

Tanya Streeter (USA)



Tanya Streeter was born and raised in Grand Cayman in the Caribbean. She is a ten-time world record freediver and was the first person ever freediving to 160 meter in the discipline “no limits”. Her 10 freediving world records span 6 years and 7 disciplines, including 5 absolute and 2 current world records. In 2000 she was inducted into the Women Diver’s Hall of Fame and in 2003 Sports Illustrated named her “The World’s Most Perfect Athlete”. She has been a TV presenter of several wildlife documentaries for BBC, Animal Planet and National Geographic. She is spokesperson for The Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society, The Coral Reef Alliance, Bite Back (shark protection), WSPA (World Society for the Protection of Animals) and Patron to the Scuba Trust (disabled diver charity).

Herbert Nitsch (Austria)



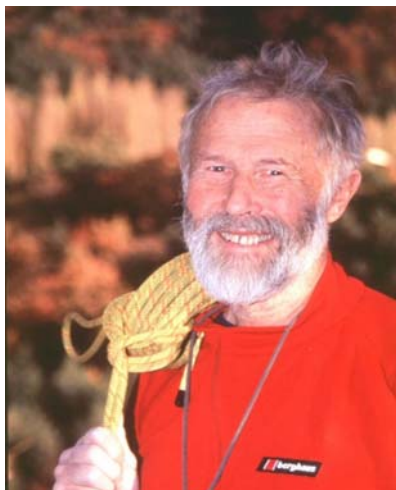
Hold your breath, but you want be even close to Herbert Nitsch who can hold his breath under water for more than 9 minutes. His extreme ability to perform apnea diving has resulted in 31 official world records and he is known as “*the deepest man on earth*”. He got this title in 2007, when he descended as the first and only man down to 214 meter on a weighted sled. His new goal is to push the limits even further by becoming the first breath-hold athlete to break the 300 meter barrier. In addition to his “no limit” record he has held the world record in all of the eight apnea freediving disciplines. At the age of 40 his passion for the deep blue is strong since this year in Bahamas he achieved three new world records in nine days: Free Immersion to 116 meters, Constant Weight to 124 meters and improved the Free Immersion record to 120 meters. When not immersed, Nitsch goes into the sky as a pilot for the Austrian Airlines group. For more information about Nitsch’s past and future achievements please visit: <http://www.herbertnitsch.com>.

Børge Ousland (Norway)



Børge Ousland has during the last twenty years performed numerous outstanding polar expeditions and according to National Geographic Adventure he is “*arguably the most accomplished polar explorer alive*”. After starting his polar career by crossing Greenland in 1986 he has performed 14 expeditions in the cold environment. In the Arctic he and Erling Kagge were the first to reach the North Pole unsupported. Four years later went on a unsupported solo expedition to the North Pole, and in 2001 he crossed the Arctic continent in 82 days on a solo expedition. His last expedition to the North Pole was in 2006, when he and Mike Horn were the first to reach the North Pole in winter time. In the Antarctic he went on an unsupported solo expedition to the South Pole in 1995 and was then the first man to reach both poles alone and unsupported. He finished his conquests in the Antarctic by crossing the Antarctic continent on an unsupported solo expedition, covering a distance of 2845 kilometers. Now in 2010 he and Torleif Torleifsson are sailing both the Northeast and Northwest passage during one and the same season. Hopefully he is back for his presentation in Trondheim. For more information visit: <http://www.ousland.no>.

Sir Chris Bonington (UK)



Chris Bonington is Britain’s best known climber, expedition leader and writer and is recognized as a legend in mountaineering. His remarkable achievements as a climber and expedition leader have resulted in fifteen books, numerous television appearances, honors and tributes. He has twenty first ascents across the world and especially impressive is the ascent of the Ogre with Doug Scott in 1978 which was only repeated after twenty attempts in 2002. As expedition leader he has led the teams that first ascended the south face of Annapurna and the south west face of Everest. He has nineteen expeditions to the Himalayas and four to Mt. Everest which he successfully ascended as a member of the Norwegian Everest expedition lead by Arne Næss in 1982. For us it was an obvious choice to have him as the speaker on the topic “On Top of The World”. For more information about Chris Bonington’s astonishing career as a mountaineer, please visit his comprehensive and elegant webpage: <http://www.bonington.com>.

Jay Buckey (USA)



For most of us it is just a dream to see mother earth from above, but Buckey has and will give us an inside story about traveling in space. Buckey was a crew member of STS-90, the Space Shuttle Columbia's 16- day Neurolab mission from April 17 to May 3, 1998. The STS-90 flight orbited the Earth 256 times, covered 6.3 million miles, and logged over 381 hours in space. The crew member staff performed experiments focusing on the effects of microgravity on the brain and nervous system and Buckey co-edited a book with the results which can be downloaded from his website. Also, Buckey is the author of the award winning book, "*Space Physiology*", that tell about the effects of weightlessness on the body.

Bucky is currently a professor of medicine at Dartmouth Medical School and an active politician for the Democrat party. For more information about Jay Buckey please visit his website: <http://www.jaycbuckey.com>