

Tim Jarvis AM

Leader, The Shackleton Epic expedition

Tim Jarvis AM is an environmental scientist, author, adventurer and public speaker with Masters degrees in environmental science and environmental law. He is committed to finding pragmatic solutions to major environmental issues related to climate change and biodiversity loss. He uses his public speaking engagements, films and books about his expeditions/work to progress thinking in these areas.

In January 2013, Tim led a team in retracing Sir Ernest Shackleton's legendary 1916 journey from Elephant Island off the Antarctic Peninsula, to the sub-Antarctic island of South Georgia in a replica of his boat The James Caird, followed by a climb over the mountains of South Georgia.



More about Tim Jarvis:

He has worked in sustainability for over 25 years including 10 years as Senior sustainability adviser to global engineering firm Arup, and as sustainability adviser for multilateral aid agencies including AusAID and the World Bank amongst others. He currently provides strategic and practical sustainability advice to a range of corporate organisations. Current roles include Global Brand Ambassador for outdoor clothing retailer Kathmandu, climate ambassador for global insurance company AIA, sustainability ambassador for BGIS, and founder and presenter of Thin Ice VR - a film project that uses ground-breaking virtual reality to show climate change in Antarctica. He is also founder of The Forktree Project that is re-wilding a degraded former Australian pastoral property to help combat the twin threats of climate change and biodiversity loss.

Honorary roles include Vice-President of Fauna & Flora International (the world's oldest environment charity); Global Ambassador and Governor of environmental NGO WWF, Ambassador to the International Koala Centre of Excellence and inaugural Environment Director of the Wildlife & Conservation Film Festival, Oceania. He is also head of the adventure advisory panel of the Australian Geographic Society, on the Society's advisory board, and the current explorer in residence at the Australian Museum. Former roles include Patron of children's charity Nature Play and board member of Zoos SA, Australia's most conservation-focused zoo.

Tim has undertaken unsupported expeditions to the world's most remote regions, and has a long



history of working with sponsors and the media. Expeditions include to the South Pole, the high Arctic, across Australia's largest desert, the Great Victoria and retracing the polar journey of Sir Douglas Mawson using only the same gear, equipment and starvation rations as Mawson did in 1913. The documentary *Mawson Life and Death in Antarctica* was flagship of the Film Australia 'Making History' series, and fronted Channel 4's highly acclaimed 'Edge of Endurance' series in 2007. Expedition patrons were Australian Prime Minister the Hon John Howard and Sir Ernest Shackleton's grand-daughter the Hon Alexandra Shackleton.

In 2013, Tim led the first authentic retracing of polar explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton's "double", regarded by many as the greatest survival journey of all time - sailing a replica James Caird boat 1500kms across the Southern Ocean from Elephant Island, Antarctica to South Georgia and climbing over South Georgia's mountainous interior using the same rudimentary equipment, period clothing and technology as Shackleton. A Discovery Channel/PBS documentary film and best-selling Harper Collins *Book Shackleton's Epic: Recreating the World's Greatest Journey of Survival* have been made about the expedition.

In addition to *Shackleton's Epic*, Tim's books include *The Unforgiving Minute* (Random House) and *Mawson: Life and Death in Antarctica* (MUP), released in conjunction with his international documentary film of the same name and officially endorsed by the United Nations Environment Programme in 2009. He is co-author of the academic book *The Frozen Planet* (Open University, UK) jointly released with Sir David Attenborough's BBC TV series.

Tim was conferred a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for services to environment, community and exploration in the 2010 Australian honours list and was made a Fellow of the Yale World Fellows Program 2009 for his leadership in the field of environmental sustainability. He holds the record for the fastest unsupported journey to the South Pole and was voted both the Australian Adventurer of the Year in 2013 and Conservationist of the Year in 2016 - the only person ever to receive both awards.

In 2013 he received the Sydney Institute of Marine Science's Emerald award for services to the environment and the Royal Institute of Navigation's Certificate of Achievement as Expedition Leader of the Shackleton Epic Expedition.

In 2017 he was made a Bragg Fellow by the Royal Institution of Australia - RiAus' highest award that recognises excellence in scientific achievement and commitment to science communication. Tim received the prestigious Bettison James award 2016 for documentary film-making for his current project, *25zero*, that highlights climate change through the plight of the world's melting equatorial glaciers.

After over two decades of polar travel and work as an environmental scientist, Tim is a well-known public speaker, applying the lessons he has learned throughout his various expeditions to talk about leadership, problem solving, teamwork, change management and goal setting in an organisational context.



Tim Jarvis talks about:

Leadership: By Endurance We Conquer: lessons in leadership from a lifetime of expeditions

- In his presentation (virtual or in-person) Tim will talk about the lessons learnt from both the Shackleton Epic Expedition and his current climate change awareness project 25zero to talk about leadership, problem solving, risk management, resilience, teamwork, motivation and goal setting in an organisational and personal context. In the context of the challenges the world faces as a result of the current COVID-19 pandemic, when the need for resilient and humane leadership, adaptability, motivation and team cohesion is greater than ever, Tim's observations have even more resonance.

Isolation: Coping with Isolation - lessons from a lifetime of exploration and environmentalism

- Tim's experience of isolation has taken many forms over the years, from undertaking expeditions to some of the world's remotest regions to the loneliness of working for himself, of leadership and of challenging environmental norms. In his virtual presentation, Tim will share with his online audience the coping mechanisms that he has employed in these widely ranging but surprisingly connected scenarios.

Client testimonials

“ There are not many people who can speak on leadership in challenging times, as Tim can. It was refreshing to have someone speak on this topic that is outside of the public sector and non-political. There were over 800 public sector employees from various levels and departments in attendance; one of the largest most successful IPAA/DPC events to date and this was largely due to Tim's intriguing and inspirational story. Tim Jarvis is not only a proven inspirational leader of our day who has an interesting mix of academia and adventurous spirit, he is a wonderful, caring, and engaging individual who although has walked on roads less travelled, has achieved the unachievable and consults with authoritative bodies, it is obvious he has not lost the 'common touch'.

- Institute of Public Administration

“ Tim was the perfect opening speaker to our workshop. He inspired our group with his personal Polar projects and experiences, showing them that big ideas can be made into reality. His key message stayed with the participants throughout the workshop, enabling them to channel the “thinking is good, doing is better” philosophy into innovative thinking in sustainability.



- WWF Australia

“ Tim Jarvis was the guest speaker at the RANZCO Eye Foundation’s 10th Anniversary Dinner. Tim’s inspirational tales of his polar expeditions had the audience mesmerised – there were 240 guests and you could have heard a pin drop.

- RANZCO Eye Foundation

“ Tim Jarvis held a full house audience of 170 adults and children spellbound at the Royal Geographical Society’s Singapore branch with a riveting account of his polar expeditions, how the lessons learned from these experiences can be applied to everyday life, and his work as an environmental scientist with the consulting engineering firm Arup ... Tim’s talk was eye-opening, fascinating and inspiring for everyone in the room.

- Royal Geographical Society

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