

## Media Information

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### **SOUTH POLE SUCCESS!**

'Do Something Different' is the current theme for Children in Need and Murray Howitt, Marketing Manager for concrete precaster Stanton Bonna, did exactly that – and walked to the South Pole!

As one of a team of 7 novices led by two polar experts, travelling on skis, living under canvas and pulling 55kg sledges, Murray walked the 180 km to the Pole to complete the unfinished polar attempt made by Sir Ernest Shackleton 100 years ago. Shackleton had to turn back or die of starvation and Amundsen claimed the Pole a few years later in 1911.

Late January marks the end of the Antarctic summer, so along with a few sunny days, Murray and his team mates also endured whiteouts, winds in excess of 80 mph and wind chill temperatures down to a bitter -45°C. The team were affected by altitude, minor injuries, stove failures and tent damage but overcame the challenges to complete the expedition.

The Antarctic interior is a very difficult place to access and the weather controls all forms of travel. Surprisingly, in the last season about 20 times more people climbed Mount Everest than walked to the South Pole.

"So few people encounter the beautiful but brutal interior of this continent and it feels such a privilege to experience a small part of what the great polar explorers achieved while raising money for a worthy cause in the process." said Murray now safely back in the UK and who has raised £13,700 for Children in Need.

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To read the expedition blogs, visit [www.southpole08.com/expedition](http://www.southpole08.com/expedition).

ENDS



**For further information contact:**

Murray Howitt

Tel: 0115 944 1448

Mobile: 07966 138 386

Email: [m.howitt@stanton-bonna.co.uk](mailto:m.howitt@stanton-bonna.co.uk)

Email: [murray@southpole08.com](mailto:murray@southpole08.com)