



Autumn 2009

Inspired by the leadership and example of 20th century polar explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton, The Shackleton Foundation supports inspirational leaders wishing to make a difference, in particular to the less advantaged.

Articles include:

- Centenary Expedition
- Leadership Awards launched
- Heroes for the Future Programme in schools
- Musical Evening raises £1,800

Royal Reception for Polar Team



Will Gow, Henry Adams and Henry Worsley with the Expedition Patron

HRH The Princess Royal, Patron of the Centenary Expedition, honoured The Shackleton Foundation by attending the welcome home party for the Matrix Shackleton Centenary Expedition Team in April this year.

Held at BAFTA in Piccadilly, London, the event was attended by some 220 friends, families and sponsors of the Expedition.

After the drinks reception,

the assembled company moved to the BAFTA theatre to hear Henry Worsley and the other members of the Ice Team, Will Gow and Henry Adams, along with 97 mile team leader David Cornell recount their experiences of reaching the South Pole.

It was a wonderful, happy event and a great opportunity for the team to thank all those who had made it all possible

Below: HRH meets Alexandra Shackleton



Welcome to our First Newsletter

This is the Foundation's first newsletter and we hope to produce one on a half yearly basis. We want to tell all our supporters and stakeholders what we have been doing and

about our plans for the future.

The success of our Shackleton Matrix Centenary Expedition earlier this year was

entirely due to the very generous support that you all gave us and we are very keen to tell you about how we hope to take the Foundation forward.

2008-9 Matrix Shackleton Centenary Expedition



Will Gow, Henry Worsley and Henry Adams at the South Pole

In 1908-09 Sir Ernest Shackleton's Nimrod expedition travelled to within ninety-seven miles of the South Pole before being forced to turn around in the face of certain death from starvation.

In October 2008 descendants of Sir Ernest Shackleton's original band of Antarctic explorers mounted an expedition to celebrate the centenary of the original Nimrod Expedition.

Setting off from Shackleton's Hut on Ross

Island on 14th November 2008, the team of three reached the 97 mile point on the centenary day – 9th January – before going on to complete unfinished business on behalf of their forebears, by reaching the South Pole on 18th January 2009, having covered a total of 920 miles.

The team of Henry Worsley, Henry Adams and Will Gow were joined at the 97 mile point by another team of five, including descendants Tim Fright and Dave Cornell, "Last Man"

competition winner Andy Ledger, Richard "Ronnie" Gray, and polar leader Matty McNair.

With some 3,000 people following their progress via daily satellite reports posted on the expedition website, this expedition was The Shackleton Foundation's first major fundraising effort, and succeeded in raising over £300,000 for The Foundation.

"We seek individuals who most exemplify the spirit of Ernest Shackleton."

Shackleton Leadership Awards Launched

The Trustees of the Shackleton Foundation have launched the Shackleton Leadership Award Programme as the primary means of disbursing the Foundation's funds to suitable recipients.

Rather than giving funds to charities, The Foundation seeks applications from individuals who most exemplify the spirit of Ernest Shackleton.

The first Leadership Award recipient was Nick Nielsen, founder and director of Envision, a groundbreaking charity set up to challenge the stereotype of the 'youth' as apathetic and disengaged. Envision supports 16-19 year olds in schools and colleges to design their own local

community projects tackling issues ranging from street crime to climate change.

The second recipient of a Shackleton Leadership Award was Rachael Roser whose "Heroes for the Future" programme is covered in detail elsewhere in this newsletter.

The greatest challenge for The Foundation is to identify suitable potential Award recipients. We do not intend to support expedition type activities, unless truly exceptional circumstances exist. However we seek individuals whose passion and vision in their own particular field exemplifies the spirit of Shackleton, and where their chosen project will benefit the less advantaged.

The value of an award is typically £10,000, and the Trustees meet three times a year to select recipients.

The Foundation is seeking sponsors who would be linked to particular awards, for instance in the areas of business, the arts, medicine, sport, the environment, children etc.

Organisations interested in getting involved in the Leadership Award programme should email chairman@shackletonfoundation.org for more information.



*Nick Nielsen
Shackleton Leadership
Award recipient*

Heroes for the Future

This project has been set up by Rachael Roser, a mum of four, who was so upset by the low expectations of the young people she met that she decided that she had to do something about it. She says 'I believe that all young people should believe they have a life full of interest and adventure ahead. It is our job, as adults, to help them to believe in themselves, to discover where their talents lie and to realise that the path to success is through hard work and dedication.'

The Shackleton Foundation has granted her £15,000 to pilot her concept with a view to persuading the Government to incorporate the programme into the school curriculum.

Heroes for the Future is an exciting pilot project which sets out to raise the aspirations of children who are growing up in deprived areas.

The key message is 'Life is an adventure. Get excited about it!' and the intention is to help children to think

ambitiously about the way they envisage their own future.

Throughout history, young people have looked up to heroic individuals for inspiration and motivation. These heroes not only demonstrate the amazing variety and excitement that life can offer but also show positive patterns of behaviour. In 2009 children lack awareness of the heroes of both the past and the present. In their intensely busy and pressured lives, children are not told the thrilling stories of achievers, adventurers, soldiers and athletes. This is because these inspiring people are neither on the curriculum nor count as 'celebrities'.

Heroes for the Future intends to redress the balance by introducing children to the stories of real heroes, people whose determination has helped them to succeed against the odds, and by doing so broaden the horizons of these young people.

The Heroes for the Future Programme is aimed at children between the ages of 10 and 13. Children experience a three part

programme consisting of:

- an inspirational talk from an heroic speaker, someone who has achieved something really outstanding
- an exciting Survival Workshop based on the theme of 'Effort, Risk and Reward'. This aims to stretch children beyond their comfort zone and is delivered by specially trained facilitators
- a variety of classwork that helps children to really think about what they want their adult lives to be like and how to achieve that.

The Heroes Programme concentrates on a few simple ideas with the intention of helping children to grow in confidence and ambition. The focus on heroes enables children to think about the personal qualities that they admire and brings them into contact with life stories that take them beyond the everyday world. This reinforces the central message of the programme 'Life is an adventure! Get excited about it!'

Below: Pupils on one of Rachael's courses



*"Life is an adventure.
Get excited about it!"*

Dates for the Diary

10 Nov 2009 – Lecture at Marlborough School, Wiltshire

20-22 Apr 2010 – Art Exhibition, 6 Mason's Yard, London SW1

19 May 2010 – Lecture at National Bus Convention

**Centenary Expedition
Patron:**

HRH The Princess Royal

Vice Patron:

Robert Swan OBE

Trustees:

William Shipton (Chairman)
Matthew Beardmore-Gray
Patrick Bergel
Caroline Cornell
David Cornell
Tim Fright
Will Gow
Richard Gray
Andrew Ledger
Phillip Turner
Henry Worsley

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Musical Evening Raises £1,800

In early September the Shackleton Foundation and the Bernardi Music Group held an exclusive private concert with music from the time of Shackleton at Sir Charles Burrell's Knepp Castle, near Shipley in West Sussex, to raise money for the Shackleton Foundation.

The event was organized by Tim Fright, a member of the 97 Mile Team on the Centenary Expedition, and great nephew of Frank Wild.

The musicians included: Andrew Bernardi (violin), Fiammetta Ryan (soprano), Alison Sutton (piano). The musical highlight was a rendition of Elgar's Nimrod from Enigma Variations, in

reference to Shackleton's Nimrod Expedition.

Auction prizes including dinner for two at the South Lodge Hotel in Lower Beeding, helped to raise over £1,800 in one evening for the Foundation.



Tim Fright opens proceedings



Knepp Castle



The musicians in full flow!

About The Foundation

Sir Ernest Shackleton is well known as one of the most inspirational leaders of the last century.

While he never achieved his personal dream of being the first to reach the South Pole, his reputation as a leader of men is based on a still greater success: the survival and safe return of all of his team members, whilst overcoming almost unimaginable odds. Shackleton's name lives on as a beacon for courage, bravery and most of all, leadership.

Shackleton's era of heroic exploration is long gone. However, The Shackleton Foundation believes innumerable challenges still exist where the rallying power and indomitable spirit of Shackleton is needed, in order to make a tangible contribution to the greater good.

Thomas Pynchon wrote "Everyone has an Antarctic". The Foundation exists to support and encourage people who may not otherwise have the opportunity to identify and cross their own Antarctic, particularly where the applicant's chosen project can be shown to directly benefit the less advantaged.

We believe that singular people making singular contributions to the public good can provide inspiration to those around them, and we wish to support them in their endeavours.

The Foundation hopes that beneficiaries will develop or possess the personal qualities that define leadership: a fierce personal commitment to succeed, a willingness to take intelligent risks, and the ability to inspire and

energise those around them to do their utmost towards worthwhile causes.

Founded by descendants of the 1908-9 Nimrod Expedition, The Shackleton Foundation was started in 2007 as a way of celebrating the legacy of the great man in a 21st century context. The Foundation's current focus is to find the first ten Shackleton Leadership Award recipients (see article on page 2). A successful programme of awards will help to crystallize the Foundation's objectives.

Anyone with ideas about potential Leadership Award recipients should contact the Foundation for further information.