



▶ CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT.....2



▶ EXPEDITION REPORTS.....3-6



▶ FUTURE EXPEDITION FOCUS:  
SPEAR 17 - ANTARCTICA CHALLENGE....7



THE ULYSSES TRUST

# Summer 2016 Newsletter

SINCE 1992 WE HAVE SUPPORTED OVER 25,000 CADETS AND RESERVISTS TO UNDERTAKE EXPEDITIONS AND ADVENTUROUS TRAINING THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

## Grants Available - Apply Now

The Ulysses Trust exists to support adventurous training of all types by military Reservist and Cadet units throughout the UK. We fund the full range of adventurous training from skiing to sailing, diving to parachuting, climbing to caving. Since 1992 we have granted some £2.5M to help over 31,000 Cadets and Reservists experience challenge in the great outdoors.

We are particularly keen to support units that are located within disadvantaged areas of the UK, and to enable participation and to help broaden the horizons of those who, for financial reasons, would otherwise not be able to take part. We will also support instructor training where appropriate, and can even provide support for the hire of suitably qualified instructors if none are available within your unit.

We have the funding in place to support your unit. Our website at [www.ulyssesrust.co.uk](http://www.ulyssesrust.co.uk) contains full details of our eligibility criteria and our applications procedure, and if you are unsure you can always call us beforehand to discuss your plans and we will be able to help.

We look forward to hearing from you.

## Exercise Tiger Thulo Traverse

Exercise TIGER THULO TRAVERSE set out to trek the 1600km length of the Nepalese Himalayas along a route called the Great Himalaya Trail (GHT). It was to follow in the footsteps of ex-Sapper Captain Doc McKerr who became the first person to trek the route solo, unsupported in 2013 in the incredible time of 66 days. This was to be a more sedate affair, but no less ambitious; 108 Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen from across the Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME) and 7 x Reserve Instructors were to take 4 ½ months to complete the journey as a series of 8 sequential legs, each one led by a Regiment or Wing of the RMSE. After extensive training, by late February 2015 all members had been identified and almost 100 were able to attend a 2 day training seminar at Gibraltar Barracks, Minley. With has much set in stone as possible, the Advanced Party of Leg 1 left the UK on 9 March 15 and departed Kathmandu for the airstrip in the far east of the country at a place called Bhadrapur.

Legs 1 and 2 had great success and all was going well for Leg 3 when the catastrophic earthquake hit Nepal on 25 Apr 15 triggering an avalanche which injured 8 (4 x soldiers and 4 x Nepalese support staff) and tragically killed 2 of the Nepalese support team from Gurkha Adventures, the trekking company that has been involved from the start. This article aims to briefly cover the highs and low of what was achieved before the inevitable decision was made to cancel the remainder of the expedition and to show what can be achieved with forethought and planning. (... Continued in centre pages.)



The Ulysses Trust, in partnership with the Nuffield Trust for the Forces of the Crown, is proud to support the British Army Reserves' Spear 17 expedition to trek unsupported across Antarctica in November 2016. From the coastline of Antarctica, the team will attempt to ski over 1,100 miles unsupported across the polar continent to the Geographic South Pole. Once at the Pole the team will receive a re-supply of rations and fuel and continue onwards over the Titan Dome, down the Shackleton Glacier and onto the Ross Ice Shelf. Read more about this epic expedition on Page 7.

***"To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield"***



Leg 2—Enroute to Makalu Base Camp

# Chairman's Comment

I am one of those individuals who has metaphorical itchy feet after a while for further outdoor adventures (and I am sure that many of the Newsletter's readers are similarly disposed.) Currently, the Trust team is working hard on taking the Trust forward, which is restricting my mountaineering and rock climbing time presently! Hopefully matters will stabilize in due course. There is of course almost a parallel in the poem of our namesake – Ulysses, by Alfred, Lord Tennyson. The tenet in the poem being that Ulysses sought the next adventure at the expense of his family. Fear not, I have no intent of leaving to one side either the Charity (or my next of kin – in case she is reading this!)

Activities over the last 6 months have focused on increasing our fund raising capacity and putting plans in-place for our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year. Both strands have occupied a significant amount of Trustees' time – for which I am most grateful. There is little doubt that the Trust is moving forward in a very positive manner. Indeed, to assist, we have brought in several charity experts to help us, who have not only endorsed our work to date but have recommended some particularly useful next steps.



*The Chairman both 'striving' and 'seeking' his way up one of one of North Yorkshire's finest grit climbs.*

On behalf of our beneficiaries, I should like to thank all those who support the Charity. Without you, the Ulysses Trust would not be able to help young people fulfil their potential, many of whom come from difficult backgrounds. If you are thinking of organizing an adventure (and it does not have to be to a far flung position on the globe) – do it! Not only will you find it satisfying to pull the expedition together, but also you will be enriching young peoples' lives and assisting with their development in some very important areas.

AVM Nick Kurth CBE FRGS  
Chairman of Trustees



## Grant Applications

We welcome applications from all Reserve, UOTC and Cadet units seeking to undertake adventurous training. Guidance notes and our online grant application form are available on our website which contains information relating to our grant eligibility criteria. While we try to keep the admin to a minimum, there are some points of which you should be aware before you submit your application.

For those of you familiar with our grant application process, it would be worth revisiting this section of our site, as our criteria have recently changed.

## Expedition Reports

If your unit has been on an expedition that has been supported by the Ulysses Trust, it is important to remember to send us your expedition report. The report should be between 750 and 1000 words long, should be written in a journalistic style, and include enough high resolution photographs to illustrate what you have been doing. Not only will your report be published on our website, but your expedition might also be considered for our Patron's Best Expedition Award. The best photographs could also go on to win one of our prestigious annual photography awards.

## Social Media

You could help us considerably by encouraging all members of your unit to follow us on social media. Help us to spread the message about our support for adventurous training. We're on Twitter @ulysses trust and you can find us on Facebook by searching for Ulysses Trust. We look forward to being social with you!



THE ULYSSES TRUST

# Ex Thar Horizon 3 - 282 (East Ham) Squadron ATC

Departing Heathrow bound for Delhi in India, 15 cadets and 5 staff members from 282 (East Ham) Squadron Air Cadets couldn't contain their excitement for the adventure that lay ahead; an adventure that would change their lives forever!

It was no easy task; the climate difficulties along with being out of their comfort zone, the cadets embraced the challenges and focused on the main task which was to refurbish a deprived school miles from any town. It was certainly going to be a culture shock for the cadets, but they were all confident they would do their best, work as a team, and deliver something very special.

The team spent the first day acclimatising and were welcomed to the country by Captain Stuart Borland RN, the UK Air & Naval advisor in India. The following day, the team were met by their camel drivers and camels. This was the beginning of a 4-day safari. Each day involved trekking 15-20kms by camel and camping each night on a sand dune. Each leg of the journey gave a different story. Visiting little villages along the way, greeted by families, witnessing the life struggles in such an environment, the cadets got to see the true India. Indian kids in the desert have very little, but to the team they seemed quite happy with what they had. *"The young people in the desert appreciate the small things in life. This had a great impact on the cadets as it made them appreciate the things they had back in the UK. There were no luxuries here for the team"* said Pilot Officer Billy Moore, Exped 2 I/C.

Arriving at the project site, the team got to work on refurbishing a school which was dull and below acceptable standards. The cadets took charge of the project and designed the new décor schemes for two classrooms and an office. The days were long and hot but all pushed on to get the task complete within 4 days, ready to hand over to the school at a ceremony. The kids from the school were amazed with the transformation.



Cadet Rhys Butler commented *"It was very special for me, to be able to do something which would impact on so many lives. I am very proud with what we have done. This will be something I will remember for a very long time!"*

For Cadet Corporal Sebastian Stewart, it was a perfect moment to reflect. *"I cherished the moments we had in the desert. For me it was a moment to think and relax, to look back at my life in the UK and compare it to here in India. It was emotional at times, thinking about home and what we are doing here, but I am very proud"*.

The time in the desert enabled the team to get to know each other a great deal. Flight Lieutenant Booty, Expedition Co-ordinator said *"It was amazing to see the cadets interact and build a bond which will be special to them for many years. They had few luxuries and depended on each other a great deal to get through the trip. It's the basic social skills that kids are losing and this trip went back to basics. It was great for them."*

The final days included a safari in the Bengal Tiger National Park and a visit to the amazing Golden Temple, home of the Sikh Religion. The team got to volunteer in the temple kitchen and helped serve the 30,000 people who visit each day.

*"The expedition gave cadets time to think and reflect on their lives, appreciate and value what they have. It was emotional at times but very special for the cadets who were so proud of what they done*

with the school. Being present at the handover ceremony made it that little bit more special for them. Seeing them interact with the children, taking selfies with them and laughing, it was priceless! I operate these expeditions as I know it delivers a life changing moment for young people. Youngsters don't get time to reflect and think about their future and lives.



Although India is very busy and full of attractions, colour, and culture, it opens the cadets' eyes to the world and what they have compared to other kids their age who are less fortunate. By raising their aspirations and empowering young people, they learn a great deal more and become better individuals. This is what life is about. I am very proud of the 15 cadets and the 4 staff that assisted with the running of the expedition. Seeing the school kids smile with what the cadets have given them shows that the mission was a success, and that the team made a difference.

A huge thank you to all our sponsors who made the expedition possible including the Ulysses Trust and the RAF Charitable Trust. They all made a massive difference to so many lives.



# Exercise Tiger Thulo Traverse 2015

*A highly ambitious British Army expedition to attempt a 1600km high altitude traverse of the Nepalese Himalayas over 5 months ended in tragedy. This is their story.*

## Leg 1: 3 RSME Regt. - Kanchenjunga – Tumlingtar.

The journey to the start of the trek was an experience in itself; a short mountainous flight from Kathmandu to Bhadrapur followed by a very bumpy bus ride to Taplejung before an equally exhilarating 4x4 ride eastwards on some pretty hairy roads. Although we were trekking the GHT in a westwards direction we had a week's walk eastwards to get to the start point of the trek itself, Kanchenjunga Base Camp (KBC). The 5 day trek to Lhonak, the final settlement before KBC was long and strenuous with the effects of altitude and the cold being felt by all. The day after reaching Lhonak was an early morning start in order to reach KBC (5143m) by mid-morning and despite all suffering from the effects of altitude, all 14 members of the team made it to the foot of the world's third highest mountain and the start of the GHT proper.

The day we crossed the Lumbha Samba we had breakfast at 0300hrs and we then didn't stop for the next 12hrs. An ascent of 1100m over mixed terrain proved difficult in some sections of the trail but all was worth the effort once the pass was reached in the late morning.

## Leg 2, 1 RSME Regt. - Tumlingtar – Lukla

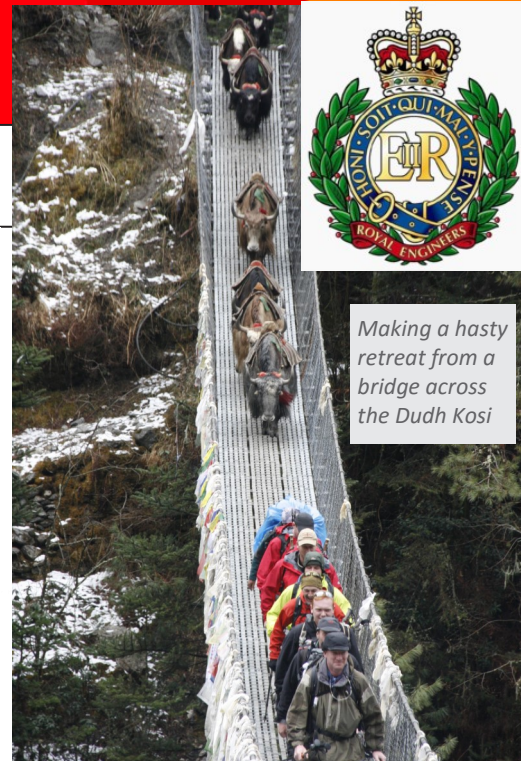
The ground covered by Leg 2 was the most technically demanding and toughest section of the GHT. It crosses 2 x 6100m+ passes that lie directly to the South of the World's 5<sup>th</sup> highest mountain, Makalu as well as crossing the infamous 5900m Amphu Laptsa Pass that links the Honghu Valley to the Solu Kumbu and the Everest Region. Due to the extreme height and unseasonably bad weather Leg 2 had a difficult time and some members of the team were evacuated with severe Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS). Despite this what they achieved was phenomenal and they became the first people to

make the crossing of the 3 passes this year. Below are some memories of 3 of the youngest members of the Leg 2 team.

*LCpl Taylor:* "We flew to Tumlingtar where we would spend our first night before starting our trek with a five hour journey by road into the mountains to the village of Num. The following day the heat and humidity in the jungle was incredible. As we progressed we reached the snow line and having only just broken the 3000m mark a few members of the group came down quickly with altitude sickness resulting in vomiting and some worrying changes in character. However, breaching the snow line in the Himalayas has got to be an experience I won't forget, partly due to the fact that I was wearing running shorts, trainers and a thermal top because of previously being in jungle conditions. It is fair to say I noticed the cold at that point!

Early on we had to cross 4 x 4000m+ passes over extremely dangerous terrain and to add to this, bad weather had recently caused a massive snow dump on the mountains above. Myself and two other stronger members of the group volunteered to push forward of the main group and cut steps into the snow over the passes. I found this extremely challenging both physically and mentally. We all eventually made it to the teahouse and the next morning we woke to find snow leopard tracks around the teahouse.

A few days later when we set off I felt different from the day before, this was to be the onset of altitude sickness. The first thing I



*Making a hasty retreat from a bridge across the Dudh Kosi*

noticed was the difference in my body rather than my mind-set. I felt strong enough to move at a good pace and wanted to, however no matter what I told my body to do I could not take more than just a few steps at a time. The next morning we set off to Makalu Base Camp and the headaches hit me hard. That night my condition became worse, and the following day myself and four other team members were evacuated from the mountain by helicopter.

From the time on the mountain to the time we spent travelling the country, it was definitely an experience of a lifetime. The Nepali landscape allowed us to experience multiple surroundings and terrains from jungle to snow capped peaks. Nepal has it all and I hope to return in the not so distant future."

*Spr Stone continues the story.* "From Makalu Base Camp the rest of the team pushed forward into what seemed like a long white nothingness. We all knew what was ahead though: the hardest part of the trip, including 2 x 6200m passes, the Sherpini Col and West Col and then 2 days after this the Amphu Labsta Pass. The Amphu Labsta is one of the most difficult passes in the Himalayas - on average only 80 people a year cross it and this year none had done so before us.

The day we crossed the high passes we set off at 2am and were on the move for nearly 20hrs. We crossed deep snow and proceeded to do a 100m abseil down an ice wall in crampons – certainly an experience to remember.



*Leg 3 - REWW with the Gurkha Avalance team in Na village post avalanche*

After another memorable day crossing the Amphu Labtsa and meeting in Leg 3 in Dingboche the walk back down to Lukla was a welcome chance to recover our strength and take in the fantastic scenery.

For me the trip has given me an opportunity to see how the Army operates on expeditions. It was great getting to work with senior soldiers and see their approach to the various challenges. The trip has also without doubt given me the opportunity to push myself physically and mentally – further than I thought I would ever be able to go. The trip has taught me a huge amount about how much teamwork matters, particularly in a dangerous environment. Learning to check your mates are okay before sorting out your own needs has definitely been a huge learning curve for me. An unforgettable high point has to be receiving a KFC at 5900m at the high camp before the Amphu Labsta Pass – the ‘Colonel’s Recipe’ has never tasted so good!

### **Leg 3, RE Warfare Wing - Lukla - Last Resort**

This Leg of the GHT set out to traverse the Everest Region of Nepal and cross 3 passes in excess of 5000m and also visit Everest Base Camp itself.

The flight into Lukla, the gateway to the Solu Khumbu and Everest is renowned for being an exhilarating flight and it did not disappoint. It must be the closest any of the team would get to landing on an aircraft carrier. After an acclimatisation day in the Sherpa capital of Namche Bazaar the team awoke to find their

tents covered in 20cm of snow, very rare at such a low altitude (3460m) this late in the season. The team pushed on through the snow to Dingboche (4410m) where they met with Leg 2 who passed on their high altitude kit and some top tips before heading south to Lukla.

3 days later all the team made it to Gorak Shep in glorious weather and then on to Everest Base Camp (5143m) where the weather came in quickly turning snowy, windy and very cold. The following day, 10 members of the 14 man team reach the summit of Kala Pattar (5550m) before then turning west, ready to tackle the Cho La (5420m) and Renjo La (5400m). The descent from the Cho La was difficult and required individuals to wear crampons and helmets due to the steepness of the ice slope while the ascent to the Renjo La proved arduous after a series of long days. The sun made it incredibly hot at times but the view from the top of the Renjo La, across to Everest was spectacular and the best seen so far.

After a rest day in the Sherpa village of Thame the team crossed the 5755m Tashi Lapsa pass on 25 Apr 15. They rose at 0030 for a 0200 departure already wearing harnesses as they knew there would be fixed rope sections on the ascent. The ascent was steep throughout but as it was dark it was just a case of following the head torch in front. Towards the top of the pass there were several fixed rope sections as a fall would result in a 300m drop. The pass was reached at 0630 and the descent began, again involving roped sections.

At around 1200 the earthquake struck Nepal which triggered an avalanche engulfing the entire group and sweeping away all equipment. It consisted of mainly hard rock and ice as opposed to powder and it was soon found that 2 of the Gurkha Adventures support team had been killed and there were a further 4 British and 4 Nepalese casualties. The injuries included head wounds, a dislocated shoulder, suspected broken ribs and shock. After liaison with the helicopter company and attempting to contact the Embassy the scale of disaster that had engulfed Nepal became clear and the team realised it may be some time before they were rescued. The decision was taken to walk to the nearest village, Na, as despite having casualties the concern was an aftershock might trigger a second avalanche. The walk to Na was extremely strenuous as there was little food and water and the majority of kit had been lost. After a further 10hrs walking the small settlement was reached where the team stayed for the next 72hrs before being evacuated to Kathmandu by helicopter.



Legs 2 & 3 - Lukla Airport

By the time we arrived back at British Gurkhas Nepal it had been transformed into the operational Hub for the British disaster relief effort so was very busy and the next few days were spent trying to help out around the camp where possible and conduct post trek administration before the team returned to the UK on 1 May.

### **Conclusion**

With further earthquakes occurring and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office advising against all but essential travel to Nepal for the time being the decision had to be taken to stop the expedition. Instead, those involved in the GHT turned their attention to raising money for a GHT Memorial Fund to help support the families of those killed supporting us; Aas Bahadur Gurung, a guide on Leg 3 (pictured bottom right) and Roshan Gurung a porter who had trekked with the team from the Kanchenjunga Base Camp.

As awful as this event has been for Nepal and it's people we must not overlook what was achieved: 45 soldiers from 6 different cap badges, Reserve and Regular, and ranging in age from 18 to 52, 10 of whom had only finished their Army training weeks before leaving the UK, trekked a third of the length of the Nepalese Himalayas in just under 6 weeks. They crossed 8 passes in excess of 5200m and for Leg 2, they became the first people this year to force a way across the 6200m Sherpini Col and West Col beneath Makalu, the world's 5<sup>th</sup> highest mountain.

The RSME will return to Nepal in October 2016 to place commemorative plaques in the villages where Roshan and Aas came from and then complete a memorial trek around Mt Manaslu, the world's eighth highest mountain.



Leg 3 - Gurkha Adventures CEO Khil Thapa (left) and Aas Gurung (right).

# Exercise Shamrock Canary Rock 2016 - Royal Belfast Academical Institution CCF

This expedition marks the first overseas adventurous training exercise that the unit have undertaken and, with our support, nine Senior Cadets and two Officers set off for a rock climbing exercise in Tenerife from 16 - 23 Feb 2016.

Tuesday 16 February heralded the transit day from Belfast International Airport to Tenerife South. It was an early start at 0630 hours with a flight time of approximately four hours. After some delay in collecting the hire vehicles the Ex party made their way to Santa Cruz, the island's capital, to book into the hotel, after battling with driving on the right and the island's drivers!

Wednesday 17 February was the first rock climbing day and the whole party were straight into business, departing the hotel at 0800 hours followed by a few minutes of shopping for the day's provisions. The area targeted was 'Arico Arriba', near Villa de Arico. This is the most popular area with a selection of over 200 routes up to 8c. The routes are situated in a dry river gorge with stunning scenery. The routes selected to warm up were up to V+ and were bottom roped. The Cadets were straight into climbing mode, helped by the many weeks of pre-training conducted on the School's climbing wall.

By this time the cadets were warmed up and ready for some friendly competition between themselves and the Major. With hands chalked and feet primed, the Major scampered up the rock face chasing the escaping sunlight to produce a very impressive time. However, the cadets fought back at the Officers with Freddie Johnston halving the Major's time in becoming the fastest climber of the day.

With the day coming to a close, the cadets had had enough of ropes and decided to swap their harnesses for the crash mat and took on some difficult bouldering problems. We started the

problems off with a challenging traverse across a sharp piece of basalt. All of the cadets attempted this problem with Mark Greer getting the furthest along the traverse using some impressive footwork and upper body strength. The final boulder problem involved a difficult overhang with poor hand holds. This problem proved to be too difficult for any of the cadets or officers to complete with some of the cadets vowing to conquer it by weeks' end.

The next few days were beset with rain with an unseasonal storm blowing across the entire Canaries, however we were determined to achieve something. A combination of abseiling from the road bridge in Arico, a half day of climbing on wet (grim) rock, driving up the mountain to the snow line at around 1500 metres, and indoor climbing kept everyone well occupied and out of mischief!

As we woke up on Sunday we were surprised to see sun as it had been raining around the hotel for the past few days. We had all of the gear ready the night before and set off to Guaria. For once the weather forecast was correct and it was the warmest day we had on the island, reaching 26°C, which had prompted us to purchase plenty of food and water.

The walk up to the climbing area was definitely a good warm-up for climbing as all of the men had broken a sweat. When we reached our area we found a cave where we put up sun protectors to shield the men from the very hot sun. The first climb of the day was on top rope with the belay at the top of the crag. This was definitely our hardest climb yet, at grade 6c+

and a vicious four-foot overhang, no-one completed this, but it was extremely enjoyable; especially when swinging out from the rock after ping-pong. We decided a few easier climbs would be the way forward and a way to keep spirits up. There were a few other climbs which were slightly easier as they did not have the overhang.

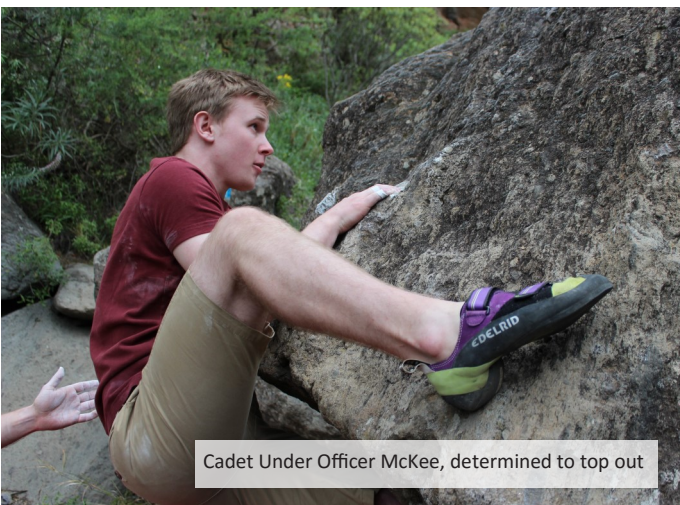


The Cadets warming up on hot rock in full sun.

Monday marked the final climbing day and a tangible determination to get many more hard routes completed. Following another early breakfast, the party went out again to collect provisions, this time visiting a deli to collect a range of very delicious fresh filled baguettes and pastries. We headed back to the much loved 'Arico Arriba' and got stuck in to new climbs, 'Los Quintos' had a good range of climbs ranging from a V- to 6a which catered for the different levels of climbing ability.

Wishing to push even further the group split into two in the afternoon, half going to 'Sus Villa' sector for more roped climbs and the other half returning to the previously failed boulder problem. The completed climbs of the day included a 6b+ route. Unfortunately, none of the Cadets could conquer the boulder, graded 6c, but Mr Shields managed after many attempts and frustration. A final dinner was held in the hotel, a three course meal which hit the spot! The next day we said farewell to Tenerife, with the full intention to return someday; maybe even finish that boulder problem.

We are exceptionally grateful for the Ulysses Trust supporting the Exercise, without their support a number of boys would not have been able to attend due to the cost. As the inaugural AT Exercise of the Contingent it had the aim of reinvigorating the senior Cadets and also to improve retention. It has certainly met and surpassed this aim, with the Cadets all wishing to take part in an annual event and try out a range of sports.



Cadet Under Officer McKee, determined to top out

# There and back again....

*The Ulysses Trust is proud to support a major Antarctic expedition aiming to achieve a feat that only a handful of people have previously attempted in order to truly demonstrate the capabilities of the British Army Reserve.*

In November 2016 a six man team from the British Army Reserves will be dropped by ski plane on the coastline of Antarctica. From there they will attempt to ski over 1,100 miles unsupported across the polar continent to the Geographic South Pole. Once at the Pole the team will receive a re-supply of rations and fuel and continue onwards over the Titan Dome, down the Shackleton Glacier and onto the Ross Ice Shelf to complete a full traverse of Antarctica. A feat achieved by only 6 people so far.

Each man will be hauling an individual pulk weighing approx 160kg which will contain everything he needs to survive for 3 months on the ice pack. The team will be completely self sufficient and do not intend to receive any form of resupply or outside assistance until they reach the Pole. The team expect to arrive at the Pole by the end of December or early January and complete the full traverse by the end of January.

The team will face many challenges along the way including the harsh polar weather, crevasses, whiteout conditions, a climb from sea level to 10,000ft, isolation from the outside world and the constant mental and physical battle of manhauling their pulks across the ice. It will take every ounce of their strength and determination to reach their goal. Antarctica is the coldest (-93°C), windiest and most inhospitable place on the planet but also one of the most beautiful and rewarding places to travel in.



*"If Antarctica were music it would be Mozart. Art, and it would be Michelangelo. Literature, and it would be Shakespeare. And yet it is something even greater; the only place on earth that is still as it should be. May we never tame it."*

## Why do it?

This is a polar journey never before attempted by an Army Reserves team. Over 4,000 people have summited Everest, but only a handful have walked unsupported to the South Pole.

As a consequence of the expedition we hope to raise £100,000 for service personnel in need with ABF The Soldiers' Charity.

This will also be a flagship expedition to raise the profile and highlight capabilities of the Army Reserves making it a key recruiting and retention opportunity.

The Spear 17 expedition is the ultimate test of physical endurance and determination to succeed in the most hostile environment on the planet.



## Scott of the Antarctic

The British Armed Forces have long held a strong connection with the Antarctic since Captain Robert Falcon Scott CVO RN led two expeditions to the region in the early part of the 20th century. It was his second ill-fated Terra Nova Expedition from 1910-1912 when Scott's party, narrowly beaten to the South Pole by Roald Amundsen, became engulfed in a deadly storm. The line from Tennyson's poem, Ulysses, is inscribed on a wooden cross which marks their final resting place, and it is this inspirational definition of the spirit of adventure that forms the motto of the Ulysses Trust.

*"To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield."*

## Expedition Timeline

### 2016

Jan/Feb: Team training in Norway (final team selection)

Jan - Dec: Fundraising

Mar: Official Launch Event

Mar - Oct: Team training events

Late Oct: Depart UK for Chile

Early Nov: Fly to Antarctic, start journey to the South Pole

### 2017

Early Jan: Reach the South Pole

Late Jan: Complete Antarctic Traverse

Late Jan: Return to the UK



THE ULYSSES TRUST

# Ulysses Trust Supporters



## Founding Chairman Crosses The Bar

We are very sad to report the death of Colin Cullimore in late December 2015. Colin became the founding Chairman of Trustees of the Ulysses Trust in 1992 - created alongside the TA attempt at a first British winter ascent of Everest - and led the Trust for the next 10 years.

Colin saw active service with the Parachute Regiment during the Fifties. He subsequently joined the TA, serving with 10 PARA (V), and went on to a highly successful career in the meat trade. He was Managing Director of the Vestey Group for 17 years, and became Chairman of NAAFI in the early Nineties. He remained a stalwart supporter of the Parachute Regiment, serving as a trustee on regimental charities.

Always generous with his time for others facing a challenge, he might nevertheless have had cause to consider when asked to chair a start-up charity associated with an expedition still struggling for funds and facing some scepticism from parts of the military establishment. Never afraid of ruffling feathers, it was typical that he accepted without hesitation and threw his enormous energy and enthusiasm into steering the charity through its early uncertain years. A big man in every way.

We are grateful for the generous support of our benefactors, including:

The Worshipful Company of Armourers & Brasiers  
Army Sports Control Board  
Army Cadet Force Association  
BAE Systems  
Colonel David Benest OBE  
Vivian Benest  
Berlin Infantry Brigade Memorial Trust Fund  
David Blanchard  
M E Browne  
Capsule CRM  
Ellen Clarke  
The Connaught Trust  
Peter Alan Dickson Foundation  
The Worshipful Company of Dyers  
The Lord Faringdon Charitable Trust  
The Friends of the Ulysses Trust  
Garfield Weston Foundation  
Google  
RFCA for Greater London  
Happy Valley Shoot  
Nicholas Holder  
David Juster  
Sir James Knott Trust  
Lady MacPherson of Biallid  
The MacRobert Trust  
Mr Keith Miller  
The Nuffield Trust  
RFCA for North West England and the Isle of Man  
Paul Orchard-Lisle  
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Pewsey Vale U3A Military History Group  
Prince of Wales's Charitable Foundation  
Julian Radcliffe  
Clive & Sylvia Richards Charity  
The Royal Society of St George  
RAF Charitable Trust  
Support Command Ltd  
Rt Hon Desmond Swayne TD MP  
Wessex RFCA  
E S & S A Yorke

## Be More Social in 2016!

Don't forget to follow us on social media! We often publish useful links and information about expeditions with the aim to inform and inspire you for your next odyssey.



Our Twitter feed is [@ulyssesrust](https://twitter.com/ulyssesrust) - and we're excited that we've just reached 1000 followers!



And we're also on Facebook—just search for Ulysses Trust, and you'll find a vast gallery of images of past expeditions. Some of our posts could feature you!

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# £260,000

The funding target  
that the Ulysses Trust  
needs to raise in 2016.

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