



# OWPG

outdoor writers & photographers guild

WORDS AND PICTURES FROM THE OUTDOORS

MEDIA NEWS BULLETIN SUMMER 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](mailto:memsec@owpg.org.uk). Please don't hesitate to contact Ronald if you'd like further information about joining OWPG.



# PETER NALDRETT

## Lakes and Peaks

**P**eter Naldrett's new guide to the Lake District is released in late July and features 25 strolls to stretches of water that can't be seen from the road. *Secret Tarns in the Lake District* covers all areas of the national park, describing the routes to these small lakes from car parks and giving background information about how they were formed. It's Peter's second new book of the year; in March, *Year Round Walks in the Peak District* was published, providing walkers with five strolls that have been specially designed for each season. With a total of 20 walks, countryside fans can head for bluebells in spring, the peaks in summer, deciduous woodland in the autumn and lowland areas throughout winter. Peter is currently working on three UK guides for Bloomsbury Publishing, with the first due to be released nationally in March.

### Contact Peter...

**email** [peter.naldrett@talk21.com](mailto:peter.naldrett@talk21.com)

**website** [www.peter-naldrett.co.uk](http://www.peter-naldrett.co.uk)

**twitter** [@peternaldrett](https://twitter.com/peternaldrett)



**P**addy Dillon cycled 200 miles to the Backpackers Club AGM and was surprised to find himself elected as President. Many club members use his guidebooks to long-distance treks and trails throughout Britain and Europe.

Paddy's latest guidebooks include *Mountain Walking in Mallorca* and new editions of *Walking in Madeira* and *Glyndwr's Way*. He will be

working on half a dozen updated reprints of guidebooks this year, stretching through Europe from the Canary Islands to Greenland.

He is currently finishing work on a guidebook covering all nine islands in the Azores, offering day walks and multi-day treks. Next, he will be writing a guidebook to the island-hopping GR131 through all seven of the Canary Islands.

# Paddy Dillon

## The President goes Backpacking

**Contact Paddy...**

telephone 01229 586902

email [info@paddydillon.co.uk](mailto:info@paddydillon.co.uk)

website [www.paddydillon.co.uk](http://www.paddydillon.co.uk)

**Image** Flores, in the Azores, looking along the course of the GR1.

# Terry Marsh Islands A-hoy

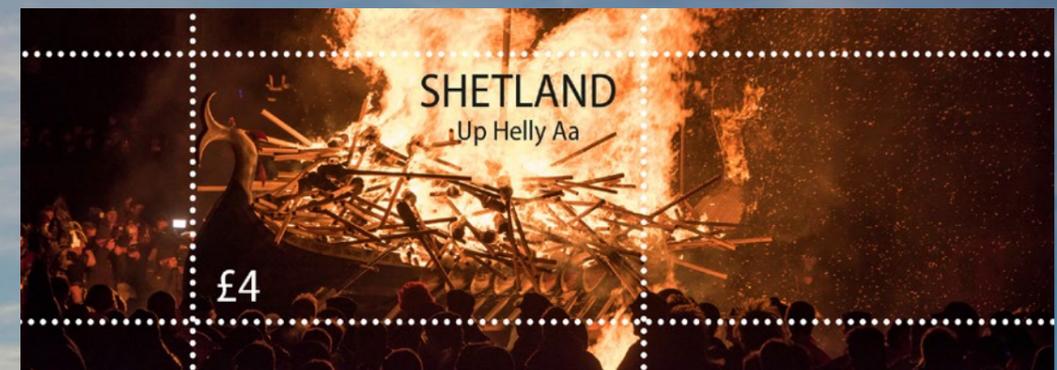


After a couple of weeks back in Madeira, updating the Michelin Green Guide, Terry Marsh is heading north to Shetland and Orkney.

His passion for the Scottish islands has diminished not one jot since he penned *The Magic of the Scottish Islands* nearly two decades ago. Trips are already planned for 2019 – back again to Shetland and Orkney,

to Arran and Skye, but also heading west for a change to the Outer Hebrides from north to south, by way of Ullapool.

Several of the images he's taken over the years have been turned into 'Cinderella' stamps for Anglesey Stamps ([www.angleseystamps.com](http://www.angleseystamps.com)); it's amazing what people will collect.



## Contact Terry...

telephone 01772 321243

mobile 07766 657421

email [countrymatters@gmail.com](mailto:countrymatters@gmail.com)

# Jacquie Budd Bikes and Bivvies



Relatively new to the bike packing scene, Jacquie recently found that adventuring on her mountain bike added a whole new dimension to life on two wheels. A couple of overnight bivvy trips soon had her cooking up plans for something more challenging. With a set of

borrowed bike panniers, she abandoned her car and rolled her bike onto a ferry set for the Outer Hebrides. Her goal was to complete the southern half of the Hebridean Way. The final tally of miles equated to the full Hebridean Way and left her with a thirst for more. Commissions welcome.

## Contact Jacquie...

**email** [info@jacquiebudd.com](mailto:info@jacquiebudd.com)

**website** [www.outdoor-girl.com](http://www.outdoor-girl.com)

**twitter** @JacquieBudd

**instagram** JacsBudd

# James Forrest

## Bagging Irish Peaks

James is currently finalising 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 book deadline, James is busy writing walking

routes and features for magazines including *The Great Outdoors* and *Trail*. James is also planning another epic peak-bagging trip. He plans to climb all 273 2,000ft mountains in Ireland in August and September 2018. Follow James' adventures online via Twitter and Instagram, using the details below.

### Contact James...

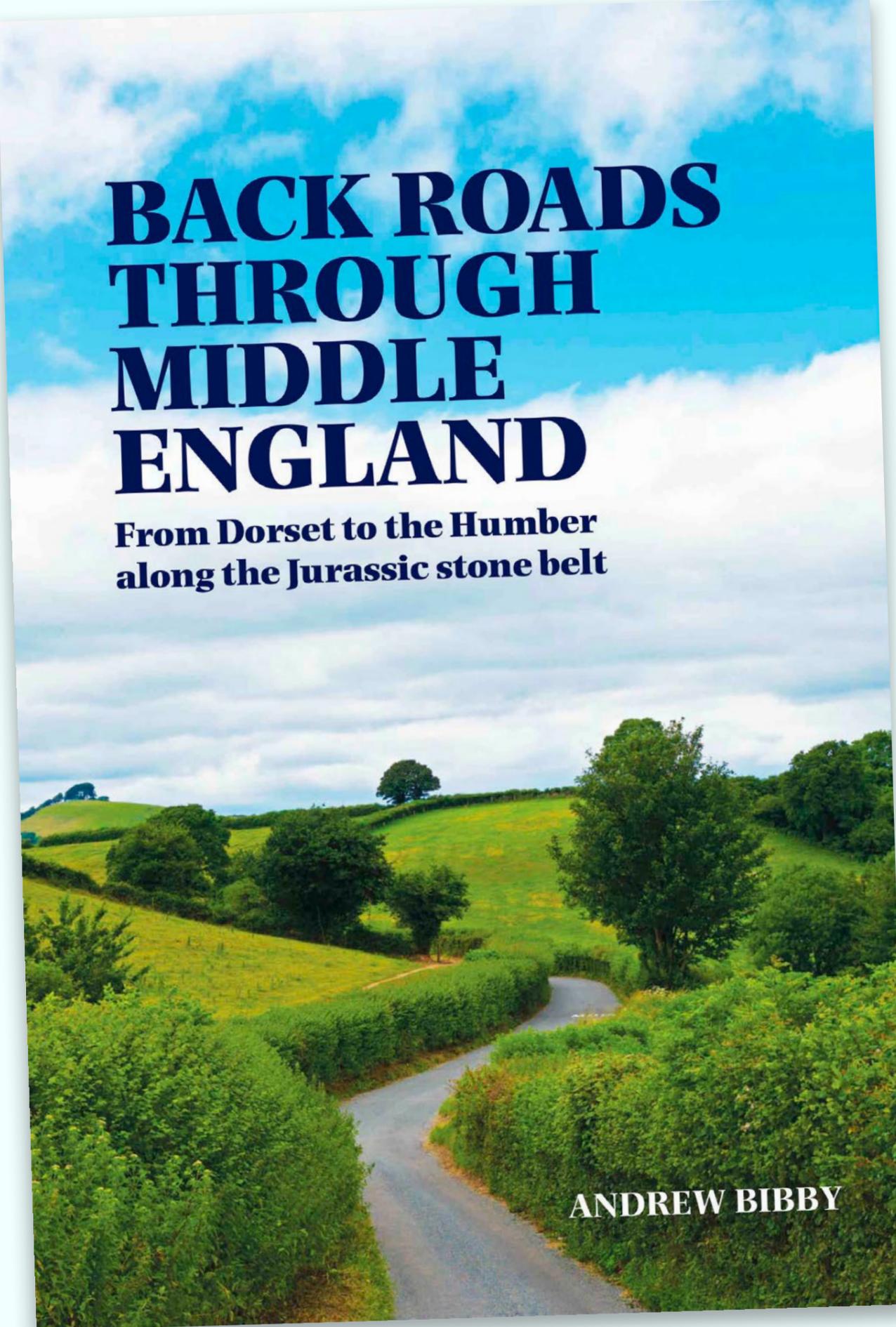
**telephone** 07950 395699

**email** jamesmichaelforrest@gmail.com

**twitter** @jamesmforrest

**instagram** @jamesmichaelforrest

**Image** James exploring Borrowdale in the sunshine



# BACK ROADS THROUGH MIDDLE ENGLAND

**From Dorset to the Humber  
along the Jurassic stone belt**

ANDREW BIBBY

## Andrew Bibby Literary tour

Andrew Bibby is currently half-way through a series of engagements at literary festivals, linked to his recent title *Back Roads through Middle England*.

His book, which uses the narrative device of a cycle ride made along the belt of Jurassic limestone (sometimes described as cotswold stone) from west Dorset to north Lincolnshire, delves deep into the landscapes of 'middle England'.

In the process Andrew turns to a wide range of disciplines, including social history, economics, and literature, to help him try to communicate why the countryside looks the way it does – and whether the landscape can offer any insights into what 'Englishness' might mean in these troubled times of political change.

So far this year Andrew has spoken to well-attended events in Halifax, Wellingborough and – most recently – at the Lowdham Literary Festival in Nottinghamshire. His forthcoming engagements are:

**Sat Sep 15** Durlston Country Park, near Swanage, Dorset

**Fri Sep 21** Oundle Book Festival, Oundle, Northants

**Thu Oct 4** Ilkley Literature Festival, Ilkley, W Yorks

**Wed Nov 21** Todmorden Book Festival, Todmorden, W Yorks

Andrew has given the title of his talk *How to Read the English Landscape*. He features in the talk three particular villages: Steeple Barton (where WG Hoskins wrote his seminal book *The Making of the English Landscape*), Juniper Hill (the real-life Lark Rise, written about by Flora Thompson) and Charterville near Minster Lovell, a working-class land community from the 1840s which remains distinctively different today.

*Back Roads through Middle England* is published by Gritstone Publishing at £13.95. Trade distribution is by Cordee. For review copies, contact the publisher at [info@gritstone.coop](mailto:info@gritstone.coop).

### Contact Andrew...

telephone 01422 844026

email [andrew@andrewbibby.com](mailto:andrew@andrewbibby.com)

website [www.andrewbibby.com](http://www.andrewbibby.com)

Guild vice-president Roly Smith has been involved in a number of filming and mixed media programmes recently, speaking on his 'specialist subject' – the Mass Trespass on Kinder Scout in 1932.

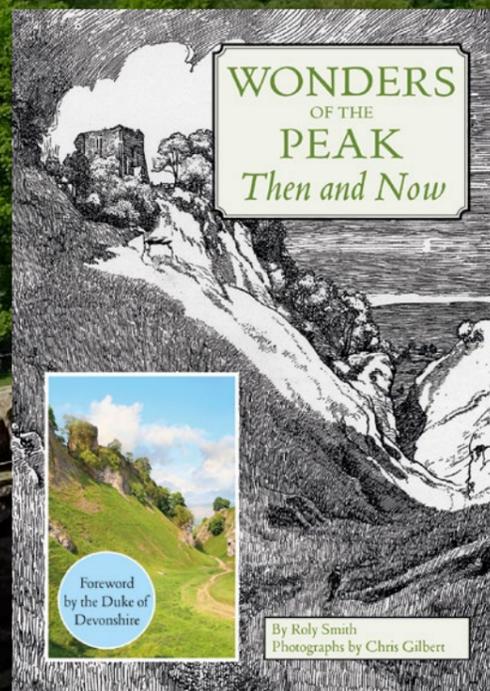
The first was a 13-minute video entitled 'Mass Trespass' produced by Well Red Films of Sheffield, which had 1,000 hits on Vimeo in 72 hours, and is now well over 2,000. Actress Maxine Peake described the film as "a must see." Then, with other Sheffield ramblers, he was out on Kinder filming with Michael Portillo for

a forthcoming programme in his forthcoming Great British Railway Journeys series, and finally, he was interviewed for the popular San Francisco-based podcast 99% Invisible, during which he was actually persuaded to sing the chorus of 'The Manchester Rambler'!

Apart from his media work, Roly has just completed his latest book – *Wonders of the Peak: Then and Now* – in partnership with photographer Chris Gilbert and a foreword by the Duke of Devonshire. It will be published later this month by Byway Publications.

# Roly Smith

## Trespassers will be celebrated



**Image** Roly (second right) with Michael Portillo and other Sheffield ramblers on The Nab at Edale, Grindslow Knoll in the background. Inset: cover of Roly's new book

**Contact Roly...**

telephone 01629 812034

email [roly.smith@btconnect.com](mailto:roly.smith@btconnect.com)

# Our Sponsors

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

## Cicerone

Specialist publisher of walking, trekking, mountaineering and cycling guidebooks.  
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## Viewranger

ViewRanger is the complete offline mapping, navigation & guided trail service for Outdoor Enthusiasts. ViewRanger offers exciting opportunities for writers interested in self-publishing or promoting their work to outdoor enthusiasts worldwide.  
[www.viewranger.com](http://www.viewranger.com)

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## Patagonia

Manufacturer of clothes for non-motorised sports such as climbing, skiing, snowboarding, surfing, fly fishing, paddling, trail running. Donates time, services and at least 1% of sales to hundreds of grassroots environmental groups worldwide.  
[www.patagonia.com](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto:secretary@owpg.org.uk) or telephone 01254 773097

[www.owpg.org.uk](http://www.owpg.org.uk)

Coast of Wales

TOP 10 Walks

# Walks to Lighthouses

Walks to spectacular  
Welsh **Lighthouses**

Alf Alderson

## Alf Alderson To the lighthouse

**A**lf Alderson's latest book *Walks to Lighthouses* has just been published by Northern Eye books; it features ten walks of varying length taking in Wales' most iconic lighthouses, from South Stack on Anglesey to Nash Point in Glamorgan

Over the summer Alf will be changing walking boots for gravel bike to ride various trails including the South Downs Way and various cols in the French Alps.

### Contact Alf...

telephone 0797 7057993

email [alfie@alfalderson.co.uk](mailto:alfie@alfalderson.co.uk)

website [www.alfalderson.co.uk](http://www.alfalderson.co.uk)

A photograph of Rob Yorke and Minette Batters sitting on a stage for an interview. Rob is on the right, wearing a green jacket and a red jacket draped over his chair, gesturing with his hands. Minette is on the left, wearing a light blue sweater. The background is a dark wall with the Hay Festival logo and the slogan 'imagine the world' repeated in various colors. To the left of the image, the words 'HAY FESTIVAL' are stacked vertically in large, glowing letters.

# Rob Yorke

## Making Hay shine

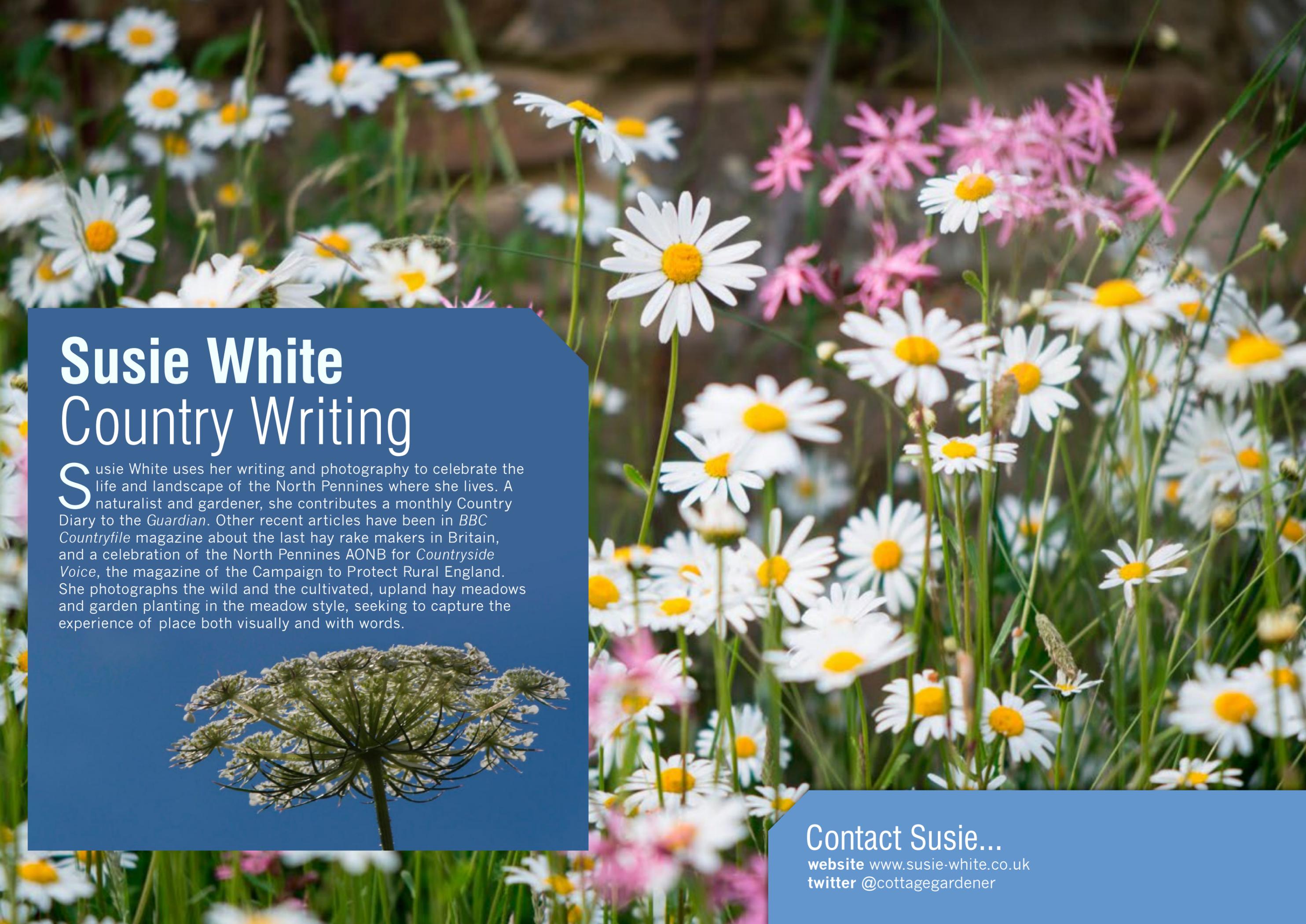
**A**fter interviewing the NFU's first female president at the Hay Literary Festival (his 6th year of proposing and chairing events there), he has been exploring the gritty details behind a rapidly changing rural scene from the insight as a practicing surveyor and communicator. Opinion pieces from him in the *i Newspaper* on

wildfires, a letter in the *Guardian* on the dangers of dumbing down environmental data, an in-depth piece on rewilding in *Ecos* and an opinion on the 'wicked problem' of farming food in the *Farmers Guardian* make him a tricky player to place in a box.

That's the point. It's countryside complex with few easy wins!

Contact Rob...

website [www.robbyorke.co.uk](http://www.robbyorke.co.uk)



# Susie White Country Writing

Susie White uses her writing and photography to celebrate the life and landscape of the North Pennines where she lives. A naturalist and gardener, she contributes a monthly Country Diary to the *Guardian*. Other recent articles have been in *BBC Countryfile* magazine about the last hay rake makers in Britain, and a celebration of the North Pennines AONB for *Countryside Voice*, the magazine of the Campaign to Protect Rural England. She photographs the wild and the cultivated, upland hay meadows and garden planting in the meadow style, seeking to capture the experience of place both visually and with words.



Contact Susie...

website [www.susie-white.co.uk](http://www.susie-white.co.uk)

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

## A Walk around Rye



By David Clarke

# David Clarke A Walk Around Rye

The tenth in David Clarke's series of History Walks around 1066 Country, *A Walk Around Rye* was published in May. Medieval Rye is a small but beautifully formed town that fuels the imagination with its unhurried airs and cobbles, its wealth of old buildings and

the guide explores the town adding stories to bring the walk alive. David is currently revising and updating *1066 Harold's Way*, including an extension to Hastings Castle, and researching the walks for the next History Walk, *More Walks Around Rye*.

## Contact David...

telephone 01424 425888

mobile 07766 604654

email [historywalks@aol.co.uk](mailto:historywalks@aol.co.uk)

website [www.1066haroldsway.co.uk](http://www.1066haroldsway.co.uk)

blog [www.historywalksblog.wordpress.com](http://www.historywalksblog.wordpress.com)

# Rudolf Abraham

## Across the roof of Croatia

**A**ward-winning writer and photographer Rudolf Abraham has just returned from hiking a brand new route on Croatia's highest mountain, Dinara – remote and sprawling along the Bosnian border, covered with lush pastures and ringed on one side by stupendous cliffs. He has also covered the Sounds of the Dolomites festival in Trentino, Italy, trekking in the San Martino di Castrozza area for three days with festival founder and cellist Mario Brunello and Italian climbing legend Manolo.

Other recent trips have taken him to the beautiful, watery landscape of La Brenne in France, Friesland in the Netherlands, and

the Isle of Man to walk some of the Way of the Gull.

He has been working on a new edition of his *Walking in Croatia* guide for Cicerone, while magazine and newspaper work over the past few months has included features for *France*, *Hidden Europe*, *The Independent*, *Morning Calm*, *The National* and *OE*.

Upcoming trips include hiking in Burgundy, walking some of the Camino de Santiago, island-hopping and mountain wandering in Croatia, and another trip to Austria's Salzkammergut and Dachstein to continue work on a new guidebook. Commissions welcome...!

### Contact Rudolf...

**mobile** +44 (0)7789 936507

**email** [rudolf@rudolfabraham.co.uk](mailto:rudolf@rudolfabraham.co.uk)

**website** [www.rudolfabraham.co.uk](http://www.rudolfabraham.co.uk)

# John Sutcliffe Cape to Cape

John Sutcliffe's debut book, *Cape to Cape*, was published by Vertebrate in May 2018. Approaching his 70th birthday, John planned this 1,250-mile-long backpacking trek to reconnect with the hills of home after a lifetime working abroad as an exploration geologist. His 1,250 mile-long walk takes us through some of Britain's outstanding landscapes - and the underlying geology that helped shape them.

After following the tin-mine riddled cliffs of Cornwall, John wets his feet in the moors and

bogs of South West England before heading over to the Welsh Borders. The Derbyshire Dales and the Pennine Way then take him into the rarely-trodden Southern Uplands of Scotland, followed by the stunning Cape Wrath Trail through the remote North West Highlands.

Illustrated with over 200 of the author's photographs and his daughter's, Amanda's pen and ink drawings, the book chronicles John's mile-by-mile adventures along the way as he explores the rich tapestry of the British countryside.

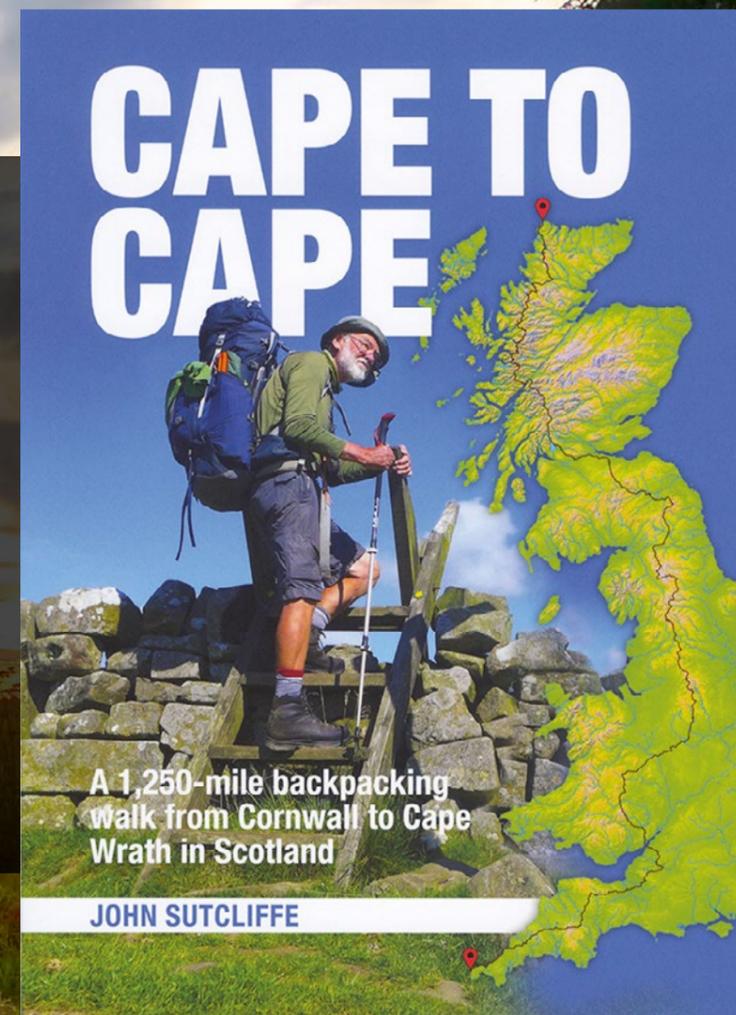


Image Out of sight in the Scottish Lowlands

## Contact John...

Telephone 077 4828 2098

Email [john@johnsutcliffe.net](mailto:john@johnsutcliffe.net)

Website [www.johnsutcliffe.net](http://www.johnsutcliffe.net)



# David Taylor

## The quality of Mersey

**P**hotographer David Taylor continues to take a more urban approach to his photography following a photography-themed trip to Liverpool and the surrounding area. Editors interested in words or photos about Liverpool, or of David's native Northumberland, should contact him using the details below.

### Contact David...

**telephone** 01434 607637

**email** [david@davidtaylorphotography.co.uk](mailto:david@davidtaylorphotography.co.uk)

**website** [www.davidtaylorphotography.co.uk](http://www.davidtaylorphotography.co.uk)