



outdoor writers & photographers guild  
WORDS AND PICTURES FROM THE OUTDOORS

*Come and join us*



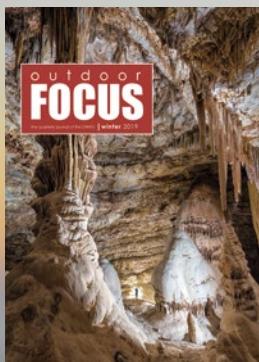
# Come and join us

Here at the OWPG we're passionate about the outdoors. The guild exists to support and promote creative professionals who cover all aspects of the outdoors, from sporting activities to environmental concerns.

Our members have a broad sweep of interests, with expertise in topics that include walking, climbing and snow sports; cycling, camping and air sports; and geology, natural history, landscape and all environmental matters.

Prominent members include Sir Chris Bonington and Doug Scott; Boardman Tasker winners Peter and Leni Gillman; photographers John Cleare and Chris Howes; and guide-book writers Ronald Turnbull, Kev Reynolds and Vivienne Crow.

Among our number we have writers, journalists, film makers, photographers, broadcasters, artists, illustrators, editors and publishers, all linked through a passion for participating in the great outdoors and promoting its values.



# *Benefits of membership*

## *Website*

The guild's website provides a forum for advice, networking and information exchange. It attracts numerous hits from the outdoor community and provides a vibrant presence for members.

The website has a dedicated Members' Profiles section, where you can post your biography, achievements and work examples, providing a showcase for editors and publishers in search of writers and photographers. You can also link to your own website.

The Members' Area contains an invaluable library of professional advice notes that are regularly updated and include information and guidance on topics from mapping and copyright to tax guidance and selling your work via Amazon.

The Members' Forum is a lively meeting point for ideas, discussion, controversy, breaking news and updates on matters of concern. Our members come from all parts of the UK and the forum bridges the distance to bring them together as they share their love of the outdoors.

## *Professional development*

We have run classes and seminars on all aspects of writing and publishing, keeping members up to date with the changing media landscape. At our recent Big Weekend there were workshops on improving your photography and making the most of the social media.

## *Outdoor focus*

The guild publishes a high-quality quarterly magazine full of news, advice and practical tips. Written by members for members, it also displays their work, articles as well as photographs. It is delivered as a printed glossy magazine to members and is distributed in digital form to the guild's extensive media and commercial contacts.

## *The big weekend*

Every year, guild members gather at an attractive location for a range of activities, from outdoor excursions to brainstorming and seminars. Recent venues for our Big Weekend include Exmoor, the Norfolk Broads, the Peak District and Snowdonia. This is also the occasion of the guild's annual dinner – and of our Awards for Excellence. These are made to our members in categories that include books, guidebooks, articles, websites and photography. The awards help promote the members' work and are a useful addition to their professional CVs.

## *Professional networking*

The guild's diverse membership, which includes editors and publishers as well as writers and photographers, provides ideal opportunities for networking. Members receive advance information of forthcoming projects and the chance to float their ideas for commissioned work. They can swap information, experiences and warnings, and so make the most of their membership in a profession that can at times feel isolating. Members also learn about market events, press shows, press trips and other useful leads.

## *Discounts*

Guild members qualify for substantial discounts on a range of outdoor gear, books and maps. Support for travel and accommodation may be available when working on relevant assignments.

## *Membership card*

The OWPG press card opens many doors, both in the UK and overseas. Dedicated press passes for particular UK organisations are available to guild members.

## *Membership*

All this for just £80 a year – and the rate is proportionately less if you join in mid-year. To apply for membership, contact [memsec@owpg.org.uk](mailto:memsec@owpg.org.uk) – and you will soon be able to enjoy the full range of benefits.

