

## **A UNIQUE MOMENT IT TIME: THOMAS MERCER *LEGACY* SHACKLETON EPIC LIMITED EDITION**

Media Information

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Thomas Mercer is very pleased to announce a partnership for the creation a limited edition of the new *Legacy* marine chronometer, of which only 25 will be made.

This new exquisite timepiece is set to become the symbol of the re-born Thomas Mercer as it redefines the marine chronometer in the 21st century, combining precision engineering and mechanical perfection with superb design and innovation. The name *Legacy* truly bears witness to a dashing heritage of more than 150 years, propelled into the future by incorporating the latest design styles and innovative horological ideas.

Shackleton Epic is the official centenary expedition honouring Sir Ernest Shackleton's voyage of survival considered the greatest small-boat journey of all time. Nearly a century after Shackleton's expedition, a team of six, led by Australian environmental scientist Tim Jarvis, set sail from Elephant Island to navigate 800 nautical miles of the treacherous Southern Ocean to South Georgia using traditional supply, equipment and technology including a Thomas Mercer vintage chronometer on which they safely relied for determining longitude.

To celebrate this great feat in navigation - which is indelibly linked to the brand's history - the Thomas Mercer *Legacy* will debut with an exclusive limited edition featuring a fine dial on which the map of the Southern Ocean and the original voyage of 1916 and its re-enactment of 2013 are depicted.

### **THE PARTNERSHIP**

Tim Jarvis, leader of Shackleton Epic, adds: "I am very proud to have led such a strong team able to accomplish this historic achievement - without doubt one of the greatest feats of endurance and maritime navigation when Shackleton and his crew achieved it almost 100 years ago. Without precise navigation, however, even the best team is rendered powerless. Thomas Mercer chronometers were used on both expeditions allowing both teams to safely navigate across the

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roughest ocean in the world to arrive at King Haakon Bay almost 100 years apart and it is in no small part down to Thomas Mercer that they were able to do so. Perhaps the famous words written of Shackleton at the time - *For speed across the ice give me Amundsen, for scientific research there is Scott, but in times of trouble pray God for Shackleton* - should have included the words *and his Thomas Mercer chronometer*".

Alessandro Quintavalle, Thomas Mercer's CEO, says: "Sir Ernest Shackleton's heroic odyssey is as much an unparalleled archetype of leadership and courage as it is a second-to-none example of the spirit of adventure, of which Thomas Mercer and its chronometers are proud to have been a part. We are extremely delighted to collaborate with Shackleton Epic, because Tim Jarvis is the true heir of the great explorers of the past: his expeditions are incredible feats of determination and perseverance, and with his environmental commitment, a contribution to mankind as significant as that of his predecessors. Furthermore, with the Shackleton Epic, Tim demonstrated not only how relevant Shackleton's message remains in the world today, but also how utterly crucial the role the marine chronometer played in world history."

As the world revolves, so do its timepieces. As it evolves, so do its explorers and chronometer makers.

#### **THE LEGACY: MAIN FEATURES OF THE TIMEPIECE**

The *Legacy* lovingly blends the most sophisticated and modern design with the attributes of Britishness and affinity with the sea - attributes that have set apart the name of Thomas Mercer from all others since 1858. Like every Thomas Mercer, the new chronometer embraces the best of British luxury values, painstaking design and craftsmanship, an incomparable style and a real appreciation for the finest things in life.

The rhodium plated dial, obtained through a bas-relief process and finished with a stunning *gréné* effect, features the Southern Ocean map on which the 1916 original voyage of Sir Shackleton and its re-enactment in 2013 are both represented.

The case displays an unusual asymmetrical body of AISI 316 stainless steel with precious elements in high gloss finish Zircote adorned with fine metal settings which make this timepiece an incomparable fusion of advanced machining techniques and finest cabinet making. As further touch of incomparability, the signature of the Hon. Alexandra Shackleton and Tim Jarvis AM FRGS - respectively patron and leader of the centenary expedition.

Synonymous with her exquisite casing, the *Legacy* contains the most beautiful of mechanisms. Visible from the dial, the escapement, the beating heart of the timekeeper, comes in its *par*

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*excellence* form, the Spring Detent. A unique feature of the *Legacy* chronometer is the gimbals suspension that allows the movement to remain horizontal regardless of the motion of the ship - ideal for achieving maximum accuracy. A specifically designed lever allows the movement case to be locked in its reverse position, so that the exquisite mechanism can be clearly seen and admired from the face of the timepiece.

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