

Contributors

KEN ALDRED is a mechanical engineer, geologist and lecturer who first visited Austria in 1972 where he developed an interest in Alpine flora. Since then he has walked and climbed in the Alps, Norway, Nepal, the Polish Tatras, Swaziland and the Picos de Europa.

ELAINE ASTILL is a recent arts graduate whose dissertation subject was *The Life and Work of Elijah Walton*. Her passion for the mountains is based upon her study of their artistic representation. She also enjoys walking excursions that have included the Tour of Mont Blanc.

GEORGE BAND was the youngest member of the 1953 Everest team. In 1955 he made the first ascent – with Joe Brown – of Kangchenjunga, and subsequently climbed in Peru and the Caucasus. More recently he has climbed in Bhutan in 1991, and currently leads treks for 'Far Frontiers' in Nepal, Sikkim and Central Asia. AC President from 1987 to 1989, he is currently Chairman of the Library Council and, as President of the British Mountaineering Council from 1996 to 1999, was tasked with setting up the National Mountaineering Exhibition, which opened in July 2001.

JOSÉ LUIS BERMÚDEZ is professor 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. Co-author, with Audrey Salkeld, of *On The Edge of Europe: Mountaineering in the Caucasus*.

WALTER BONATTI was born in Bergamo in 1930, becoming a professional guide in 1954. One of the greatest mountaineers in history, his routes in the Mont Blanc Range, particularly on the Dru, the Capucin and the Grand Pilier d'Angle and on the Matterhorn, are obvious classics. He was caught up in the controversy that followed the first ascent of K2 in 1954, and survived a horrific descent from the Central Pillar of Freney. Since the 1960s he has worked with great success as a photo-journalist.

DEREK BUCKLE is a medicinal chemist in the pharmaceutical industry who now works part time as a private consultant. He has climbed in the Alps, the Caucasus, the USA, Canada, Equador, Kenya, Nepal and Greenland.

NICK BULLOCK is 37 and in the last few years has established himself as one of Britain's leading alpinists. A PE instructor for the Prison Service in Leicestershire, he discovered climbing in 1991 on a work-related course at

Plas y Brenin. A first alpine season included ascents of the Croz Spur and a solo of *The Shroud* on the Grandes Jorasses. Other Alpine ascents include *Beyond Good and Evil* on the Pélérins, and new routes on the Grand Pilier d'Angle and the Sans Nom. Most recently he has done a string of new routes in Peru, this year completing the highly adventurous *Fear and Loathing* on Jirishanca.

ED DOUGLAS is a writer whose first book, *Chomolungma Sings the Blues*, won the Special Jury Award at Banff in 1998. Other publications include *Regions of the Heart: The Triumph and Tragedy of Alison Hargreaves*, co-authored with David Rose. His latest book, published in 2003 for National Geographic, is *Tenzing. Hero of Everest*. He has been Honorary Editor of the *Alpine Journal* since 1999 and retires at the end of the current year.

EVELIO ECHEVARRÍA was born in Santiago, Chile, and teaches Hispanic Literature at Colorado State University. He has climbed in North and South America, and has contributed numerous articles to Andean, North American and European journals.

DEREK FORDHAM When not dreaming of the Arctic, Derek practises as an architect and runs an Arctic photographic library. He is secretary of the Arctic Club and has led 21 expeditions to the Canadian Arctic, Greenland and Svalbard to ski, climb or share the life of the Inuit.

JULIAN FREEMAN-ATTWOOD is a forestry manager who lives on the Shropshire/Welsh border. He has climbed in the Himalaya, Africa, the Antarctic and Sub-Antarctic, specialising in unclimbed peaks in little-known areas.

DENNIS GRAY was born in Leeds and started climbing on local gritstone outcrops aged eleven. He has climbed in and travelled to over sixty countries, most recently China, Southern Africa and Hungary. He is a former General Secretary of the BMC and Chairman of Leeds Wall. He is the author of four books about climbing. He recently published a volume of poetry and organised an exhibition of photographs taken from fifty years of travel and mountaineering.

DENIS GREENALD is an educational psychologist and has been climbing since 1948, almost always with Gwen, his wife and equal partner on and off the rope. They have three children. Their best alpine route was an early British ascent of the South Ridge of the Aiguille Noire in 1953, and they were together on the LSE Karakoram Expedition in 1956, making the first attempt on Lukpe Lawo Brakk or Snow Lake Peak.

LINDSAY GRIFFIN is a magazine editor and 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 his last two expeditions have taken him to previously unclimbed mountains in Central Alaska.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAMES HARRIS joined the Army in 1981 leading his first team to climb Mt Rainer in 1983. He has climbed extensively in the European Alps, in the US and Canadian Rockies, Norway and South Georgia. He was elected to the Alpine Club in 1991. He continues to serve in the Army and lead expeditions whenever time allows. He lives in Devon with his wife and two children.

TONY HOWARD 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.

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 Hon 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*. In 2003 he was awarded the Patron's Gold Medal by the Royal Geographical Society.

PAUL KNOTT has recently made several changes of continent and now lectures at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand. He delights in visiting obscure mountain ranges and has climbed in most regions of Russia and Central Asia. After three successful trips he also enjoys the adventure provided by the big snowy peaks of the St Elias range in the Yukon.

PAT LITTLEJOHN began climbing in the Alps in 1968, aged 17, and has since spent virtually every summer there. He qualified as a Mountain Guide in 1983. Partnered by Steve Jones, in the early 1970s he achieved free ascents of the Hemming-Robbins on the Dru, the W Ridge of Salbitschijen, the Fou S Face and many major Dolomite routes. Pat has made over 1000 first ascents worldwide.

JOHANNA MERZ was over 50 when she took up mountaineering. After qualifying for membership of the Alpine Club, she devoted most of her energies to the Alpine Journal, first as Assistant Editor, then as Honorary Editor from 1992 to 1998, and currently as Production Editor.

ADE MILLER currently lives, climbs and sometimes works in Seattle, Washington. He has visited and climbed in numerous mountain ranges but has spent the last few years sampling the delights of climbing in the Pacific Northwest, the Yukon and Alaska.

MARTIN MORAN is a qualified mountain guide whose interests range from mountain running to making new routes on technical peaks in the Garhwal. In 1985 he made the first winter traverse of the Munros and in 1993, with Simon Jenkins, the first continuous traverse of all the 4000m peaks in the Alps. In 2000 he made the first ascent of the W Ridge of Nilkanth (6596m).

ALAN MULLIN is one of Scotland's most exciting – and controversial – mixed climbers, repeating and then adding some of the hardest mixed routes in the world. He made first winter ascents of *The Steeple* on Shelter Stone (IX, 9) and soloed *Rolling Thunder* (VIII, 8) on Lochnagar. His winter ascent of an E4 on Lochnagar gave a route graded X, 11. He has also climbed in the United States and Patagonia, where he made the first free ascent of the *Czech Route* on the West Face of Cerro Torre.

TAMOTSU NAKAMURA was born in Tokyo in 1934 and has been climbing new routes in the greater ranges since his first successes in the Cordillera Blanca of Peru in 1961. He has lived in Pakistan, Mexico, New Zealand and Hong Kong and in the last ten years has made 19 trips to the Hengduan mountains of Yunnan, Sichuan and South-east Tibet. He is currently auditor of the Japanese Alpine Club.

IAN PARNELL worked for the British Mountaineering Council and is now a writer and photographer. An all-round climber, having climbed E6 on sight, Scottish VII and ED2, in 1999 he led an expedition to Kyrgyzstan which established ten new routes. In 2000 he and Jules Cartwright put up a new route on Mount Hunter in Alaska.

ANDREW POLLARD is a paediatrician and research fellow in the Department of Paediatric Infectious Diseases at St Mary's Hospital, London. He began climbing as a medical student and has made first British ascents of Jaonli (6632m) in 1988 and Chamang (7319m) in 1991. He reached 8600m on Everest as the deputy leader of the 1994 British Mount Everest Medical Expedition. He is co-author (with David R Murdoch) of *The High Altitude Medicine Handbook*.

PAUL RAMSDEN is 33 and works, appropriately enough, as a Health and Safety Consultant whose credits include the last James Bond film. He lives in Nottingham with his wife Mary. He has been mountaineering since childhood and climbed the Walker Spur and the Eiger's North Face before his nineteenth birthday. His climbing interests are now a bit more remote. Highlights include new routes on Denali, Foraker and Thunder in Alaska, Jebel Misht in Oman, the first winter ascent of Cerro Poincenot, and the Peuterey Integrale in a long weekend from home.

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 the Scottish Highlands.

GUY ROBERTSON is 32 and lives in Aberdeen where he works for the Scottish Environment Protection Agency. He is a very active climber both in Scotland and in the Alps, where early in his career he climbed the North Face of the Lauterbrunnen Breithorn. He has been on trips to the Middle East and Peru and like many of the current crop of British alpinists puts great emphasis on an ethic of adventure.

ROY RUDDLE leads the Virtual Reality Research Group at the University of Wales, Cardiff. He enjoys climbing on sea-cliffs, gritstone and the big mountains, especially first ascents in Greenland. ACG Hon Secretary from 1989. Assistant Editor 1992-1996.

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 Honorary Secretary of the Mount Everest Foundation since 1985. Now confined to a wheelchair, the MEF has provided him with a lap-top computer to ensure that it still gets its 'pound of flesh' from him even during his not infrequent periods in hospital. He is always happy to talk to expeditioners about projects past, present and future.

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

JOHN TOWN is Director of Planning at the University of Bradford. He has a preference for little-explored mountain areas and has climbed in the Alps, Caucasus, Eastern Turkey, Siberian and Mongolian Altai, Kamchatka, Yunnan, the Andes, and most recently in the Kongpo region of Tibet.

MICHAEL WARD CBE was a member and Medical Officer of the 1951 and 1953 Everest Expeditions. He is a retired consultant surgeon who has combined exploration in Nepal, Bhutan, Kuntun and Tibet with high-altitude research. Master, Society of Apothecaries of London, 1993-94. He was made an Honorary Member of the Alpine Club in 1972. He was awarded the Founder's Medal of the RGS in 1984. His monograph *Everest. A Thousand Years of Exploration* was published in 2003.

BRADFORD WASHBURN, an Honorary Member of the AC, was born in 1910 and started climbing aged 16, making ascents of the Matterhorn, Mont Blanc and Monte Rosa. Soon afterwards he was elected to the Groupe de Haute Montagne. The publication of his first guidebook, to the White Mountains, helped to establish his reputation as a fine photographer. For 41 years he was the Director of Boston's Museum of Science, and his map-making, notably of the Everest region, has made him internationally famous. He is still at work figuring out the region's plate tectonics.

JOHN B WEST is Professor of Medicine and Physiology at the University of California at San Diego. He was born in Adelaide in 1928 and spent 15 years at the Hammersmith Hospital. He applied to join Edmund Hillary's 'Silver Hut' expedition and despite no climbing experience was accepted. This began his long interest in high-altitude medicine, which has included the 1981 American Medical Research Expedition. He edits *High Altitude Medicine & Biology* and is a former President of the American Physiology Society.

DAVE WILKINSON has been a member of the AC/ACG for over 30 years. During the 1970s and 80s he was very active in the Alps, particularly in winter. More recently he has been involved in first ascents in the greater ranges, especially low-key alpine-style ascents in the Karakoram and Greenland.

DUNCAN WILSON works as a Management Consultant in Paris, where he lives with his French wife, Véronique. He climbs regularly in the Alps, and occasionally in his native British Isles. He has written mountaineering articles for various magazines and journals, mostly based in France.

SHARON WOOD became the first North American woman to climb Everest on 20 May, 1986, via the West Ridge and North Face. Born in Nova Scotia, she started climbing aged 12 and at the age of 20 joined an all-female expedition to Mount Logan. In 1983 she climbed the Cassin Ridge on Denali which pushed her into tackling the Himalayan giants, including Everest and Makalu in 1984. She lives in the Rockies with her two sons.