

RIPLEY'S
Believe It or Not!



ALL NEW

**SEEING IS
BELIEVING**

COCONUT CRAZY

Andres Gardin from Panama performs incredible feats of a dental nature. He has an appetite for coconuts, but not the milk inside—in Panama City in 2007, Gardin peeled the fibers off 500 coconuts in six hours using only his teeth.

CHIPPER GRAN ■ A great-grandmother celebrated her 100th birthday in 2007 by frying fish and chips in her shop. Connie Brown still works six days a week at the fish-and-chip shop in Pembroke, Wales, that she opened in 1928 with her late husband Sidney.

TIGER CUB ■ In 2007, an English golfer hit his third hole-in-one—and he was still only eight years old. David Huggins from Stowmarket, Suffolk, hit his first ace when he was four—two years younger than when Tiger Woods struck his first hole-in-one.

BRAVE SOLDIER ■ A British soldier serving in southern Afghanistan in 2008 threw himself onto an exploding grenade to save the lives of his patrol—and walked away with nothing worse than a bloody nose. Royal Marine lance corporal Matt Croucher from Birmingham survived the blast because his knapsack took most of the force of the explosion.

DANCING COP ■ On the streets of Provincetown, Massachusetts, police officer Donald Thomas has been directing traffic with exaggerated dance movements for more than 50 years—and he was still going strong in 2008 at the age of 81.

DOUBLE ACHIEVEMENT ■ Jeanne Stawiecki from Charlton, Massachusetts, has run marathons on all seven continents and climbed the “Seven Summits,” the highest mountain on each continent—a feat all-the-more remarkable because she did not even start mountain climbing until she was 52.

COIN HOARDER ■ After begging on the streets of Calcutta for 44 years, Laxmi Das has finally saved up enough money—around \$700—to open her own bank account and even qualify for a credit card. She had collected thousands of coins—weighing a total of 200 lb (90 kg)—in iron buckets at her shanty-town home.

PEAK FITNESS ■ In 2007, 76-year-old Michio Kumamoto from Tokorozawa, Japan, climbed Alaska’s 20,320-ft-high (6,194-m) Mount McKinley, which is the tallest peak in North America.

SEVEN CONTINENTS ■ At just ten years old, Victoria White of Elizabeth, Colorado, completed a mission to ski on all seven continents. She and her father Ken spent a year traveling 75,000 mi (120,700 km) by air and 3,500 mi (5,630 km) by sea, finishing their journey at Winter Park, Colorado, in March 2008.

FAMILY FORTUNE ■ In 2007, the Leblanc family of Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada, had 13 living siblings ranging in age from 71 to 88.

LONG TOUR ■ In June 2003, 21 tourists spent more than 33 hours on a guided tour of the German city of Augsburg, listening to nearly 100 city guides who worked in shifts.

STREET WALKER ■ David Marsh walks 18 mi (29 km) a day in his job cleaning the streets of Wigan, England, which means that in his 40-year career Marsh, who has never had a sick day, has clocked up more than 169,000 mi (272,000 km)—the equivalent of walking around the world six times.

ROOKIE COP ■ Laurence Egerton became a rookie cop in 2007—at age 56. The former businessman joined the Wilmington Police Department in North Carolina.

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