

OWPG

outdoor writers & photographers guild

WORDS AND PICTURES FROM THE OUTDOORS



MEDIA NEWS BULLETIN AUTUMN 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

Cover Ash Routen
This spread Andy Jackson



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.

Adrian Hendroff

From the Mourne and Cooley to the Land of the Giants

Adrian Hendroff's eighth and latest book, *The Mourne and Cooley Mountains* has just been published by The Collins Press. The book, an illustrated and most up-to-date guide of the region, features 26 walking routes including detailed descriptions of the Mourne Seven Sevens and the Mourne Wall Challenge. To date, the book has received great reviews on mountainviews.ie, *Belfast Telegraph*, Amazon.co.uk and *Outdoor Focus*.

Adrian is also recently back from a trip to Norway, doing reces for potential landscape photography trips there in the future. The weather and light were outstanding throughout,

giving Adrian perfect photography opportunities on the Besseggen ridge, Bitihorn, Galdhøpiggen, Reinheimen, Dalsnibba and Geiranger. Adrian is already planning trips to Tromsø and Lofoten next year.

In other news, Adrian has finished writing a mega autumn walking feature for the Irish Independent and is also busy working on a new Irish book project, focused mainly on photography, due to be published in 2020.

Enquiries on commissions, features and stock images on Ireland and Norway are always welcomed.



Images Looking down on Gjende from high on Besseggen
Adrian's latest guidebook (inset)

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John Sutcliffe Backpacking Spain's GR-1

In May 2018, John Sutcliffe set off to solo-backpack Spain's 1250 km-long GR-1 along the Pyrenean foothills. After some mid-walk delay caused by a leg injury, John completed 1,100km, reaching the province of Cantabria.

John portrays the GR-1 as 'a remote, hauntingly beautiful walk, passing through a region and steeped in history, with many

abandoned villages, overlooked by ever-present snow-capped peaks.'

Next year John plans to complete the remaining 150km of the GR-1, and then continue on through the Picos de Europa to Cape Finisterre – the Roman's World End.

John's daily log, a route map and useful advice offered to those contemplating the GR-1 are posted on his website.



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Paddy Dillon

Writer's Cramp in Greenland

The Arctic Circle Trail was rarely trodden until Paddy Dillon wrote a guidebook covering it. He went back to research a new edition and realised it had become very busy. In fact, he spent day after day signing copies of his guidebook, even to the extent of signing four copies before breakfast, as well as signing copies in airports in Greenland and Denmark.

'I'd do anything to be in the

new edition,' said one woman. 'I'd die happy if my picture was in the book,' said another woman.

Ladies, form an orderly queue! On a more serious note, it might be a case of 'last chance to see', as a dirt road is planned to run concurrent with the trail, along with associated blasting, quarries and earth-moving machines.

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Image Pas d'elle yeux Rhône que nous!

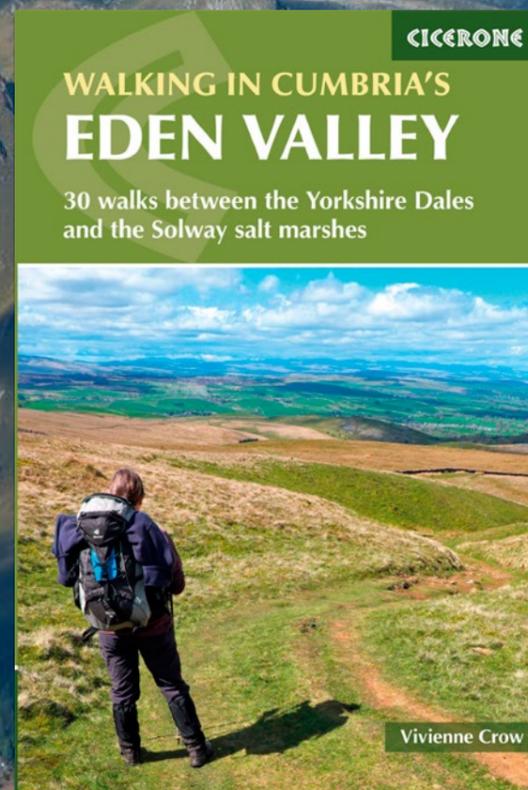
Vivienne Crow

At a bookshop near you...

Vivienne Crow has two new books out this autumn. First to hit the shelves was a guide to *Tea Shop Walks in the Lake District*, part of Northern Eye Books' popular Top 10 Walks series. This month sees the publication of a new, fully updated edition of her Cicerone guide, *Walking in Cumbria's Eden Valley*.

She's had a busy few months working with the likes of Mammut, the AA and Lake District Hotels. Magazine features have focussed on the Lake District, Glen Shiel, the Llŷn Peninsula and hut-to-hut hiking in Austria's Hohe Tauern National Park.

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



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Roger Butler Island fever

Roger continues to write about all aspects of the Scottish islands - he's been hooked on the Hebrides since a school adventure on board a converted trawler. It was Easter time but the sea was like a millpond and the temperature was positively Mediterranean! Now, years later, he's experienced all sorts of weather and is used to being left stranded when crossings have to be postponed. Recent articles have looked at remote or lesser-known islands such as Cara (off the Kintyre peninsula) and Hestan (off the Galloway coast); others have explored a ruined village on Colonsay and an historic golf course on South Uist. Forthcoming

features include the story of a short but extraordinary Viking Canal, tucked right beneath the Cuillins on Skye, a look at the wild west coast of Eigg and a journey out to the little island of Texa, just off the ragged south coast of Islay. Please get in touch if you would be interested in articles and pictures about the Hebrides.

Other magazine features planned for 2019 include walks which help to discover lost canals and little-known industrial archaeology, and plenty of routes over our hills and dales - the Welsh Borders are a particular favourite. Again, enquiries and commissions are welcome.

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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

Steve Davison recently finished revising his guide to walking in the Chilterns which has just been published by Cicerone and he is currently working on updating his guide to walking in the New Forest, another Cicerone guidebook.

Following his move to the south-west, Steve has decided that having been the walks writer for *Hampshire Life* magazine for 7 years and the walks writer for *Berkshire Life* magazine for over 8 years it was time for a break. He is now spending more

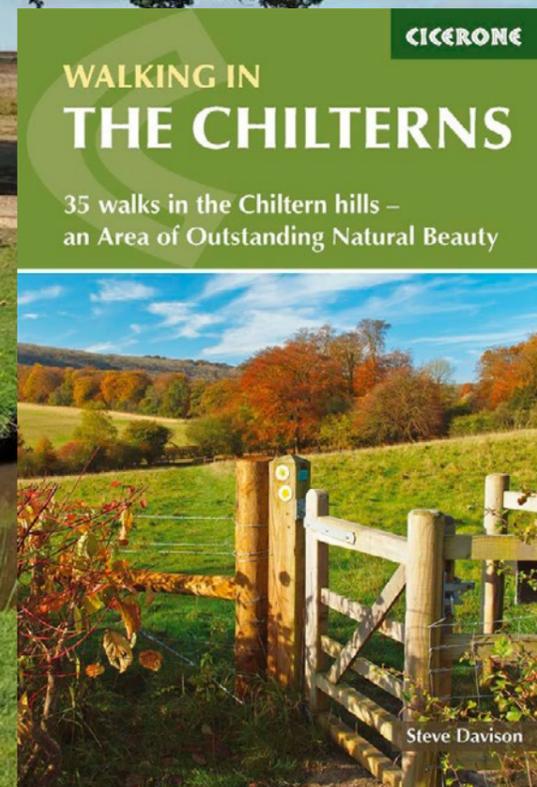
time exploring the counties of Dorset, Somerset, Devon and Cornwall, including Exmoor and Dartmoor.

Recent trips abroad have included Florence (Italy) and the Basque region of Spain, especially Bilbao and San Sebastian.

Enquiries about South-west England as well as the Kennet and Avon Canal, the North Wessex Downs, the Chilterns, New Forest National Park, the Ridgeway and the Great Stones Way, along with any of the trips are always welcome.

STEVE DAVISON

Chalk hills and ancient forests



Images Splash Bridge, New Forest, Hampshire **Insets** (left) Early evening at the Duomo, or Cattedrale di Santa Maria del Fiore, in Florence, Italy boasts the world's largest masonry dome (right) Walking in the Chilterns

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Ash Routen Adventure News

After a number of expeditions to the cold regions in the past few years, including walking across the world's largest frozen lake in March, Ash has begun to focus his writing on the reporting of adventure and expedition news across Polar, Ocean, Desert and Mountain environments. In 2018 Ash has written on high altitude mountaineering for US magazines *Outside* and *Rock and Ice*, as well as UK newspapers including the *Daily Telegraph* and the *Financial Times*.

Ash has begun work on a long-term article and book project on adventure performance, for which he has interviewed globally recognised names such as Reinhold Messner.

In February 2019 Ash is heading to Hardangervidda in Norway, an old stomping ground of Roald Amundsen, to prepare for a bigger sledging trip on Baffin Island in Spring 2020. You can follow Ash on Twitter and Instagram – details below.

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Anthony Toole Adventure News

Making the most of the summer weather, Anthony Toole has continued his regular trips to the Northumberland hills to satisfy the demands of his magazine editors. Celebrating a big anniversary brought him to the south-west of Ireland and a renewed acquaintance with the wild region west of Macgillicuddy's Reeks and the Connemara mountains. These were followed by a week in Spain with a day spent in Gibraltar and another watching birds at the mouth of Guadalorce river. Since returning, he has been catching bats in woodlands, whale-watching in the North Sea and investigating the effect of plastic pollution on sea birds. Plenty of material for articles and a lot of good science. Editors interested, please contact Anthony directly using the details below right.

Contact Tony...

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Damian Hall

Ultra-Trail du Mont-Blanc

Outdoor journalist and ultra runner Damian Hall recently placed 5th at the Ultra-Trail du Mont-Blanc (UTMB), the world's biggest trail race. This was Damian's fourth consecutive completion of UTMB, a 105-mile ultramarathon in the French, Italian and Swiss Alps, and the best result by a British male since 2010.

Summit Fever Media have made a film about his four-year quest to crack the top 10, called *Underdog*, which isn't yet released but is available for review (for more information please email ellie@summitfevermedia.com).

Damian is available for interview about UTMB and trail and ultra-running in general.



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Paul Sharman Fishing with the Penguins...

Paul Sharman who works as the assistant editor on the quarterly *Fishing & Travel Magazine*, was out in the Falkland Islands back in March this year on assignment to explore this far-flung outpost of Britain and the wild fishing it offers visiting anglers. In particular, the islands have become known in fishing circles for their sea trout, basically brown trout originally translocated from the UK many decades ago, which now feed at sea where there are richer pickings, and then return like salmon to the rivers to breed.

His resulting feature article and photographs, titled *Fishing with the Penguins*, was published in issue 5 of the magazine this summer which is available at www.fishing-and-travel.com.

Contact Paul directly via his website or email using the details bottom right. Paul also has plenty of stock wildlife and travel shots of the islands which are as yet unpublished.

Falkland Islands

Fishing with the Penguins

Chasing Sea Trout
in the Falkland Islands.

Wayne Brewer of Port Howard Lodge
not only guides but he catches too.
This was one of the nicer fish from
the Black Burn

Travelling to the ends of the earth

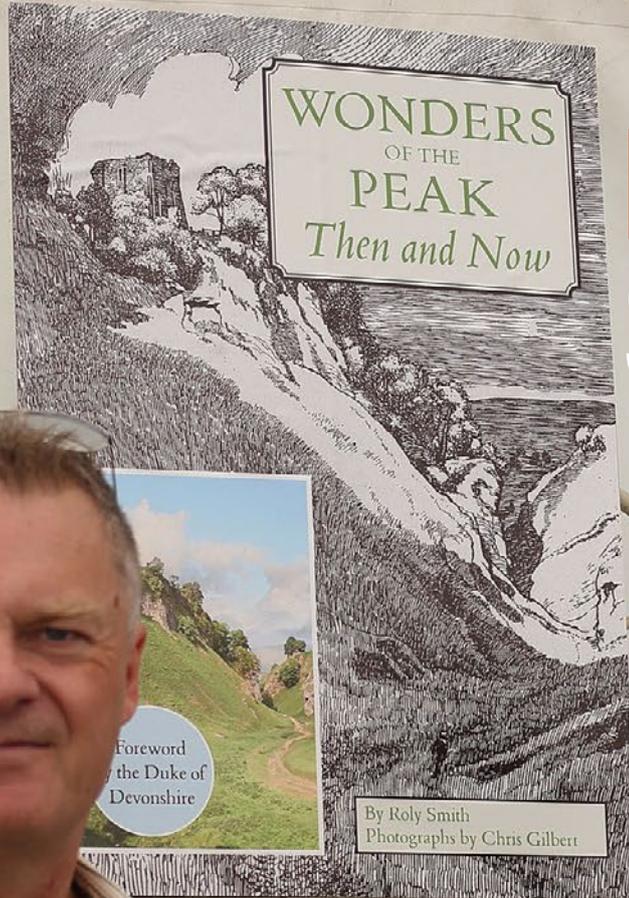
to go fishing is always an adventure and the Falkland Islands do not disappoint with their wide-open spaces and un-preserved fishing. You can plan all you want but you can only pray for good weather and conditions!

By Paul Sharman

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Roly Smith Sign here!

Guild vice-president Roly Smith completed a marathon signing of 200 copies of his new book, *Wonders of the Peak: Then and Now* with his photographer partner in the project, Chris Gilbert, at the enormously-popular Chatsworth Country Fair in September. And the book has found its way onto the prestigious 'Duke's Table' in the Chatsworth shop, where his favourite items are displayed. The 12th Duke also provided the foreword to the book, describing it as making "the ideal basis for a holiday in this beautiful part of the world."

Meanwhile, Roly has finished the editing of *A Village Life: Hartington 1933-55*, a new book by the Hartington History Group, for his former colleague and ranger Richard Gregory. The book is now in design and should be out before Christmas.

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