

Andy Cave

Thursday 6th November

Royal Geographical Society
1 Kensington Gore
London SW7 2AR

7pm (doors/bar open 6pm)

Tickets: £15

portersprogressuk.org/events

Life on the edge
Life on the edge
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About Andy Cave

Andy is one of a handful of pioneers exploring new routes in remote mountain ranges. His story of overcoming adversity and rising above expectations has inspired audiences all over the world. Andy left school at 16 with no qualifications and followed family tradition starting work as miner at Grimethorpe pit. The work was brutal, and yet he claims it gave him an invaluable insight. "In that filthy, dangerous hell, I learnt essential lessons about teamwork; without it you could not survive."

At 17, he did his first rock climb and was instantly hooked. He soon began dreaming of scaling the world's most difficult mountain climbs, though many laughed at the ambition in one so new to the sport. Just three years later, he succeeded on the infamous north face of the Eiger. Later he studied for a degree in English, then a PhD in Linguistics.

He has led expeditions around the world. In the Himalayas, he made the first ascent of one of the 20th Century's greatest climbs, and in the Alps he summited on 'Divine Providence', considered to be the hardest climb. In 2000, he travelled to Alaska to tackle Mount Kennedy's North Face; his team succeeding where many others had failed.

His story has been read by tens of thousands in his two award winning books, *Learning to Breathe* and *Thin White Line*. He has appeared on radio and TV, as both presenter and subject, and has inspired many with his journey of an ordinary boy growing up to achieve remarkable things.

This event is in aid of The Mount Everest Foundation and Porters' Progress UK