

SHACKLETON EPIC AND THOMAS MERCER PARTNER TO CREATE A LIMITED EDITION OF THE NEW LEGACY MARINE CHRONOMETER

Media Information

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Thomas Mercer and Shackleton Epic are pleased to announce that they will be working together on the release of a limited edition of the *Legacy*, the new Thomas Mercer marine chronometer.

The history of Thomas Mercer has been indelibly linked to Sir Ernest Shackleton since it was a Mercer chronometer he used on the *James Caird* voyage, generally considered the greatest small boat journey of all time.

THE JAMES CAIRD VOYAGE AND SHACKLETON EPIC

In order to save the lives of the 27 men stranded with him in the Antarctic pack ice for over a year after the loss of their ship *Endurance*, Shackleton embarked on an odyssey across 800 nautical miles of the most challenging and treacherous seas on the planet - the Southern Ocean - sailing from Elephant Island to South Georgia aboard the *James Caird*, a 22.5ft whaler.

In 2008, the Hon. Alexandra Shackleton, granddaughter of Sir Ernest, approached world-renowned British/Australian adventurer Tim Jarvis AM FRGS with an inspired idea - an expedition to mark the centenary of one of the greatest ever stories of leadership and survival.

So in January 2013, Jarvis and his exceptional team of five set sail to become the first to authentically retrace that hazardous voyage. The Hon. Alexandra Shackleton, patron, commented on this unique achievement: "The Shackleton Epic is a story of triumph. Tim Jarvis and his companions of the S.E. have successfully recreated my grandfather Sir Ernest's 1916 voyage in the tiny *James Caird* (crossing 800 nautical miles from Elephant Island to South Georgia over the stormiest seas in the world and subsequently climbing over the mountainous unmapped interior of South Georgia as he did). Tim had the imagination to see that the expedition's use of period clothing, food and navigational equipment would bring them physically as well as spiritually closer to the spirit of Ernest Shackleton and I commend them for that. I was reunited with Tim and the team in South Georgia immediately after the expedition and we drank a toast to Ernest Shackleton at his grave. It was a great moment for a very proud patron."

Thomas Mercer

SHACKLETON EPIC AND THOMAS MERCER: THE PARTNERSHIP

Both Shackleton's original of 1916 and its courageous re-enactment a century later relied on the accuracy of a Thomas Mercer chronometer for safely navigating across the Antarctic Ocean.

To celebrate this incredible achievement of the modern age, as well as to reinforce its enduring tie with this glorious page of British history, Thomas Mercer is partnering with Shackleton Epic to create a very limited edition of the new *Legacy* marine chronometer.

Tim Jarvis, leader of Shackleton Epic, adds: "I am very proud to have led such a strong team able to accomplish this historic achievement - without doubt one of the greatest feats of endurance and maritime navigation when Shackleton and his crew achieved it almost 100 years ago. Without precise navigation, however, even the best team is rendered powerless. Thomas Mercer chronometers were used on both expeditions allowing both teams to safely navigate across the roughest ocean in the world to arrive at King Haakon Bay almost 100 years apart and it is in no small part down to Thomas Mercer that they were able to do so. Perhaps the famous words written of Shackleton at the time *For speed across the ice give me Amundsen, for scientific research there is Scott, but in times of trouble pray God for Shackleton* should have included the words *and his Thomas Mercer chronometer*".

Alessandro Quintavalle, Thomas Mercer's CEO, says: "With the Shackleton Epic, Tim has accomplished a truly heroic feat, adding yet another success to his unparalleled track record. Jarvis' achievement demonstrates not only how unsurpassed was Shackleton's contribution to the story of mankind, but also how relevant his message remains in 2013. We are honoured that Thomas Mercer chronometers supported both voyages and we eagerly anticipate further collaboration".

The Legacy marine chronometer Shackleton Epic Edition will be presented in preview to the press on the 27th-28th of September 2013, at the Hotel Hermitage - Salon Jardin d'Hiver - during the Monaco Yacht Show in Monte Carlo.

Thomas Mercer