

# SGB OUTDOOR

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## SQUASH FALCONER

ADVENTURER AND POWERTRAVELLER LTD  
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**S**quash Falconer is an adventurer and mountaineer. She has scaled Everest, was the first British woman to paraglide from the summit of Mont Blanc after riding there on her motorbike and became the world's highest ever bum boarder when she climbed Cho Oyu. Her varied adventures have taken her on many trips around the globe and here she shares with us where it began and what's important.

I've always loved the outdoors and after a ski season in the French Alps at 18 I fell in love with the mountains. It wasn't until a few years after getting involved in adventure endurance races that I began mountaineering and climbing bigger peaks.

The first was Aconcagua in Argentina. At 7000m it was an ambitious first mountain but with my experienced friends, great kit and the right attitude we reached the summit and had a fantastic trip.

Realising that I loved to share my adventures as much as I enjoyed going on them the second mountain involved filming. My team and I were the first British women to take our skis and snowboards on Mustagata, a 7500m peak in China. It was a steep learning curve filming and being filmed in such a tough environment but this was definitely something I wanted to do more of.

After climbing Cho Oyu, my first 8000m peak, I began to consider Everest. Maybe I could climb the world's tallest mountain? That maybe soon became an 'I can' and when I was planning my trip I knew it was vital that I took reliable, trusted and good quality equipment with me. From my clothing to the more technical gadgets I needed to know that in the most extreme environments in the world my kit wouldn't let me down.



Taking my GoPro cameras, an iPod and a satellite phone to Everest I wondered about the best way to charge them and that thought led me to remember a very cool piece of kit I had admired and shared years ago when a friend had introduced me to her 'powermonkey' - a small lightweight rugged solar powered charger - that we kept all our

gadgets fully powered with during an expedition.

I was delighted to learn that Powertraveller had multiple solutions for every gadget you could need or want to take when you were going off-grid.

The equipment I wanted to take with me to Everest ranged from life saving (the satellite phone) to essential for the project (GoPro cameras) to providing entertainment (my iPod).

I tested the Powermonkey Extreme, the Solargorilla and Minigorilla. They provided power for every need I would have on the mountain and could also charge my team mates net book! Being lightweight, durable and waterproof the Powermonkey Extreme was perfect for above basecamp. The real test for the kit of course was when I was on the mountain itself. The results speak for themselves... I was never without power.

I was proud to become an ambassador for Powertraveller, their products are lightweight, high quality, user friendly and most importantly reliable. I love working with the Powertraveller team and I love their products.

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