

HUMAN EFFORT



DR CHARLES EVANS
(Surgeon)



GEORGE BAND
(Cambridge student)



TOM BOURDILLON
(Rocket scientist)



ALF GREGORY
(Travel agent)



GEORGE LOWE
(Teacher)



WILFRED NOYCE
(Schoolmaster)



DR MICHAEL WARD
(Doctor)



MIKE WESTMACOTT
(Oxford student)



MAJOR CHARLES WYLIE
(Gurkha officer)



DR GRIFFITH PUGH
(Physiologist)



TOM STOBART
(Cameraman)



JAMES (JAN) MORRIS
(The Times correspondent)

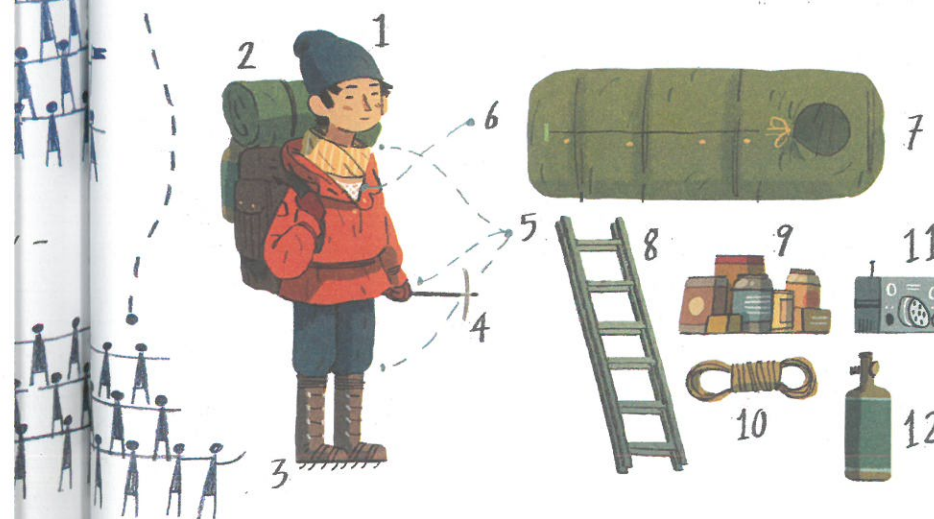


RAYMOND LAMBERT
(Swiss expedition leader)

GRIFFITH PUGH set out two important food rations: one to be eaten lower down the mountain and one higher up. Climbers had to melt snow to drink water!

RAYMOND LAMBERT nearly made it to the top with Tenzing in 1952. The British team were able to learn from the information he generously shared with them.

EQUIPMENT



1. Warm hats were needed but for parts of the climb Hillary wore a handmade cotton sun hat, sewn by his sister.
2. Tents and other equipment were tested in a wind tunnel in Farnborough, UK, to ensure they would stand up to Everest's extreme weather.
3. Special lightweight boots with heavy steel crampons were important for gripping ice and snow.
4. Hillary's ice axe was made of steel with an ash wood handle.
5. The expedition crew wore clothes made from the finest Shetland wool.
6. The team wore string vests underneath several layers to keep them warm and dry.
7. Sleeping bags made in Canada, New Zealand and the UK were three times as heavy as modern sleeping bags. Higher up the mountain, sleeping bags were laid out in patterns as signals to those below.
8. Aluminium ladders for bridging crevasses were made in Wales.
9. High-energy food such as sugar, milk powder, biscuits, sweets, porridge oats, cheese, tea, lemonade powder and soup were all important. Hillary chose sardines and tinned apricots for his attempt on the summit.
10. Rope was made from hemp.
11. Walkie-talkies made of rubber and produced in Cambridge, UK, were essential for communication with the lower camps. The batteries needed to be kept warm under a vest. Today, people can use mobile phones on Everest!
12. Consisting of three oxygen cylinders, the breathing apparatus weighed 40 pounds (like carrying a five-year-old child).