

**Hannah McKeand**  
**Polar Explorer & Endurance Athlete & Motivational Speaker**

*World-record Holder: Fastest Woman Solo, Unsupported trek to South Pole*

**Testimonials**

'We listened with rapt attention as Hannah, solo explorer with a track record in Antarctic solo endurance, recounted her experiences and fears as she hauled her sled to the South Pole. Her sense of humour shone through. By the end, you knew that you had been able to step out (a little way at least) with Hannah and experience the huge expanse of the lonely ice shelf and the sky and something of the inner drive needed to take it on successfully.'

*Vodafone Group*

'Hannah gave us a fascinating insight into her remarkable journey - proving that you can do almost anything if you have the spirit and courage to go out there and succeed.'

*Bupa*

'Our thanks go to Hannah McKeand for her fantastic speech at our staff conference. We have received some very positive feedback from staff as they got a lot out of her presentation, which she managed to tie in very well to the themes of our conference. It was pitched at exactly the right tone and it really enhanced the event.'

*Training 2000*

'Hannah talks with great candour, warmth and enthusiasm about the practicalities of her experiences, what they mean to her and, importantly, what they tell us all about the future of the planet. She gave us a fascinating insight into her extraordinary life as a polar explorer, both from an adventure point of view and from a business angle. Her images and insight regarding climate change and its effects on the polar regions left no one in any doubt of the reality of the issues. She is a powerful and impactful speaker, yet engaging on a personal level, and entertaining too. Her talks work on several levels, and I thoroughly recommend her.'

*Bayer*

'Hannah painted the dangers of exploration and endeavour in such a way that any employer trying to enthuse their staff should consider using her at a motivational event. It would probably make most of them pull their socks up!! Enthusiastic. Youthful. The audience were full of admiration.'

*P and A Partnership*

'Fresh and filled with enthusiasm. Hannah showed us that nothing is impossible and how women can excel in anything they desire. Her passion and enthusiasm made us want to sit and really listen to her presentation. Impressive.'

*IBN International (Women of Independence Conference, Malaysia)*

'The accent of Hannah's talk was on her training and subsequent unsupported and successful attempt to reach the South Pole, when she established a new world record. It was illustrated by wonderful photographic images and documentary style video-clips spoken to camera in her tent, huddled in her sleeping bag, relating her daily adventures, surrounded by the basic things necessary for her survival.

'There is something very special about Hannah's personality, not only is she a gutsy girl who is willing to take on any challenge and seemingly unafraid, but in her dedicated preparations, disciplining her body and mind she still keeps us conscious of her own vulnerability. She also recognises the importance of teamwork and knows that none of her challenges would succeed without the support of others.

'However Hannah's particular gift lies in her unique fluency to speak, write and communicate her adventures. She brings her experiences very much alive.'

*The Watermill Theatre*

'The talk from Hannah was memorable, stimulating and refreshing. The members were full of admiration for a young woman who had pushed herself beyond the limits of human endurance with fearlessness and bravery.'

'Hannah is an excellent and natural event speaker and I would not hesitate in recommending her to anyone. I was particularly impressed that she appeared to have no notes although I am sure that her experiences are vivid enough that she can remember every detail. Hannah's warm personality comes across the moment you meet her and in all the years that I have organised the conference I have never seen so many members flock to the front to have a word with a speaker at the close of the day. She makes you wonder what you have done with your life! We all dream of doing what she has done but don't have the courage and determination to do it. She isn't my daughter but I felt so proud of her especially in the video sections when her confidence was wavering but she carried on.'

*Scottish Women's Rural Institutes*

'A fluent and inspiring speaker with a wholly engaging personality. Delivered with great charm and humour, the talk left her audience full of admiration at her courage and resilience. Her film clips, in which she speaks direct to camera with disarming honesty of her feelings, have an intimacy and a spontaneity that are both poignant and inspiring. One cannot help but be amazed at her courage and inner strength as well as her practicality and resourcefulness, and yet she is cheerfully unassuming with a wonderfully self-deprecating sense of humour. In short, Hannah is a truly British heroine!'

*Hungerford Arts Festival*

'What do I say! Your talk was 'amazing, inspirational, jaw dropping, utterly mesmerising' - wait while I look in the dictionary. Awe-inspiring. It covered everything and was exactly the right length and content to hold everyone spellbound. You certainly had your audience sitting on the edge of their seats. How you have pushed yourself to the heights that you have achieved

is something to be so very proud of. Well done. The Ladies thought you were so extraordinary - thank you very much indeed.'

*Lakeside Women's Group*

'The talk that you gave at the Duke of Edinburgh Awards gold presentation was excellent. It was great to hear somebody so passionate and determined. Thank you!'

*Duke of Edinburgh Awards*

'I was at first sceptical as to the relevance of having Hannah as a speaker, but after two minutes I was hooked and was so glad that she had been booked. I was really impressed not only with her story but her as a speaker, I didn't want her to finish and could have listened for ages! [...] it was evident that her message was that basically anything is possible and I found her truly inspirational.'

'I found Hannah McKeand's speech spell-binding.'

'Hannah McKeand proved that we can all change our lives and reach goals and use this in our everyday work.'

*Delegates at School-Home-Support Conference*

### **Reviews of Hannah's Educational Talks**

'You were right! Hannah was an excellent choice as our speaker for an Awards Evening... she tailored her presentation exactly right for our 'Raising Standards, Achieving Excellence' theme. Her talk was interesting, well paced, humorous in the right places and really inspiring. What an amazing lady.... she was just superb!'

*John Bentley School*

'We were all amazed to see Hannah's photographs and hear of her incredible treks to the South Pole. It was fascinating to follow her journey and hear details told with such humour and laughter. Thank you so much for being so inspiring.'

*Cantell College*

'The children - and all adults watching - were totally enthralled by the tales of Hannah's adventures. Her talk was perfect for the age group of children too [Year Two] and they got an awful lot out of it.'

*Heptonstall Primary School*

'Both staff and students who heard Hannah talk were really inspired and gripped! The Geography staff felt she pitched her talk at exactly the right level for Year Nine.'

*Calder High School*

'All the teachers and governors and especially the Mayor really enjoyed Hannah's presentation, what a tremendous journey. Students were enthralled with the tales of her expeditions.'

*Walthamstow School*

'Hannah's talk and pictures really fascinated the children, so much so that they have expressed wanting to explore the polar regions themselves to see the polar bears before they disappear. It was extremely interesting to hear and see Hannah's adventures; what an incredibly brave and inspiring woman.'

*Broomwood Hall Upper School*

'Initially I was not sure if I should gather the entire school to hear her – our youngest children are seven, the oldest 13. I wondered if the young ones would have the necessary attention span. What a needless concern! The children were riveted. Quite apart from the extraordinary quality of Hannah's personal story, she had some excellent images and slides to show the children – but it was Hannah herself, her style of delivery, that held the children in awe and fascination. She speaks with wonderful energy, with humour too, and with a palpable passion for the landscapes she has experienced as well as the animals and people she encountered in those landscapes.'

'Hannah took questions, and my goodness she was inundated with questions (always a good sign that children are engaged). Even after I officially dismissed the assembled company, children thronged around Hannah to ask yet more questions.'

'I cannot recommend Hannah highly enough as a public speaker.'

*Headfort School*