

OWPG

outdoor writers & photographers guild

WORDS AND PICTURES FROM THE OUTDOORS

MEDIA NEWS BULLETIN SPRING 2018

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The Outdoor Writers Guild was founded in 1980 by a small group of writers, most of whom were closely involved in writing about outdoor equipment and clothing. Within five years it had expanded hugely, taking in writers who concentrated on the experience rather than the gear, along with a growing number of photographers.

In an attempt to reflect this diversity, the Guild changed its name in 2006 to

Outdoor Writers and Photographers Guild. Even this fails to do justice to the breadth of members' skills and we also adopted the informal strapline 'Words and Pictures from the Outdoors'.

Today's membership includes writers, journalists, photographers, illustrators, broadcasters, film-makers, artists, publishers and editors, but all with the common bond of a passionate interest in the outdoors.



Where OWPG members have been recently



If you're a writer, photographer, or are involved in the outdoor trade or of a relevant profession you could join the Outdoor Writers and Photographers Guild.

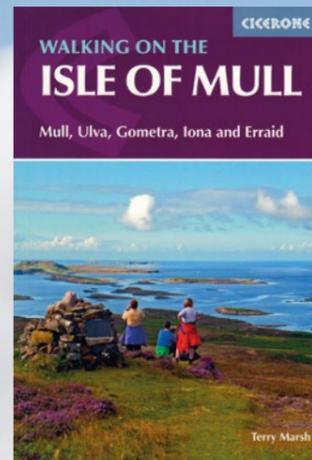
To apply for membership please send a CV and samples of your work by email to Ronald Turnbull, OWPG's membership secretary, care of: memsec@owpg.org.uk. Please don't hesitate to contact Ronald if you'd like further information about joining OWPG.

Terry Marsh

The glen is lonely

A brief foray to Shetland at the end of January to experience Up Helly Aa, has left Terry Marsh longing to go back. But it will have to wait. His love affair with Shetland and Orkney has not abated since he penned *The Magic of the Scottish Islands*, illustrated by Jon Sparks. But then his love for all the other Scottish islands hasn't diminished either.

So, it's back to Mull we go in search of otters and eagles, but, given the location of our cottage, deep in Glen Fossa, he'll be hoping for some starry, starry nights, too. This is where he was based when he wrote *Walking on the Isle of Mull*, a place so remote that, to paraphrase Lillian Beckwith, 'even the cows in the glen is lonely'.



Contact Terry...

telephone 01772 321243

mobile 07766 657421

email countrymatters@gmail.com

David Forster Dales and Lakes

Having spent quite a bit of time focussing on the North Pennines for his *Camera Walks in Teesdale* book, David has been spending more time in the Lake District working his way through the Wainwright's with his wife Moira. David has produced

some award-winning imagery in the North Pennines and has begun to create images of a similar quality in the Lakes.

If you are an editor looking for words and pictures relating to either the North Pennines, or the Lake District, please get in touch using the details below.

Contact David...

telephone 07999 342725

email david@bluestoneimages.com

website www.bluestoneimages.com

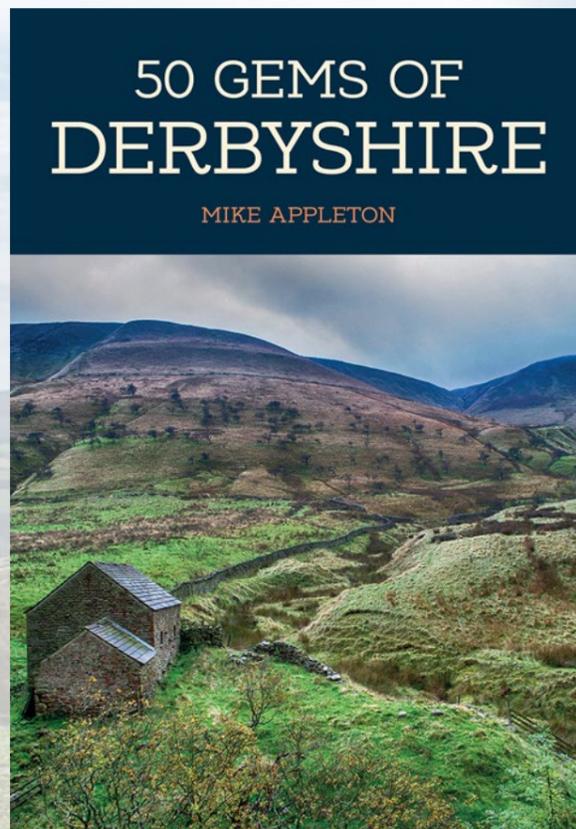
Mike Appleton

Derbyshire Gems

Mike Appleton's latest book, *50 Gems of Derbyshire*, will be published in mid-May 2018.

It features fifty of the best places to visit in the county, painstakingly chosen from an area that has a multitude to see above and below ground.

Interview and advanced details, as well as images, are available from the author. Mike has also recently been commissioned to write a similar guide to Cheshire.



Contact Mike...

telephone 07957 623970

email mike@mascarandymedia.com

website www.mascarandymedia.com

twitter [@mascarandy](https://twitter.com/mascarandy)

Paddy Dillon

Atlantic Island Hopping

Paddy Dillon just completed a long-distance trek along the GR131. It's an island-hopping route through all seven of the Canary Islands - Lanzarote, Fuerteventura, Gran Canaria, Tenerife, La Gomera, La Palma and El Hierro - almost 350 miles.

Conditions varied from semi-desert landscapes to awesome lava flows, with damp and misty

'cloud forests', stunning views from mountain summits above the 'sea of clouds', and handy towns and villages at intervals offering good food and drink.

This comes hard on the heels of walks and treks around all nine of the Azores, as well as Madeira and Porto Santo. Expect to see lots of guidebooks!

Contact Paddy...

telephone 01229 586902

email info@paddydillon.co.uk

website www.paddydillon.co.uk

James Forrest Making a debut

James is currently writing his debut book - *Mountain Man* - about his record-breaking climb of 446 mountains in six months in 2017. The book, published by Bloomsbury, will be on the shelves in 2019. When he's not grappling with his 70,000-word deadline, James is busy writing walking routes and features for magazines including

The Great Outdoors, Trail, Lakeland Walker and Country Walking. James is also working as an Ordnance Survey #GetOutside champion, encouraging the general public to enjoy the health benefits of being active outside. Follow James' adventures online through his Twitter and Instagram accounts, details below.



Contact James...

telephone 07950 395699

email jamesmichaelforrest@gmail.com

twitter [@jamesmforrest](https://twitter.com/jamesmforrest)

instagram [@jamesmichaelforrest](https://www.instagram.com/jamesmichaelforrest)

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The Outdoor Writers & Photographers Guild is proud to be associated with:

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www.patagonia.com

Are you looking for a professional and experienced outdoor writer or photographer?

Visit the OWPG's website today!

www.owpg.org.uk

Members of the Outdoor Writers and Photographers Guild, established in 1980, are actively and professionally involved in sustainable activities in any outdoor setting.

Our Associate Members



Want to keep track of what our members are up to? Subscribe to the OWPG's quarterly full-colour Media News Bulletin.

Outdoor Writers & Photographers Guild



Outdoor Writers & Photographers Guild Organisation

The OWPG also has a Facebook page. Catch up on the latest news at www.bit.ly/OWPGfacebook



Should your company or organisation wish to sponsor or be associated with the Outdoor Writers & Photographers Guild please email the OWPG's Secretary, John Gillham using secretary@owpg.org.uk or telephone 01254 773097

www.owpg.org.uk

Roly Smith

Having a Wonder-ful time

Guild vice-president Roly Smith is currently working on a new book about his home patch of the Peak District with local photographer Chris Gilbert. This one will be looking at the Peak's fabled Seven Wonders, first expounded in the 17th century by writers like Thomas Hobbes and Charles Cotton,

and Roly comes up with some new man-made, wildlife and natural ones. "They are very personal and subjective listings," says Roly, "but I hope it will encourage readers to come up with their own."

Meanwhile, he continues with his regular magazine and editing work.

Contact Roly...

telephone 01629 812034

email roly.smith@btconnect.com

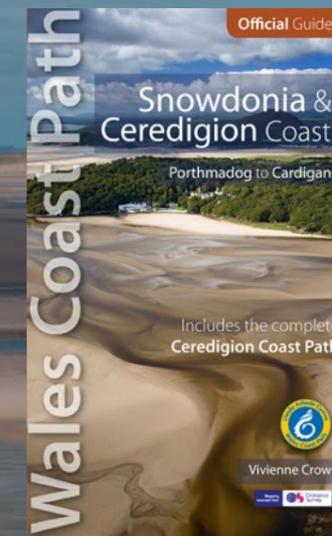
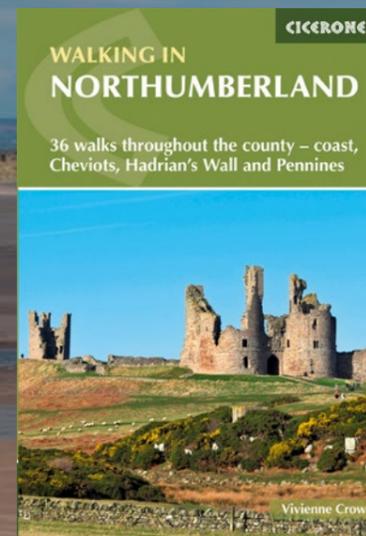
Vivienne Crow

These books are made for walking

Vivienne Crow's latest books see this prolific writer again venturing beyond the Lake District. *Walking in Northumberland*, published by Cicerone, contains thirty-six walks covering the coast, the Cheviot Hills, Hadrian's Wall and the North Pennines. Vivienne's *Snowdonia and Ceredigion Coast* book joins her existing guide to the *Pembrokeshire Coast Path* in Northern Eye Books' official *Wales Coast Path* series.

She's looking forward to several walking trips in the next few weeks, including in the Glen Shiel area and along the Dorset coast. The latter involves revisiting hostels she stayed at during her first long-distance walk almost thirty-two years ago. Let's see how much they've changed!

Vivienne is available for newspaper, magazine and book commissions throughout the British Isles. She also does interpretation work.



Contact Vivienne...

telephone 07779 772153

email vivienncrow@hotmail.com

website www.vivienncrow.co.uk

Rudolf Abraham

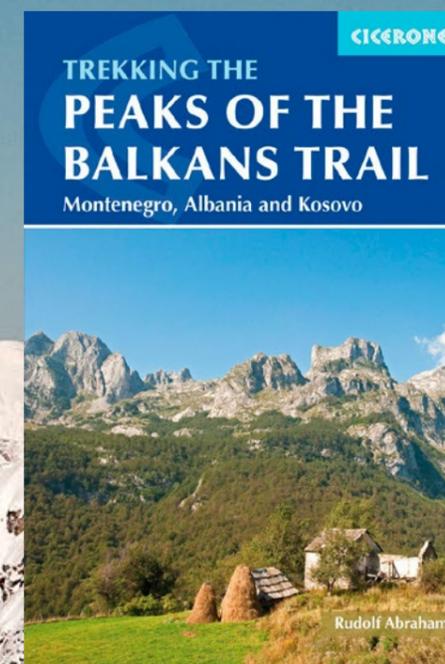
The Accursed Mountains

Award-winning writer and photographer Rudolf Abraham's new guidebook to the Peaks of the Balkans trail – 200km through the wild and rugged borderlands of Montenegro, Albania and Kosovo (an area known as Prokletije, meaning 'the accursed mountains', but don't let that put you off as it's a spectacularly beautiful and wonderfully hospitable corner of the world!) – was published towards the end of 2017 by Cicerone.

Recent trips have taken him to the lakes and mountains of Austria's Salzkammergut region, and across a snowswept Dachstein plateau, to begin work on a new guidebook – as well as to the Waldviertel region, to photograph falconry and birds of

prey. Other trips in recent months have included Austria, France, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Croatia and Slovenia (both of which he has been a regular visitor to for the best part of twenty years). Magazine and newspaper work over the past few months has included features for *OE*, *The Independent*, *France*, *TGO*, *Geographical*, *Hidden Europe*, *Morning Calm* and *The National*.

Upcoming trips include hiking in Salzkammergut and Dachstein again, cycling in Normandy, walking in Burgundy, music in the Dolomites, kayaking in Montenegro, Riga to cover Latvia's Song and Dance Celebration, and several trips to Croatia while working on a new edition of his *Walking in Croatia* guidebook. Commissions welcome...!



Contact Rudolf...

mobile +44 (0)7789 936507

email rudolf@rudolfabraham.co.uk

website www.rudolfabraham.co.uk



Has the outdoors helped you to deal with a life-changing situation?

Thomas Smallwood

Has the outdoors helped you to deal with a life-changing situation, whether as a catalyst of change or a coping mechanism?

The Armchair Mountaineer is accepting guest posts from anyone for whom the outdoors or adventure has proved to be a benefit not only to their physical but also their mental wellbeing.

We would love to showcase the benefits of time spent outside. We would love to share your stories of success, failure, transformation and adventure with our readers. Contact us for more detailed guidelines.

Contact Thomas directly by email: thearmchairmountaineer@gmail.com or visit Thomas' website: www.armchairmountaineer.com/blog



**THE ARMCHAIR
MOUNTAINEER**

David Taylor Building up

Photographer David Taylor has taken a more urban approach to photography in recent months, with trips to cities such as Bristol and Birmingham. Editors interested in words or photos about these cities, or David's native Northumberland, should contact him using the details below.

Contact David...

telephone 01434 607637

email david@davidtaylorphotography.co.uk

website www.davidtaylorphotography.co.uk