



## **Janey McGill Receives Flag Carrier Grant for Trek Across Oman Desert**

### ***1,000 Km Journey Will Unite Women and Challenge Stereotypes***

New York, NY (July 11, 2018) – Along with a team of Anglo-Omani women, Janey McGill will carry the WINGS flag across 1,000 km of Oman’s Rub’ Al Khali, a desert in the Arabian Peninsula that spans four countries.

As much as it is a physical journey, the trek also offers an opportunity for the women to address their cultural differences with the goal of challenging stereotypes. Her goal is to encourage understanding, acceptance and respect for cultural and gender differences and identities.

“WINGS offers a platform for us to be heard; women who have dreams and aspirations for a great understanding of the world and the education of the people that occupy it,” Janey said. “To carry the WINGS flag would go a long way in helping me to communicate my message to a wider and engaged audience.”

### **About Janey McGill**

Janey’s heart lies in the military where she spent four fulfilling years as a soldier with the Honourable Artillery Company. She has a diverse background in law, the arts, business and property.

Studying Geography at the University of Exeter developed her interest in gender studies and fieldwork, particularly within Middle Eastern cultures. On graduation she went on to study law and qualified as a solicitor. Subsequent studies in Psychotherapy, psychology and counselling has provided her with an insatiable curiosity of people, communication, interaction and leadership qualities.

In a twist of fate Janey suffered a serious injury while training for a military horse race, the Royal Artillery Gold Cup. Thus halting her goal of transitioning from the Reserves to the Army Legal Service as an Officer.

Overcoming this adversity and feeling a distinct lack of belonging outside of the military sparked her desire to challenge and push boundaries. She has organised and participated in many long-distance endurance events for military charities. Recently Janey has joined the Armed Forces Para Snowsport Team as a Nordic ski athlete and continues to pursue her endurance training ambitions. Her military training, rehabilitation from serious injury, resilience and drive to create a community legacy have played a major role in shaping this expedition in Oman.

### **About WINGS WorldQuest's Flag Carrier Program**

WINGS WorldQuest Flag Carriers are women leading original field research or documentation that focuses on investigating questions about the nature of our world and advancing conservation efforts on land, air and water through science and advocacy. As part of their expeditions, all accepted Flag Carriers plan to write reports, make films, or otherwise formally share information about the findings and discoveries with the scientific community and the public. WINGS WorldQuest Flag Carriers are not associated with tourist trips or paying participants on tours. WINGS Flag Carriers publish an expedition report with WINGS so that the expedition findings can be shared with the greater public. Since 2005, more than 50 women have flown the WINGS WorldQuest flag during expeditions across over 35 countries and all of the world's continents as they pursue groundbreaking discoveries. The WINGS WorldQuest flag is recognized as a symbol of excellence in discovery and knowledge, and certifies the significance of its carriers' endeavors.

### **About WINGS WorldQuest™**

WINGS WorldQuest™ is a registered nonprofit organization founded in 2003 to recognize and support extraordinary women in science and exploration. It is the only organization of its kind, awarding unrestricted funding to women in scientific field endeavors. WINGS' support knows no boundaries—women of all races, nationalities, ages, and cultures who show initiative, passion, and promise toward future scientific advancement have been granted funds that are often critical to seeing their ambitious ideas through. In return, they have become part of the WINGS community, and strengthen the organization's mission to inspire the next generation of intrepid explorers and global problem-solvers through various outreach programs. For more information, visit [www.wingsworldquest.org](http://www.wingsworldquest.org).

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