



**PRESS RELEASE - SEPTEMBER 2008**

## **HOLLY BUDGE LEAPS INTO RECORD BOOKS WITH EXTREME EVEREST STUNT**

Daredevil skydiver Holly Budge aims to become the first woman ever to make a terrifying parachute jump in front of Mount Everest in October. The 29-year-old adventure sports enthusiast will perch on the footplate of a small plane overlooking Everest's deathzone, and then throw herself out, hurtling past the mountain at 140mph in temperatures of  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The challenge, in early October, has never been attempted before.

Holly's parachute will be much larger than normal to account for the faster speeds of descent in the thinner air of the world's highest drop zone (12,350ft). She will use a skydiving oxygen system, wearing the same mask used by fighter pilots and purpose-made thermal headgear to ensure none of her body is exposed to the biting cold. Holly will jump solo from 29,500ft, freefalling significantly faster than in normal conditions. Her landing at 12,350ft – is the level she would usually jump from.

The trip is organised by mountaineer, skydiver and adventure logistician Nigel Gifford, OBE, through his adventure specialist company High & Wild, [www.highandwild.co.uk](http://www.highandwild.co.uk), based in Wells, UK. His management team includes world renowned aeronaut and cosmonaut Andy Elson and world champion skydiver Omar Alhegelan. Holly will be jumping with 32 other skydivers from around the world who will be doing a mixture of solo and tandem jumps.

Holly, a Bristol-based award-winning interactive designer and film-maker, and experienced camera flyer, will be jumping solo, and filming her own descent as part of a documentary she is making about the trip.

Holly will soon be launching her new online training application for skydivers, E-FLI. [www.e-fli.com](http://www.e-fli.com). Currently in the final stages of development, E-FLI will be available to skydiving companies and individual students, and will be marketed worldwide.

Holly also aims to raise thousands of pounds for her three charities, the Hampshire Autistic Society, Regain, and The Himalayan Trust. Details of how to make a donation, and more information about her trip, are available on her dedicated website: [www.skydiveeverest.co.uk](http://www.skydiveeverest.co.uk)

If your business is interested in offering sponsorship, equipment or other support to Holly's charity Everest jump, please contact her on +44 (0)7770 507686 or email: [holly@hollybudge.com](mailto:holly@hollybudge.com)

**\*\*PICTURES AND FILM FOOTAGE AVAILABLE\*\***

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Websites:

[www.hollybudge.com](http://www.hollybudge.com)

[www.e-fli.com](http://www.e-fli.com)

Notes for editors

Holly's charities;

**Regain** is the only charitable organization dedicated solely to improving the independence of all British men and women who have become tetraplegic as a result of a competitive sports injury.

**[www.regainsportscharity.com](http://www.regainsportscharity.com)**

**The Hampshire Autistic Society** is a charity giving choice, opportunity, professional advice, education, support and care to those affected by autism.

**[www.has.org.uk](http://www.has.org.uk)**

**The Himalayan Trust**, founded by the late Sir Edmund Hillary, focus on projects aiming to improve education, social development and the environment to benefit the mountain people of Nepal.

**[www.himalayantrust.co.uk](http://www.himalayantrust.co.uk)**