
Contributors

PHIL BARTLETT lives in West Yorkshire and Derbyshire. He likes his outdoor experiences to be non-crowded, and therefore increasingly prefers exploratory mountaineering to rock climbing. In 1992 he explored the Lemon mountains in East Greenland, climbing their highest peak (the Cathedral) and a number of other summits. He returned there in 1998 to explore the south-western shores of Kangerdlugssuaq Fjord. His book *The Undiscovered Country* was published in 1993.

CHRIS BEDFORD, after a brief time in the oil industry, has been a teacher for the last five years, an occupation which provides him with long holidays in which to explore and climb. He has been climbing for ten years in various exciting areas of the northern hemisphere, looking out in particular for steep, solid granite mountains, a rock type sadly lacking in the Caucasus.

JOSÉ LUIS BERMÚDEZ is a lecturer in the Department of Philosophy, University of Stirling. He took up climbing too late and has been making up for lost time in the Alps, Caucasus and Himalaya. In July 1997 he climbed Gasherbrum I (Hidden Peak). Co-author (with Audrey Salkeld) of *On the Edge of Europe: Mountaineering in the Caucasus*.

CHRIS BONINGTON (Sir Christian Bonington CBE) whose distinguished career is well known, celebrated his 61st year in 1995 by making the first ascent of Drangnag-Ri (6801m). In 1997 and 1998 he led two vigorous attempts on Tibet's highest peak Sepu Kangri (6950m) which were defeated only by bad weather. He has climbed all over the world, written 12 books and worked on TV and radio. In the 1996 New Year Honours he received a knighthood for his services to mountaineering. AC President 1996-1998.

YOSSI BRAIN While recovering in an intensive care unit after an 800m fall in the French Alps in 1994, Yossi Brain decided to quit his job as a political reporter for an evening newspaper in Britain and take up climbing full time. He now lives nine months a year in Bolivia working as a guide, freelance journalist and guidebook author and spends the other three months doing the same in Ecuador. His Bolivia climbing guide was published by The Mountaineers in March 1999. His Ecuador climbing guide will be published Spring 2000.

DEREK BUCKLE is a medicinal chemist in the pharmaceutical industry. After nearly 30 years' research he now works part time as a private consultant. This allows him ample time to indulge in his passion for climbing and mountaineering, which he has been doing for some 40 years. He has climbed in the Alps, the Caucasus, the USA, Canada, Equador, Kenya and Nepal.

RICCARDO CERRI is a petroleum geologist based at present in Milan. He is a member of the CAI and mainly devotes his spare time to the history of mining in the Western Alps, with several books and articles to his credit. Since 1992, and during a two-year stay in London, he has also turned his attention to Victorian travel in the Alps: in November 1998 his book *The Queen of the Alps* (co-author: Laura Osella Crevaroli) was awarded the prestigious 'Giuseppe Mazzotti-Gambrinus' prize for mountaineering literature.

DR CHARLES CLARKE is a consultant neurologist who has been climbing since the late 1950s. During 1996-1998, with Chris Bonington, he has been visiting the eastern Nyenchen Tanglha, central Tibet. His current interest is further exploration of the range.

ED DOUGLAS is a full-time writer and current editor of the *Alpine Journal* who started climbing in the Peak District in 1981. He climbs regularly in the Alps and has been on expeditions to Africa, the Himalaya and Alaska. His first book, *Chomolungma Sings the Blues*, won the Special Jury Award at Banff in 1998.

DR CYNTHIA GAMBLE is an independent scholar who lives in London. She writes and lectures extensively on John Ruskin and Marcel Proust in particular. She is Honorary Research Fellow of the Ruskin Programme, University of Lancaster, and founder member and Honorary Secretary of the newly created Ruskin Society.

JIM GREGSON is a teacher of Art. He has climbed in the Alps almost every year since 1972, and in recent years has taken up Nordic-style ski touring and ski mountaineering.

DENNIS GRAY Since retiring as General Secretary of the BMC, Dennis Gray has worked as a trek leader and guide all over the world, from the Himalaya to Africa to SE Asia. In between he has fitted in independent climbing trips to countries as diverse as Tunisia, Korea, Hong Kong and Australia. His latest book of anecdotes, *Slack*, was published in 1998.

LINDSAY GRIFFIN is a magazine editor/journalist living in North Wales who, despite dwindling ability, still pursues all aspects of climbing with undiminished enthusiasm. Exploratory visits to the Greater Ranges are his main love, and a return to Bolivia in 1996 marked his first visit to the South American mainland for a decade. Now convinced that this length of absence was inexcusable, he is making every endeavour to return before 2006.

DAVID HAMILTON earns a precarious living organising trekking, mountaineering and ski touring expeditions to the world's great mountain ranges. He has spent the last eleven summers in northern Pakistan leading more than 30 groups on a variety of unpredictable projects in the Karakoram and Hindu Kush ranges. Other mountain adventures, in Africa, South America, Russia and the Alps, ensure that David is seldom to be found at home.

SUE HARPER divides her year between Chamonix in the winter and Scotland in the summer. With a B.Ed. in Outdoor Education, she has worked at outdoor centres in Britain and is a qualified ski instructor. She writes regularly for outdoor magazines, her articles including a history of armed conflict in the Vallée Blanche above Chamonix during the Second World War.

GINETTE HARRISON, born in Britain but currently living in Massachusetts, started rock climbing at 15 before progressing to mountaineering in the Alps and then the Greater Ranges. She led an expedition to Masherbrum in 1989, and met her husband Gary Pfisterer on Everest in 1993. They climbed the Seven Summits together and are currently working on the 8000-metre peaks. Ginette has climbed four on the list: Everest, Cho Oyu, Kangchenjunga and Shisha Pangma, the last two both being first British female ascents.

GARY HILL lectures at University College, Northampton. He was introduced to climbing through caving and has since climbed on sea cliffs, roadside outcrops and in the mountains of the UK. He has also climbed in the Alps, Belgium, the Caucasus and Thailand. Although his mountaineering experience is still in its infancy, he is very excited by thoughts of potential future exploits.

ALAN HINKES has climbed ten 8000-metre peaks including K2, Everest and new routes on Shisha Pangma and the only British ascent of Manaslu. 'Challenge 8000' is Alan's attempt to climb all fourteen 8000ers. After the fourteen big ones he may contemplate the 277 – or more – Munros. Alan is a British Mountain Guide and writes 'Hinkes on Hills' in *Trail* magazine.

TONY HOWARD, a founding partner of Troll Safety Equipment, led the first ascent of Norway's Troll Wall in 1965 and wrote the Romsdal guide. His expeditions include Arctic Norway, Canada, South Georgia and Greenland. He has climbed extensively across North Africa and the Middle East from Morocco to Iran. He 'discovered' and wrote the guide to Wadi Rum. Recently he rediscovered Egypt's forgotten Red Sea Mountains.

JOHN JACKSON has climbed and explored in the Alps, Greenland, Africa and the Andes. His experience in the Himalaya dates from 1944 and includes first ascents in Kashmir, Ladakh, Garhwal, Sikkim and Nepal. A reserve member of the 1953 Everest expedition, he was also a member of the British team which made the first ascent of Kangchenjunga in 1955.

HARISH KAPADIA has climbed in the Himalaya since 1960, with ascents up to 6800m. He is Hon Editor of both the *Himalayan Journal* and the *HC Newsletter*. In 1993 he was awarded the IMF's Gold Medal and in 1996 was made an Honorary Member of the Alpine Club. He has written several books including *High Himalaya Unknown Valleys*, *Spiti: Adventures in the Trans-Himalaya* and, with Soli Mehta, *Exploring the Hidden Himalaya*.

DAVID D. KEATON is a professional photographer and freelance writer. In 1996, he became the first person to complete both the Seven Summits and the fifty US state highpoints. He has also participated in expeditions to Cho Oyu, the Cordillera Ramada, the Ecuador volcanoes, and Mount Logan.

PAUL KNOTT works on the Faculty at Al Akhawayn University, situated in Morocco, where he enjoys the undeveloped climbing scene. He delights in visiting obscure mountain ranges and has climbed in most regions of Russia and Central Asia. After two visits he also retains a fascination for the deep snow and storms of the St Elias range in the Yukon.

VINEETA MUNI, aged 33, an artist by profession, lives in Bombay. A member of the Himalayan Club, she has climbed five peaks, two being first ascents, during her 15 treks and expeditions in the Himalaya. She also treks and climbs in the Sahyadri hills near Bombay. A keen photographer, she is also interested in the cultural and human aspects of the places she visits.

BILL O'CONNOR is a UIAGM mountain and ski guide who spends much of his time climbing and guiding abroad, with more than 30 summer Alpine seasons and 23 Himalayan expeditions in the bag. A one-time guidebook editor for the AC, he is the author of several books including a soon-to-be-published volume on the Lake District where he lives.

SIMON RICHARDSON is a petroleum engineer based in Aberdeen. Experience gained climbing in the Alps, Andes, Himalaya and Alaska is put to good use most winter weekends whilst exploring and climbing in the Scottish Highlands.

C A RUSSELL, who formerly worked with a City bank, devotes much of his time to mountaineering and related activities. He has climbed in many regions of the Alps, in the Pyrenees, East Africa, North America and the Himalaya.

BILL RUTHVEN has been Hon Secretary of the Mount Everest Foundation since 1985. Being now confined to a wheelchair, he is no longer able to get up mountains himself, so relies on this work to keep him in contact with those who can. He welcomes calls from anyone wishing to talk about projects past or future.

AUDREY SALKELD is a mountaineering writer, historian and bookseller, who has advised on a number of television documentaries and the acclaimed IMAX film, *Everest*. Her own books include *The Mystery of Mallory and Irvine* (with Tom Holzel), *People in High Places* and the 1996 Boardman Tasker Award winner *A Portrait of Leni Riefenstahl*. She has edited several anthologies of mountain writing and information, among them *Great Climbs* and *World Mountaineering*.

DOUG SCOTT CBE has made 35 expeditions to the high mountains of Asia. He has reached the summit of 30 peaks, of which half were first ascents, and all were climbed by new routes or for the first time in lightweight style. Apart from his climb up the SW Face of Everest with Dougal Haston in 1975, he has made all his climbs in Alpine style without the use of artificial oxygen. He has reached the highest peaks in all seven continents – ‘the Seven Summits’. AC Vice-President 1992-93. BMC Vice-President 1994-97. AC President from 1999.

GEOFFREY TEMPLEMAN, a retired chartered surveyor, has greatly enjoyed being an Assistant Editor of the *AJ* for the past 27 years. A love of mountain literature is coupled with excursions into the hills, which are becoming less and less energetic.

STEPHEN VENABLES's first climbs were at Fontainebleau in 1970. Since then he has steadily extended his repertoire, with frequent alpine forays, expeditions to Africa, South America, South Georgia and several first ascents in the Himalaya, including a new route on Everest. He is currently working on his sixth book; his first, *Painted Mountains*, won the 1986 Boardman Tasker Award. He is a former Vice-President of both the Alpine Club and the BMC.

MICHAEL WARD CBE was a member and Medical Officer of the 1951 and 1953 Everest Expeditions. He is a consultant surgeon (retired) who has combined exploration in Nepal, Bhutan, Kunlun and Tibet with high altitude research. Honorary Member of the Alpine Club 1992.

BILL WHELEN was an active mountaineer from the mid-1960s through the 1970s, with experience in Australia, New Zealand, Peru and Britain, which included a winter working at Glenmore Lodge and a summer at Plas y Brenin. At present he is reduced to annual trans-alpine crossings in the Southern Alps of New Zealand, and collecting mountaineering books.

DAVID WILLIAMS is a cabinet maker living in North Wales. He has climbed in the Alps and Pyrenees with Ski Mountaineering expeditions to Alaska, British Columbia, Nepal, Turkey, Greece and Baffin Island.

KEN WILSON is a publisher of mountaineering books. Sometime architectural photographer and founding editor of the magazine *Mountain*, his compilations include *Hard Rock*, *Classic Rock* and *The Games Climbers Play*. He also adapted the (Dumler/Burkhart) latest edition of Blödigg's *Vier Tausender die Alpen* for publication in Britain and America (also France and Poland) as *The High Mountains of the Alps*. He has climbed regularly (though modestly) since 1958 and maintains a keen interest in mountaineering politics and ethics.