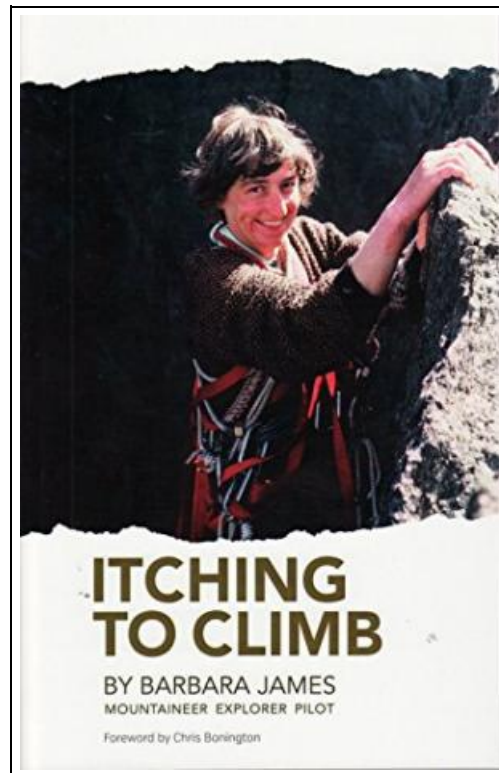


Itching to Climb: Mountaineer Explorer Pilot



Filesize: 5.91 MB

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ITCHING TO CLIMB: MOUNTAINEER EXPLORER PILOT



Baton Wicks Publications, United Kingdom, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 2nd Revised edition. 216 x 138 mm. Language: N/A. Brand New Book. Inherited eczema and allergies made Barbara James different from her classmates, something she did not like. She was lucky. The severity of her eczema had lessened when her teacher introduced her to the Snowdonia hills. In 1964 she became a full time mountaineering instructor and mountain rescue first aider in Capel Curig at a time when there were few females instructing or leading difficult rock routes. Divorced in 1976 and with a mortgage to pay, Barbara needed a job, and became the first and possibly the only woman civilian to be employed by MOD to train soldiers. At the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion in Folkestone she learned another language, new codes of behaviour, and to lead expeditions. After early retirement, Barbara took her first holiday in 11 years. She was probably the second person to go, unaccompanied, to the magical Falkland Islands soon after the conflict. Alone she walked up Tumbledown, communed with wild life and was told that Anyone can learn to fly . So on return, her 50th birthday present to herself was to get a Private Pilot s Licence. A year later she flew a Cessna 40 hours solo around Florida. But nothing Barbara had done was as challenging as surviving, alone, the furiously tourist evenings in Tenerife s Playa de Las Americas. Only the magical El Teide National Park and the genuine, spontaneous kindness of the Canarians ensured her return. She rented an apartment in Adeje village and the locals initial suspicious looks soon disappeared. Itching to Climb tells the story of one woman s undaunting spirit in the face of adversities, of a life spent facing challenges head on, with a singleminded determination...



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