promotion of ocean science and exploration

**2012**

Founder's Medal – Professor Charles Withers  
For the encouragement and development of historical and cultural geography

Patron's Medal – Alastair Fothergill  
For promoting globally the understanding of the world's environments

**2013**

Founder's Medal – Professor Keith Richards  
For the encouragement and development of physical geography and fluvial geomorphology

Patron's Medal – Michael Palin  
For the promotion of geography and geographical education

**2014**

Founder's Medal - Professor Geoffrey Boulton  
For the development and promotion of glaciology

Patron's Medal - Hans Rosling  
For the encouragement and development of the public understanding of geographical data and influencing decision makers across the world

**2015**

Founder's Medal - Professor Michael Batty CBE  
For development and promotion of the geographical science of cities

Patron's Medal – Paul Theroux  
For the encouragement of geographical discovery through travel writing





**2023**

Founder’s Medal – Andrew Mitchell  
For his lifetime’s contribution to protect tropical rainforests and combat climate change

Patron’s Medal – Professor Felix Driver  
For his contributions to the Society and historical geography

**2024**

Founder’s Medal – Dr Vanessa Lawrence CB  
For outstanding contributions to the Society and to the promotion of geography in the UK and internationally

Patron’s Medal – Stephen Venables  
For his lifetime’s contribution to geographical discovery in the high mountains of the world

**2025**

Founder’s Medal – Børge Ousland  
To recognise his contributions to contemporary polar exploration

Patron’s Medal – Professor Susan J Smith  
For her excellence and her promotion of excellence in geographical science

**2026**

Founder’s Medal – Dr Enric Sala  
For the encouragement and promotion of geographical science and discovery

Patron’s Medal – Professor Loretta Lees  
For contributions to geographical science