

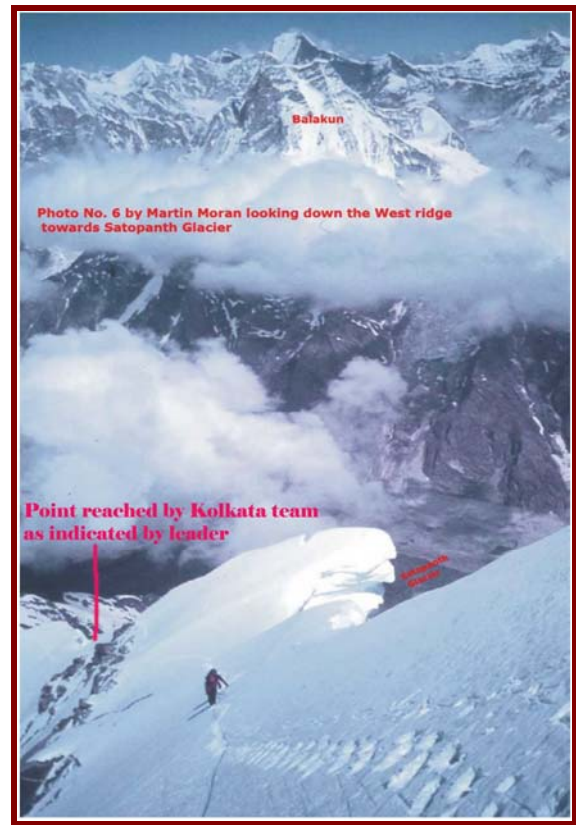
**THE NILKANTH EXPEDITION 2007**  
**(Report by the Managing Committee of The Himalayan Club)**

**The Himalayan Club** sponsored an expedition to climb Nilkanth in 2007. The expedition leader AVM (Retd) A K Bhattacharyya reported that the team had reached the summit of Nilkanth via the West ridge after a difficult climb. As doubts were expressed regarding the authentication of this climb, the Himalayan Club appointed Mr. Jagdish Nanavati (President Emeritus) as Ombudsman. After a great amount of study, he submitted his detailed report to the President, who had the report verified by consulting some leading mountaineers.

This being a Club-sponsored climb, the good name of the Club was very much a matter of concern in the minds of all. It was, therefore, perfectly understandable that the issue of analysing and understanding the complexities and difficulties that climbers can experience on a mountain would have been discussed with great intensity by all those members involved in the discussions on this matter. The Expedition members and others in the Kolkata Section (who organised the venture) did present their point of view in documents and arguments in response to the Ombudsman's Report.

Taking all things into consideration, the Managing Committee believes:

1. The Expedition attempted a difficult route on a hard and not often climbed mountain, and was able to overcome almost all the obstacles on this route, for which the climbers deserve recognition and the respect of their fellow Club members.



2. After studying all the material made available to it in the Ombudsman's Report, the independent opinions of experienced and respected mountaineers consulted by the President, as well as all the arguments made in response to the Ombudsman's Report by the Expedition Leader and other members of Kolkata Section, the MC would like to record its agreement with the conclusion of the Ombudsman's Report, which is that the 2007 Himalayan Club expedition to Nilkanth, operating in challenging topography, did not reach the highest point on the mountain. Therefore HC will not record this as an ascent of Nilkanth.

The Ombudsman's Report is available on the website of the Himalayan Club at [www.himalayanclub.org](http://www.himalayanclub.org)

### **KEKOO NAOROJI BOOK AWARD 2008-09**

**The Fourth** Himalayan Club Kekoo Naoroji Book Award 2008-09 has been awarded to Bernadette McDonald for her riveting book *Tomaz Humar* (Hutchinson, London), based on the life of the ace Slovenian climber Tomaz Humar. The award was presented to the author at a ceremony at Mumbai on 15 February 2009, in the presence of H. R. A. (Tony) Streater, former President of the Alpine Club. Two new jurors, Rivka Israel and Rama Goyal, were appointed to fill the vacancies created by the retirement of Suman Dubey and Rukun Advani from the jury for the Himalayan Club Kekoo Naoroji Book Award.

This is for the second successive year that Bernadette McDonald has won this book award. Last year she won it for her book *Brotherhood of Rope*. Bernadette McDonald was for many years Vice-President, Mountain Culture at The Banff Center and Director of The Banff Mountain Film and Book Festivals.



*Bernadette McDonald receiving Kekoo Naoroji Book Award from Rishad Naoroji (in forefront) and Adi Godrej.*

*Photo: Rajesh Gadgil*

#### **Jury Citation**

"This is a truly remarkable account of an extraordinary climber brilliantly portrayed by Bernadette McDonald. Despite the author's admiration for her controversial subject, she presents the facts, the emotions, the analysis, all with impeccable clarity and objectivity.

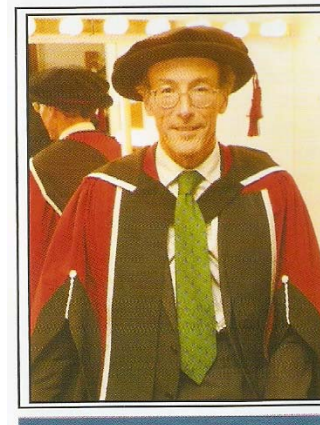
The book draws the reader into the world and mind of this charismatic individual where everything seems to hang together. Tomaz lives and breathes climbing, especially in the Himalaya where passion and inner strength unite in an exultant harmony with the life force he forever chooses to sorely tempt. Here we have a rare mountaineer unique in understanding that climbing can be a means to explore an inner dimension beyond sporting achievement, enabling him to experience the sovereignty of the human spirit. Tomaz may well prove to be the sport's first true mystic who discovered that climbing has the miraculous potential to yield the ultimate peak of selfhood.

The stubborn courage Tomaz displays in defending his right to be true to himself is sensitively handled and much of his career is about weathering the storms created by reactions to his individualism as about big wall contests against unrelenting weather. What emerges is a mahatma-like character who sticks doggedly to his convictions, and in doing so, liberates the sport from the pointlessness of its summit fixation.

The device of combining episodes of the Rupal Face rescue with flashbacks to a chronological account within each chapter creates the sensation of witnessing a thrilling serial. The gut wrenching snatch of Tomaz from certain death by heroic helicopter pilots makes a palpating climax to an epic outing. The book's breathtaking descriptions of climbs, perceptive insights into the climber's mind, and its arresting narrative style make it a most satisfying adventure-biography. Despite being pitted against three other masterpieces all three jurors agree that this book stands in an inspirational class of its own and emphatically deserves to win the fourth Kekoo Naoroji Award."

### [SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY HONOURS STEPHEN VENABLES](#)

**No stranger** to conquering heights, Stephen Venables reached another high. He has been awarded an Honorary Doctorate by Sheffield Hallam University. He was honoured for 'Outstanding contribution to mountaineering and writing'. Venables said in his acceptance speech "It is a wonderful surprise to be here today. I am inspired as much by books as by hills themselves.



Dr Stephen Venables is an honorary member of the Himalayan Club.

### [LIMCA BOOK of RECORDS](#)



**Mandip Singh Soin**, a member of The Himalayan Club's Managing Committee and Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, UK, has marked a stupendous entry into the Limca Book of Records as 'India's Most Versatile Adventurer'. He was previously nominated the 'Person of the Year' by the Limca Book of Records in the year 1992 and is the only person to be nominated in this category of adventure in the history of the Limca Book of Records. He is also the first and only Indian to be conferred the 'Ness Award' by the Royal Geographical Society, UK for Mountaineering, Polar Expeditions & Encouragement of Youth Exploration.

## THE TREKS

### Everest to Kangchenjunga Trek

**While** planning some adventure in 2008 I was inspired by Norman Hardie's Kangchenjunga to Everest trek in 1955 after his ascent of Kangchenjunga. Collating all the research and inputs from mountaineering friends I designed a trek from Cho Oyu to Kangchenjunga through high passes and then undertaking the Kangchenjunga circuit.

I started this long Himalayan sojourn on 16 September along with my sister Dr M. Dorasanamma and a friend Sandeep to cross Renjo La, which is west of Gokyo valley on the way to Nangpo La (trade route between Nepal and Tibet) from Thame. We followed the Machermo route and returned to Lukla after this pass crossing. Later, I, along with one Sherpa, crossed Mera La (5420m) (in Makalu-Barun National Park) and visited Mera high camp (5800m) for the best panoramic views of the Himalaya. I saw Cho Oyu (8201m), Everest and Lhotse, Makalu (8483m), and Kangchenjunga. I could see the entire stretch of the journey I envisioned in front of my eyes. I felt blessed and offered my thanks to God! I returned to Lukla from the same route.

My next objective was to do the 'Three Cols Trek' (Amphulapcha la 5845m, West Col 6135m, and Sherpani Col) from the Everest region. I, along with two Sherpas, started from Lukla around mid October and dumped the supplies for the ice col trek at Chukung. We crossed Kongma La and visited Pumori high camp for Everest views. We returned to Chukung via Dingboche and started for the Three Cols Trek with the two Sherpas I hired from Lukla. We crossed these passes and arrived at Makalu base camp. While crossing these passes I enjoyed rare views of Himalayan giants and big snowfields and the challenge of pass crossing was satisfying as well. From Makalu base camp I came down to the lower valleys along the Barun River. I went as far as Seduwa to climb up and go east towards Kanchenjunga. The two Sherpas with me from Lukla went back to Lukla from Seduwa.

***Thudam pass, view to the East: The peaks in clouds in the middle of the picture are Kangchenjunga (left) and Janu (Khumbakarna), pyramid like snow peak to the right of Janu is Rathong and to its right is Kokthang. To the left of Kangchenjunga are Jonsong peak and other Himalayan giants.***



*Photo: Malli Mastan Babu*

Next I started off without any porter and guide, alone towards Hatia Gola with the objective to travel to Kanchenjunga. The route in these valleys is remarkably beautiful with dense forests and fields of paddy, millet, and cardamom. From Hatia Gola I went to Chepuwa and learnt about Kimathangka, the last Nepalese village on the Tibetan border. This is where the Arun River (longest river of Nepal) enters into Nepal from Tibet. After visiting Kimathangka I headed for Thudam from Chemthang village *en route*. Thudam is only a little distant from another pass into Tibet where the locals have active trade links. I did not visit this pass but headed towards the east by



the side of Lumba Samba peak so as to reach Walungchung Gola, another beautiful village on the border of Tibet. I hired a guide from Thudam and crossed a beautiful pass which the locals referred to as 'Kang la' and reached Walungchung Gola. From the top of the pass I could see the Makalu massif and a host of peaks in the Everest region to my west.

As I reached the top of the pass, Kangchenjunga and the Himalayan range revealed itself to me. From Walungchung Gola I started off alone towards Gunsu, a prominent village on the Kangchenjunga base camp route. I took a route via 'Hans Pokhari' and Gebra to reach Gunsu. By this time it was the third week of November. I went towards Lapson La (5200m) to cross over to Yalung Glacier and to visit Sikkim by crossing Rathong La if possible. I lost my way near Lapson La; spent two nights around this place and retraced my steps to Gunsu. I wasn't motivated to go to Pangpema. I followed the traditional Kangchenjunga base camp route to Taplejung and took a bus to Ilam, then to Pashupathi, and finally arrived in Darjeeling on 1 December. From here I travelled to Yuksom and went to Rathong la and turned back.

I was not successful in achieving what I planned to do but I was very happy with the journey and the time I spent in Himalaya. It was very beautiful and I felt very gifted and fortunate to have had the opportunity to have undertaken it! I extend my thanks to Jay Shankar K., Umar Teekay, and Rajesh Ulhas for sponsoring this project and to Pema Wangchuk and Shyamal Sarkar for their help during my research. I would like to also give my regards to all the people whom I consulted and took advice from during this epic journey of my life.

- Malli Mastan Babu

### **Trekking the Dhaula Dhar**

**One of the best** options to explore the Dhaula Dhar is the trek out of McLeod Ganj to Kareri Lake. This can be undertaken in five days or can be extended with a foray to Triund and the base of the Indrhar Pass. It is a fine introductory trek that can be undertaken either in May and June or from the middle of September until early November. The trek commences from the nearby village of Stowari with a hike down to the Bhote Khola at Ghera (1350m) before a long, gradual hike to Kareri village (1850m). The ascent through mixed forest takes the best part of three hours although the local dhaba owner assured me that he makes it down from Kareri village every day in around 40 minutes and taking less than an hour to return!



*Photo: Garry Weare*

The campsite below Kareri village is huge and from Kareri we were mindful of following a less used trail that ascended through conifer and ancient oak forest to Kareri Lake (2950m). However, factor in an extra day for acclimatisation at a good campsite about two hours below the lake. Each day a Gaddi shepherd pays darshan at the tiny temple above Kareri Lake.

However, if you are anticipating a vast, crystal clear lake, forget it. Over the last decade the lake has diminished to nothing more than a shallow, swamp edged by muddy banks practically devoid of vegetation. There are compensations though as the surrounding meadows are covered in

rhododendrons while there is no shortage of campsites beneath the immense backdrop of the Dhaula Dhar.

It would have been good to luxuriate in the thought of a rest day but my conscience as a guidebook writer got the better of me as I ascended the wooded ridges and screed slopes on the way towards the Minkiani Pass. The views were unrivalled. To the south they extended across the forested ridges to the Kangra Valley and the Siwalik hills while to the north were the snow-capped Pir Panjal, and in the distance, the peaks of the Kishtwar Himalaya.

The return trek to Kareri village can be completed in half a day before a further descent to the Bhote Khola. There follows an ascent steep in places to a forested ridge and a campsite just beyond Bal village. It is a delightful walk with a campsite that affords commanding views up untouched forest to the meadows at Laka Got and base of the Indrahara Pass. On turning back to locate the mule attendants I was perplexed to see them throwing rocks back on the trail. Their instincts had got the better of them, as they later related that a cobra had slithered out of the undergrowth and tried to strike one of the mules.

The next day it takes no more than an hour to reach the established trail to Triund just above the village of Dharamkot. The choice is then whether to extend the trek to the popular camp at Triund (2900m) and on the pass of the Indrahara Pass or to head straight back down for the best part of an hour to McLeod Ganj.

-Garry Weare

### [NEWS AND VIEWS](#)

- **Relaxation in rules for permits to travel in Ladakh**

In recent changes in rules, Indians can now visit and trek in any area of Ladakh. Areas that were restricted until now can be visited by Indian nationals by obtaining Inner Line permits from the District Magistrate by production of proof of nationality. The areas open with this change are Hanle, Chumar, Demchhok, Chushul, Pangong Lake, all places in the Nubra up to Sasoma, treks from Khalsar along the Shyok village and Tankse.

- **Update – Asian Youth Cup Championship – Sports Climbing**

The Asian Youth Cup Championship in "Sports Climbing" which was held in Bali, Indonesia in August 2008 saw several boys and girls from across Asia participating. Competition was held in three categories--- lead climbing, speed climbing and bouldering. One of India's best performers turned out to be eight-year-old Bharat Pereirakamath who succeeded in taking his individual tally of medals to three silvers. Sports' climbing is slated to soon become a discipline in the next Asian Indoor Games. This would increase interest in the sport as well as spur investment in building sport climbing walls, which are essential for attracting more people to participate in the sport.

- **Mt. Everest Climbers Measure Lowest Blood Oxygen Levels on Record---Their Own**

'On top of the world, just below the high peak of Mount Everest, a team of four British medical researchers braved the elements and took their own blood samples. What they found was staggering---their oxygen levels were the lowest ever recorded, well below levels that would normally prove lethal on the ground. And while the team's study has just been published, one of its authors tells that his research performed on the world's tallest peak could help doctors treat intensive care patients struggling with low levels of oxygen in their own bloodstream.'

Excerpt from Andrew Moseman's article in *Popular Mechanics*, published on 8 January 2009 in New York. For full report, see the website

[http://www.popularmechanics.com/science/health\\_medicine/4298495.html](http://www.popularmechanics.com/science/health_medicine/4298495.html).

## **EQUIPMENT REVIEW**

### **Finding Your Way Home!**

I have to confess I am a gadget freak and love to find out about every new and interesting piece of hardware that helps one train, plan, or get back safely from Himalayan trips. A couple of years ago, on a trip to the US I bought online a Suunto X9 wristop computer, as the company calls it! Suunto is a Finnish company founded in 1936 by a keen outdoors man who was bothered by the inaccuracy of traditional dry compasses with a lack of steady needle operation. He discovered and patented the production method for a steadier needle, better readings, and a new level of accuracy. From that first success they moved on to stability and accuracy of marine compasses. From there to diving compasses and then into the broader area of training products and today cover diving, mountaineering, hiking, skiing, sailing, and golf. It is quite interesting how quickly and well this small Finnish company brings out new precision products across the world to 60 countries. Indian companies should be inspired by their innovation and speed.

The X9, which I have used, uses GPS navigation to plot routes, way points, and tracks as well as monitoring altitude, barometric pressure, and compass functions. For good measure it also tells the time and has alarm functions too!

Suunto has since come out with an improved version of the X9---the X9i and X9mi, the latter for military purposes---and they have also introduced an even smaller light-weight version called the X10 which has improved, faster GPS focus---even under heavy foliage---and longer lasting battery power. One very helpful feature of the X9i---which my X9 does not have---is the ability to store your starting point, and then if you get lost *en route* you can ask it to find Home and it points you back to your starting point! A very comforting thought!

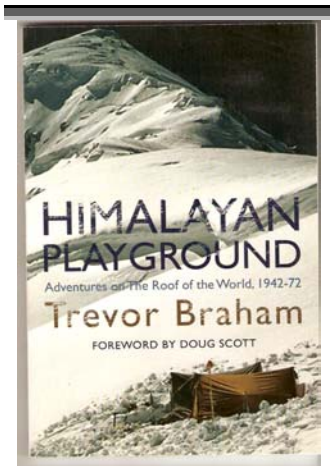
Try any one of these that you can lay your hands on, they are loads of fun, but don't forget to find out where you can get services for these Suunto products because that can be a major headache, as I found out years ago with another non-GPS Suunto product X6HR.

- Vijay Crishna

## **BOOK REVIEW**

**HIMALAYAN PLAYGROUND:** *Adventures on the Roof of the World, 1942-72* by Trevor Braham, Foreword by Doug Scott  
Published by The Inn Pinn (Neil Wilson Publishing) ([www.theinpinn.co.uk](http://www.theinpinn.co.uk))  
paperback, price GBP 9.99

During the twilight years of the British Raj Trevor Braham spent much of his boyhood in India where, in the mid-1930s, he attended a boarding school in Darjeeling for four years. Early toughening under a rigorous Jesuit regime provided an unceasing reminder of the need for self-discipline and a sense of humour. At the end of World War II his father's company, exporters of food grains and oilseeds in Calcutta, took him on as an apprentice.



After early trips to Sikkim he joined the Himalayan Club marking a threshold of half-a-lifetime of adventures and activities in the mountain ranges spread across the northern regions of the Indian sub-continent, from Sikkim in the southeast to Chitral in the northwest in an environment very different from the present day. His halcyon years extended from 1942 to 1972, part of which corresponded with the Himalayan Golden Age in the 1960s when an international frenzy developed for climbing the world's highest mountains.

Braham's book is about his years of experiences in the higher ranges. He undertook extensive trekking in the Karakoram. In Garhwal he was part of the expeditions in 1947---in fact, he was on Kalindi pass on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1947, India's Independence Day. One of his major achievements was exploring Spiti in 1955 where he climbed Chau

Chau Kang Nilda and solved the problem of the exact height of the nearby Shilla peak. *Himalayan Playground* is Braham's homage to a time when mountaineers regarded these ranges as something more than mere targets to be ticked off on a list of things to do. This is Braham's final memoir of a period of mountain exploration that will never be seen again.

*(Trevor Braham is an Honorary Member of the Himalayan Club and earlier he was Honorary Editor of the Himalayan Journal.)*

- Harish Kapadia

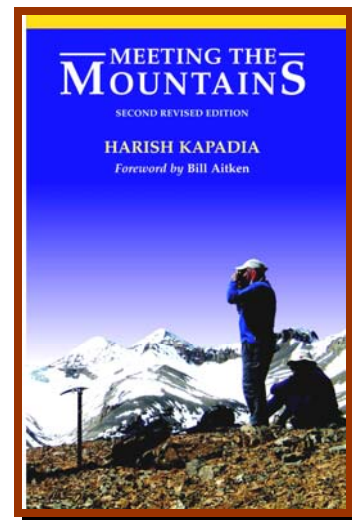
### **New Book Released**

***MEETING THE MOUNTAINS***, second edition,  
by Harish Kapadia.  
Published by Indus Publishing Co.

The second edition of the much awaited book *Meeting the Mountains* has been released. The book contains accounts of climbs and treks in the Himalaya by its author and eminent mountaineer Harish Kapadia. It also includes the maps and photos, which are an easy-cum-key source of reference and orientations on the Himalayan range.

A special discount has been offered (Post Free) by the publishers for readers of the E LETTER. Kindly follow the instructions below and order on the website.

For orders within India, CTRL + click the following link in your web browser to access and order.



<http://www.flipkart.com/meeting-mountains-harish-kapadia-bill/1738721982-8wx3fk77gf>

Published Price: Rs. 600 / Special Price: Rs. 510 with FREE shipping

For International Orders, CTRL + click the following link in your web browser to access and order.

<http://www.indus-intl.com/bookdetails.cfm?bookid=IN-81000>

Published Price: US\$ 35 / Special Price: US\$ 29.95 with FREE shipping



## INTELLECTUAL STIMULATIONS

**The annual seminar** was held on the eve of the club's 80 years in Mumbai with lots of zeal and activities. The events included Kekoo Naoroji Book Award ceremony, Kaivan Mistry Memorial Lecture and illustrated talks by distinguished mountaineers.



*Inaugurating the seminar. L-R: Paula Mistry, Bernadette McDonald, Tony Streather, Tanil Kilachand, Jasmine Hegde, V.K. Sashindran. Photo: Harish Kapadia*

The master of ceremony, Vijay Crishna initiated the lecturers by his astuteness. Col. H. Robert Anthony Streather, through his slides, brought back alive the first ascent of Kangchenjunga (1955) and his expedition on Haramosh II (1957), a tragic story of survival, both of which are legends in mountaineering history. The young team of Giripremi, from Maharashtra displayed their film, full of exuberance on their recent climb of a beautiful and challenging peak Srikanta in the Gangotri area.

Wing Cdr V.K. Sashindran spoke on an offbeat topic on the attempts that are now being made after 65 years to search for the remains of the 1400

American aviators lost in the China – Burma - India War theatre. Dr Burjor Banaji survived a fall in the Kafni valley during a trek to Kumaun in November 2008. His rescue, pain and endurance were described by him with pictures and movie clips of mountains, autumn colours and rare shots of the Milky Way. His verbal ingenuity had the power to evoke a tornado of laughter amongst the listeners.

The Kekoo Naoroji Book Award ceremony saw a lot of exhilaration as the author, Bernadette McDonald, was the winner for the second consecutive year. In the year 2007 she won the award for her book *BROTHERHOOD OF ROPE* based on the life of Charles Houston, the legendary American climber, physician and father of high-altitude medicine. This year she won it for her book *TOMAZ HUMAR*, on the most remarkable climber of this generation. In her two lectures, she vividly expressed these two extraordinary climbers, sketching their feelings, their truths and her study on them with flawless transparency.

An impromptu discussion took place amid these events. The theme was on the changes in mountaineering that have taken place over the years in regard of style, approach, ethics, fitness etc. There was a lively exchange of thoughts between Bernadette McDonald and Tony Streather with the audience. Intellectual stimulations flowed with right spirits during the dinner that was hosted by the Godrej. Later, the guests set off for trekking in the Sahyadris for a week along with Harish Kapadia and Rajesh Gadgil to give a grand finale to the whole episode.



*The trekking team. L-R: sitting – Mansi Gadgil, Geeta Kapadia, Tony Streather, Bernadette McDonald, standing – Sally Leech, local guide, Vijay Kothari, Harish Kapadia, Rajesh Gadgil Photo: Rajesh Gadgil*

**-Jasmine Hegde**

## OBITUARY



### Ko Yoshida

Mr. Ko Yoshida an Honorary Member of the Himalayan Club and an ex-council member of the Japanese Alpine Club, passed away at the age of 96. Mr. Yoshida was born in 1913 and during his early years he worked as a businessman and later served as an army officer. He started his climbing career when he was a university student and became more active in the field from the 1970s.

He scaled many high peaks in the Alps, Africa and Asia. He was a member of the Himalayan Club since 1978. Besides being a successful business executive, he also supported the activities of the world famous adventurer, Naomi Uemura, who was the first man to scale the highest peaks of five continents by using his extensive international connections. Mr. Yoshida managed to draw world attention to Uemura.

His philanthropic spirit reached beyond alpinism to the boy-scout movement. In 1993, he was given the “Bronze Wolf”, the highest medal presented by the World Scout Foundation, for his devoted activities over many years. In 2008, he was honoured by the Scout Association of Japan and presented with the highest award—‘Golden Pheasant Medal’. At that time, he was the Chairman of the Japan Chapter of Baden Powell World Fellowship.

Mr. Yoshida passed away peacefully at his home in Tokyo on February 27, 2009. His Majesty King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden, who is the President of the World Scout Association, sent flowers to his funeral to express his condolence to his friend Yoshida.

*(The Photograph of Mr. Ko Yoshida was taken on 23 May 2008 on the occasion of the General Meeting of the Scout Association of Japan at Kobe City.)*

**-Yuichi Matsuda**

## CLUB NEWS

^^^ **George Christopher Band**, Honorary Member of the Himalayan Club, was appointed as Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to mountaineering and charity in the Queen's New Year's Honours List on 1 January 2009. He was the youngest member of the successful 1953 Everest Expedition led by John Hunt and, in 1955, became, along with Joe Brown, the first to ascend Kanchenjunga.

^^^ **George Lowe C.N.Z.M.**, OBE was elected as Honorary Member of the Himalayan Club in February 2009. He was a member of the successful 1953 Everest Expedition led by John Hunt and has been on other expeditions to Makalu and Cho Oyu, among others. Along with others, he set up the Sir Edmund Hillary Himalayan Trust UK, and was elected as its first chairman from 1989 to 2003, then continued serving as a Trustee until 2008, when he succeeded Sir Chris Bonington as Patron of the Trust.

^^^ **Tamotsu Nakamura**, Honorary Member of the Himalayan Club, was elected as the Honorary Member of the Japanese Alpine Club. An explorer from Japan who has specialised in the areas of Southeast Tibet, which he calls 'The Alps of Tibet', has single-handedly opened up this area for climbers and researchers. He is the Editor of the *Japan Alpine News*, which is published by the Japanese Alpine Club for the past two years. He is Honorary Member of the American Alpine Club and the Alpine Club (London) and received the Royal Geographical Society's Busk Medal for 2008.

^^^ **The Himalayan Club** welcomes Mr Yoshio Ogata as its new Honorary Local Secretary for Japan. Mr Ogata is a leading mountaineer and has climbed many prominent peaks, including Everest in winter. Prior to him, Mr Y. Matsuda served as Honorary Local Secretary for many years. The Club is very grateful to him for his sustained interest.

^^^ **HC film** is accepted at Trento Film Festival! The film "80 YEARS ON TOP", made by the Himalayan Club to celebrate its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary, will be part of the official film programme at the Trento Film Festival to be held in April-May 2009. The film is a 30-minute documentary that covers the history of exploration, climbing, and roles of historic personalities and has rare footage and pictures from the Club's archives. It records activities of the club till recent times, and includes interviews with prominent Himalayan Club members. The film is produced and directed by leading film-maker Karamjeet Singh and the commentary is by the famous actor Roshan Seth.

^^^ **It is with** great sadness that we announce the passing away of Mr Sanatan Bhattacharya, Life Member of the Himalayan Club, in the early hours of the morning of 27 January 2009.

^^^ **The Annual General Meeting** of The Himalayan Club was held on 14 February 2009 preceding the annual seminar. Many new ideas were discussed at the meeting, which was well attended by the members.

List of the newly appointed committee is as follows:



Addressing the AGM. L-R Tanil Kilachand, Vijay Crishna, Divyesh Muni Photo: Divyesh Muni.

## THE HIMALAYAN CLUB COMMITTEE 2009

### OFFICERS

<b>President</b>	Suman Dubey
<b>Vice Presidents</b>	Tanil Kilachand Col. Ashok Abbey Ravi Singh
<b>Hon. Secretary</b>	Vijay Crishna
<b>Hon. Treasurer</b>	Ajit Bam

### Members of the Committee

Dr R. Godbole	Motup Chewang
Harish Kapadia	Cdr. S. Dam
M. S. Soin	Rajesh Gadgil
Deepak Bhimani	Rishad Naoraji
Divyesh Muni	Shailesh Mahadevia

### Additional Members of Balloting Committee

Monesh Devjani	Maninder Kohli
Manik Banerjee	Ravindra Apte

### President Emeritus and Ombudsman

J. C. Nanavati

### Hon. Local Secretaries:

#### India

Almora	Himanshu Pandey
Bangalore	Deepak Arya
Darjeeling	Dorjee Lhatoo
Delhi	Maninder Kohli
Mussouri	Krishnan Kutty
Jammu & Kashmir	Sat Paul Sahni
Manali	Mahavir Thakur
Mumbai	Jasmine Hegde
Kolkata	Jhelum Chaudhury
Shimla	Deepak Sanan
Leh	Motup Chewang
Pune	Dr. Raghunath Godbole

Nepal	Elizabeth Hawley
Pakistan	Nazir Sabir
Australia	Garry Weare
France	Claude Gardien
New Zealand	John Nankervis
Great Britain	Martin Scott
Japan	Yoshio Ogata
Spain	Jose Paytubi
South Africa	Dr. S. A Craven
Korea	Bae Seung Youl
Switzerland	Eric Bernhardt
Sweden	Ake Nilsson
U.S.A.	Donald Goodman Nicholas Clinch Paddy Iyer



<b>Hon. Editor</b>	Harish Kapadia
<b>Hon. Asst. Editors</b>	Nandini Purandare Rajesh Gadgil
<b>Hon. Librarian</b>	Group Captain V K Sashindran
<b>Hon. Asst. Librarians</b>	
Mumbai	Rajesh Gadgil, Rajendra Wani
Kolkata	Chandra Shekhar Ghosh
<b>Hon. Equipment Officer</b>	Rajendra Wani
<b>Hon. Asst. Equipment Officer</b>	
Kolkata	Debraj Dutta
<b>Hon. E-Letter Editors</b>	Jasmine Hegde Maninder Kohli Rama Goyal
<b>Hon. E-Group Moderators</b>	Cdr. K. B. Singh Divyesh Muni
<b>Hon. Web Master</b>	Rajan Rikame

**Hon. Editor for e-Letter:**

**Jasmine Hegde**

**Hon. Asst. Editors:**

**Maninder Kohli**

**Rama Goyal**



**The Himalayan Club**

**E-Letter, Vol. -15, March 2008.**

**Published for the Himalayan Club. Himalayan Club Centre, 314, Turf Estate,  
Shakti Mills Lane, Off Dr. E. Moses Road, Mahalaxmi [west],  
Mumbai 400011, India. Phone: [91-22] 2491 2829.**

**Website: [www.himalayanclub.org](http://www.himalayanclub.org).**

**Please inform us at [himalayanclub@gmail.com](mailto:himalayanclub@gmail.com) if you wish to discontinue or  
receive this E-Letter any time.**

**(For private circulation only)**