

# **EXPEDITION REPORT**

## **BRITISH DRONNING LOUISE LAND EXPEDITION, NORTH GREENLAND, MAY 2007**

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## **CONTENTS**

1. Executive Summary
2. Objectives
3. Team Profile
4. Expedition Log
5. Record of Ascents
6. Photographic Tables



## **1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The British North Greenland Expedition, 2007 was completed during the month of May and comprised a 3-man expedition to the Dronning Louise Land area of North East Greenland, circa 76° North, 26° West. The expedition commenced on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2007 and lasted 27 days (after a delay we were picked up on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2007) and included climbing 10 mountains (8 of which were first ascents) as well as covering over 200km of the icecap.

The expedition fulfilled its purpose – to consolidate polar travel skills and cover distance on the edge of the Greenland icecap, as well as making and recording a number of first ascents.

Whilst on the expedition, a Welsh mountaineering expedition (Ogwen Valley Mountain Rescue; 3 team members) also took place in the Dronning Louise Land area, covering the area further to the east but getting dropped and picked up at the same RV points.

Logistics for the expedition were organized via Tangent Expeditions.

The only recorded expedition to the NE Dronning Louise Land area was the British North Greenland expedition of 195-54. This was a military expedition with led by Captain Mike Banks and Hamilton. It lasted 2 seasons and triangulated the northern part of Dronning Louise land.

A tangent led expedition took place in 2001 that explored the area to the east, and near the pick up RV, over a 10 day period.



## **2. OBJECTIVES**

The team's objectives for the expedition were as follows.

- i) Climb and record (making a number of first ascents) mountains in the NE Dronning Louise land area.
- ii) Undertake journey north on Greenland icecap learning and consolidating skills for polar travel.



### 3. TEAM PROFILE

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Occupation</b>
Gavin Booth	31	Surveyor.
Adam Wilton	28	Entrepreneur.
Nigel Edwards instructor (UKMIC).	40	Mountaineering/outdoor education

#### **Gavin Booth**

Gavin is a chartered surveyor, based in London and born in Aberdeen. Gavin has competed in many ultra marathons including Marathon des Sables Mont Blanc Ultra and Yukon Arctic Ultra. From 2005 Gavin took up mountaineering, and has climbed in the French and Swiss Alps as well as Sardinia.

#### **Adam Wilton**

Adam is businessman based in London. Adam has also competed in many ultra marathons including Marathon des Sables, Mont Blanc Ultra and Guadarun. Since 2005 Adam has also climbed in the French and Swiss Alps and Sardinia.

#### **Nigel Edwards** (Tangent expeditions)

Nigel is an outdoor education instructor and UK MIC qualified mountaineering guide, based in the Lake District, England.

He has represented Tangent Expeditions on numerous previous expeditions to Greenland and holds Mountain Medical qualifications. He also is a canoe instructor in the summer.

Nigel was the technical mountaineering guide and tangent contact for the expedition.



## 4. EXPEDITION LOG

### Expedition log - summary

D.L.L. 2007

Day	Date	Activity	Camp GPS posn	Camp Altitude	Approx. Distance	Activity time	Barometer	Comments
1	13-May-07	Fly into mountains. Land on ice. Base camp 1.	76°11'407N; 026°32'811W	1,885m	0km	-	797	
2	14-May-07	"set up day" camp. pm-went for short ski to scope area.			10km	2h15	794	
3	15-May-07	First climb. 2,096m.			3km	3h	792	
4	16-May-07	Second climb. 2,272m.			10km	6h	795	
5	17-May-07	Third climb. 2,170m.			11km	5h30	791	v windy & cold at night-wind changed direction (NW to SW).
6	18-May-07	Fourth climb. 1,971m.			20km	8h	788	high cloud. Very cold -25 to -30.
7	19-May-07	Decamp and moved to camp 2.	76°12'321N; 026°45'813W	1,878m	8km	2h30	784	wind dropped to zero.
8	20-May-07	Fifth climb. 2,002m.			8km	3h		Very cold. -23. Windy. -15 in tent at night.
9	21-May-07	Moved camp.	76°18'677N; 026°46'206W	1,943m	12km	7h	794	cold -25 at least. Technical problems.
10	22-May-07	Moved camp.	76°25'437N; 026°45'108W	1,942m	15km	8h		crevasse field
11	23-May-07	Sixth climb (Punktun) 2,175m.			3km	2h30	793	cold -30
12	24-May-07	Moved camp.	76°34'088N; 026°37'727W	1,903m	17km	6h	797	
13	25-May-07	Moved camp.	76°43'563N; 026°32'999W	1,780m	18km	6h	807	windy.
14	26-May-07	Seventh climb. 1,851m.			18km	5h		stormy.
15	27-May-07	Moved camp.	76°37'627N; 26°18'097W	1,876m	13km	4h		windy.
16	28-May-07	Moved camp.	76°36'247N; 025°58'175W	1,935m	9km	2h30		
17	29-May-07	Tent bound.			0km	-		stormy
18	30-May-07	Eight climb (2,053m), and moved camp.	76°32'995N; 026°10'296W	2,011m	12km	4h40		
19	31-May-07	Ninth climb. 2,222m.			6km	2h40		cold
20	01-Jun-07	Moved camp (to RV point).	76°28'152N; 026°11'590W	1,870m	10km	3h		
21	02-Jun-07	Tenth climb. 2,253m.			20km	7h30		
22	03-Jun-07	Waiting at pick up RV.	76°28N; 26°11W	1,870m	0km	-		
23	04-Jun-07	Waiting at pick up RV.		1,870m	0km	-		
24	05-Jun-07	Waiting at pick up RV. On stand by.		1,870m	0km	-		
25	06-Jun-07	Waiting at pick up RV. On stand by.		1,870m	0km	-		
26	07-Jun-07	Waiting at pick up RV. On stand by.		1,870m	0km	-		
27	08-Jun-07	Picked up from RV by twin otter.		1,870m	0km	-		



## 5. RECORD OF ASCENTS

10 ascents made in total. 8 of these were first ascents.

Date	Climbers	GPS posn	Altitude	Name	Route Description
15-May-07	GB, AW, NE	76°11'038N; 026°30'716W	2,096m	Mount Middlemass	Wide gully, north side. *First ascent.
16-May-07	GB, AW, NE	76°13'588N; 026°25'766W	2,272m	Charlotte's Fjeld	West gully to south ridge. *First ascent.
17-May-07	GB, AW, NE	76°14'427N; 026°34'013W	2,170m	Juan Hamilton's Bjerg	South ridge/ *First ascent.
18-May-07	GB, AW, NE	76°06'628N; 026°33'017W	1,971m	Balgownie	North ridge. *First ascent -30°C.
20-May-07	GB, AW, NE	76°12'141N; 026°49'851W	2,002m	EjaBjerg	South face. *First ascent.
23-May-07	GB, AW, NE	76°25'709N; 026°45'589W	2,175m	Punktun	West face to west ridge. New route. 3rd ascent.
26-May-07	GB, AW, NE	76°48'391N; 026°31'074W	1,851m	No' Point	South face. *First ascent.
30-May-07	GB, AW, NE	76°36'198N; 025°54'527W	2,053m	Nunatak 67	West face. *First ascent.
31-May-07	GB, AW, NE	76°31'539N; 026°10'271W	2,222m	Kaldbakur*	North face, then ridge to summit. *Climbed already- British 1953 expedition- Kaldbakur? Trig point at top.
02-Jun-07	GB, AW	76°30'156N; 025°56'000W	2,253m	Vivien's Fjeld	North gully to west ridge. *First ascent.

GB (Gavin Booth); AW (Adam Wilton); NE (Nigel Edwards).



## Photographs of Ascents

Ref.	Name	GPS posn	Altitude
1	Mount Middlemass	76°11'038N; 026°30'716W	2,096m
			

Ref.	Name	GPS posn	Altitude
2	Charlotte's Field	76°13'588N; 026°25'768W	2,272m
			

Ref.	Name	GPS posn	Altitude
3	Juan Hamilton's Bjerg	76°14'427N; 026°34'013W	2,170m
			

Ref.	Name	GPS posn	Altitude
4	Balgownie	76°06'628N; 026°33'017W	1,971m
			

Ref.	Name	GPS posn	Altitude
5	EjaBjerg	76°12'141N; 026°49'851W	2,002m
			

Ref.	Name	GPS posn	Altitude
6	Punktun	76°25'709N; 026°45'589W	2,175m
			

Ref.	Name	GPS posn	Altitude
7	No' Point	76°48'351N; 026°31'074W	1,951m
			

Ref.	Name	GPS posn	Altitude
8	Nunatak 67	76°36'198N; 025°54'527W	2,053m
			

Ref.	Name	GPS posn	Altitude
9	Kaldbakua"	76°31'539N; 026°10'271W	2,222m
			

Ref.	Name	GPS posn	Altitude
10	Vivien's Field	76°30'156N; 025°56'000W	2,253m
			



## 6. PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE EXPEDITION



Adam Wilton manhauling on the icecap.



Gavin Booth with manhauling gear on the icecap.



Adam Wilton & Gavin Booth at summit of No'Point.



Camp on the Greenland Icecap, ~76° N, 26° W.



Adam Wilton in tent.



Gavin Booth in tent.