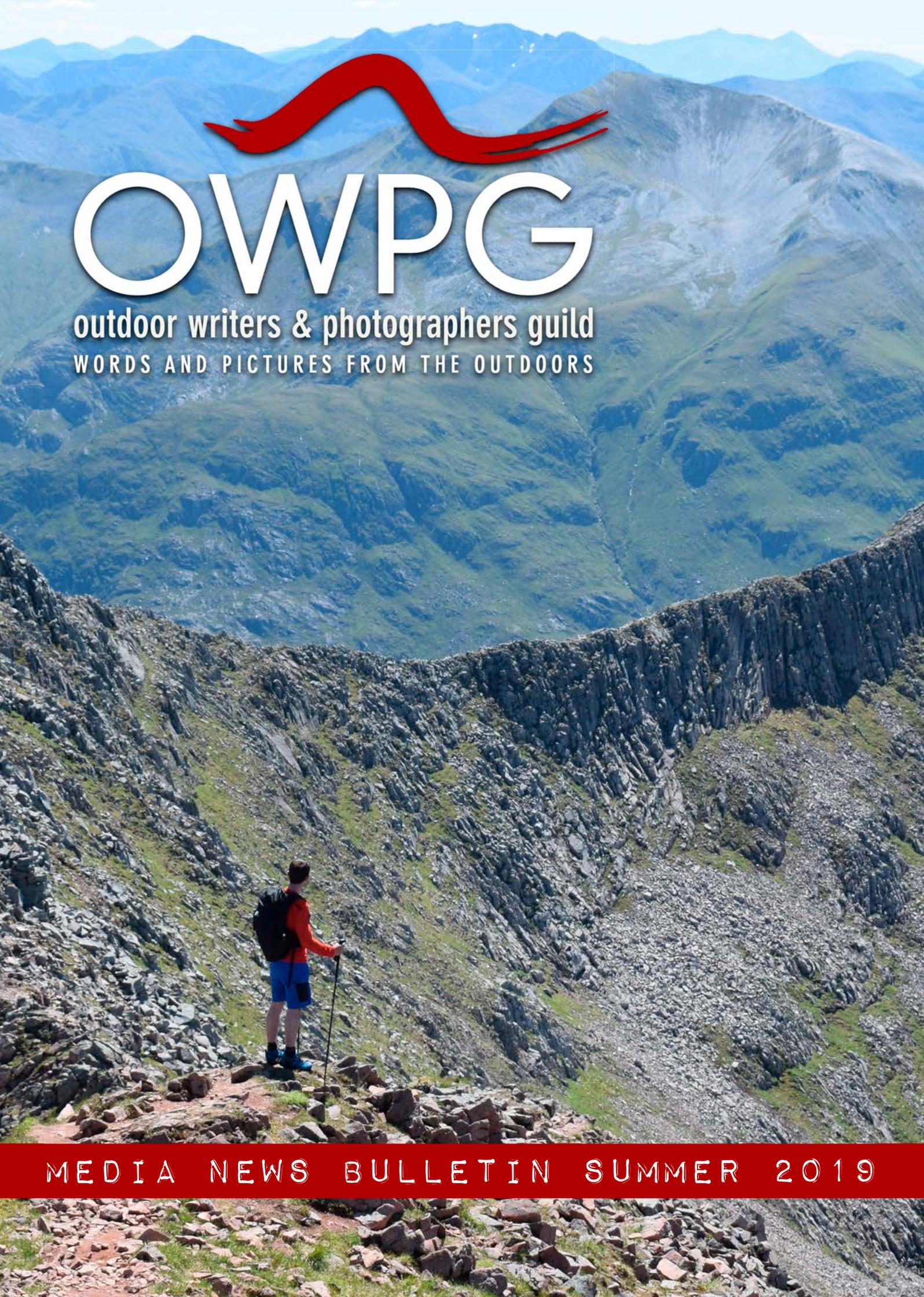




OWPG

outdoor writers & photographers guild

WORDS AND PICTURES FROM THE OUTDOORS



MEDIA NEWS BULLETIN SUMMER 2019

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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.

Cover James Forrest
This spread Jacquie Budd

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.



Where OWPG members have been recently



Susie White

Sweden bound

Guardian Country Diarist Susie White has been travelling round West Sweden, visiting castles and gardens and interviewing the people who work in them. She stayed in some unusual places such as the converted cotton mill of Nääs Fabriker and the nature centre Naturum on Lake Vänern.

Susie enjoyed the imaginative food that uses wild ingredients and vegetables grown right next to the restaurants of the historic properties. She photographed cornflowers growing wild in wheat fields and traditional Swedish fencing with wildflower meadows in a celebration of Swedish landscape and heritage skills.



Image Sammels Farm meadow and traditional Swedish fence **Inset Image** Daniel Lundberg harvesting salads for the restaurant

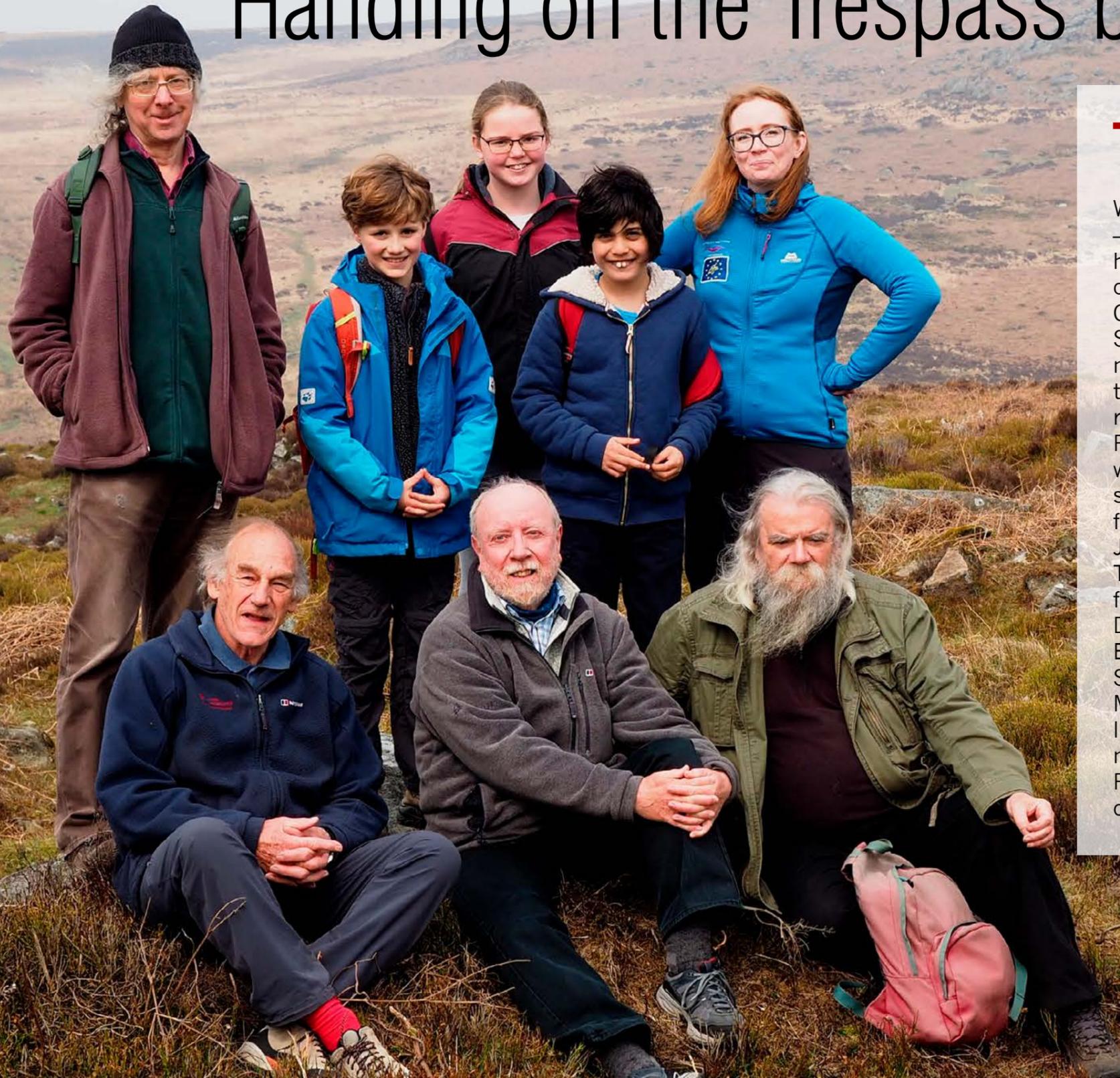
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Roly Smith

Handing on the Trespass baton



This year's Spirit of Kinder event – which was due to be held in The Winnats Pass at Castleton – was driven indoors by the high winds and heavy rain of Storm Hannah, reports Guild vice-president Roly Smith. But nevertheless, more than 400 people braved the weather to attend the re-arranged event at The Peveril Centre, Castleton, which was hailed as a great success. Speakers included former Pulp frontman Jarvis Cocker; National Trust boss Hilary McGrady; former Home secretary Lord David Blunkett; Shadow Environment spokesperson Sue Hayman, and local MP Ruth George. The event launched a series of events marking the Trust's national People's Landscapes campaign, which included



Roly and other Trespass 'elders' meeting up with the junior rangers, who like the elders designed banners and rucksack badges celebrating the Mass Trespass of 1932. They were presented at the Castleton event, and the 'elders' will be taking the junior rangers out on walks later in the summer.

Main Image Trespass Elders and junior rangers explore the Burbage Valley, with Carl Wark and Higger Tor in the background. Standing (LtoR): Dave Sissons, James Taylor, Robyn Osbourne, Lucas Da Silva and National Park Youth Engagement Officer, Jackie Wragg. Sitting (LtoR): Henry Folkard, Roly Smith and Terry Howard (Picture: David Bocking). Inset: Spirit of Kinder speakers and organisers.

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Jacquie Budd

Everyday adventures for everyday people

Jacquie Budd is a strong believer that adventure can be found on our own doorstep: it's just a state of mind.

Reading about big adventures is inspiring, but not everyone can afford to take weeks/months away from their regular lives. Many of us work, have bills to pay and family commitments to keep, so we need to fit our thirst for

adventure around day to day life.

Whether it's sleeping out on a summit to watch a glorious sunset with a bottle of wine, celebrating her birthday with a winter swim in an icy cold river, or heading off on an overnight bike packing trip, you'll find Jacquie sharing her experiences and giving readers ideas to create their own everyday adventure.

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James Forrest Munro bagging

James has spent the past two months attempting to climb all 282 Munros in a single-round. At the time of writing, he has completed 123. If he makes it to his 282nd Munro, it will mark the end of a three-year mission to climb every mountain in England, Wales, Ireland, Northern Ireland and Scotland. James has also been promoting the publication of this debut book *Mountain Man: 446 Mountains. Six months. One record-breaking adventure* (pb Conway, an imprint of Bloomsbury).



Image Peak-bagging in Scotland

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David Lintern

First guidebook to the Big Rounds

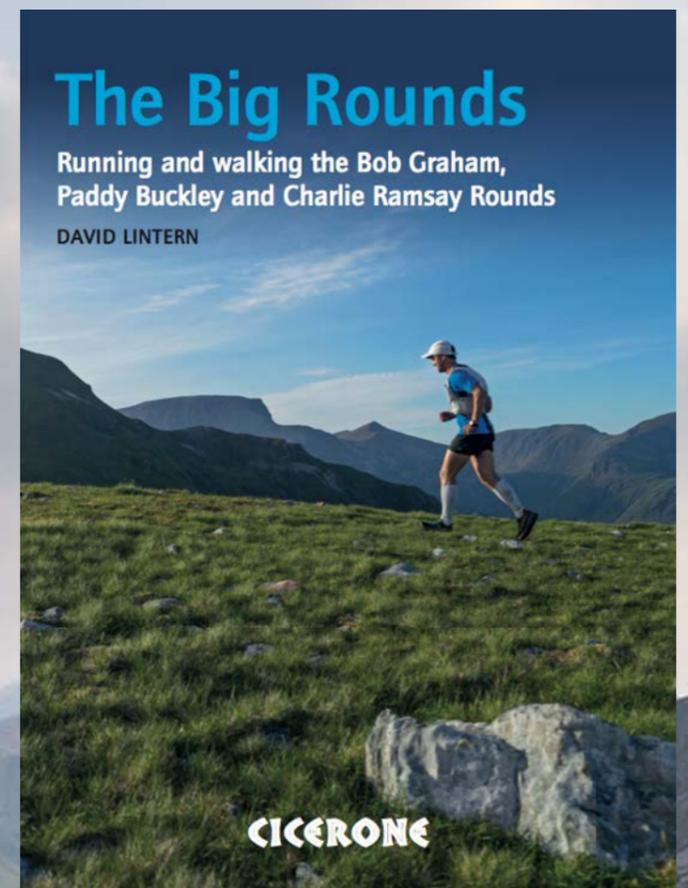
Regular magazine contributor and columnist David Lintern has written the first complete guidebook to walking and running the Bob Graham, Paddy Buckley and Charlie Ramsay Rounds – Britain's three most challenging long-distance mountain rounds.

The culmination of 6 years' work, the book showcases spectacular photography, tales from the Rounds, and the history of each – as well as invaluable

information to help with planning and preparing, plus insights and strategies from the likes of Jasmin Paris, Wendy Dodds, Nicky Spinks, Charlie Ramsay, Jim Mann and Paddy Buckley. This book is a must for anyone considering embarking on one (or all!) of these iconic rounds.

For more information visit www.cicerone.co.uk/the-big-rounds

Review copy requests to be sent to Hannah hannah@cicerone.co.uk



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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



Who we are
writers, authors, photographers, content providers, bloggers, film makers, designers, journalists, artists, illustrators, editors, broadcasters, copy-writers, lecturers, public speakers, consultants - all specialising in sustainable outdoor activities and the outdoor world.

What we do
meet the needs of publishers, commissioning editors, websites, public relations companies and picture researchers.

What we're into
walking, hiking, rambling, rock-climbing, nature photography, mountaineering, cycling, canoeing, kayaking, and more.

Outdoor Writers & Photographers Guild



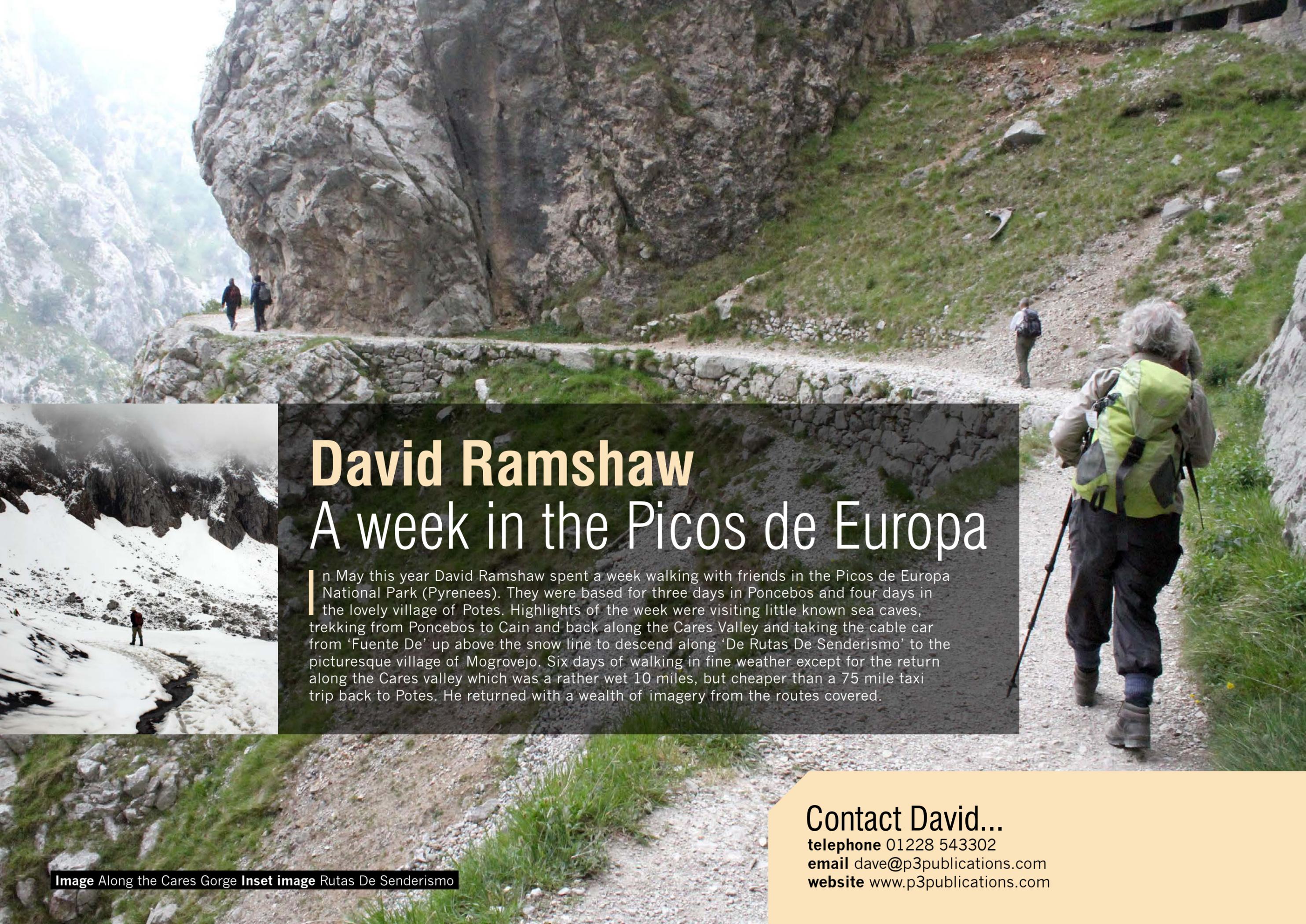
Outdoor Writers & Photographers Guild Organisation

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



David Ramshaw

A week in the Picos de Europa

In May this year David Ramshaw spent a week walking with friends in the Picos de Europa National Park (Pyrenees). They were based for three days in Poncebos and four days in the lovely village of Potes. Highlights of the week were visiting little known sea caves, trekking from Poncebos to Cain and back along the Cares Valley and taking the cable car from 'Fuente De' up above the snow line to descend along 'De Rutas De Senderismo' to the picturesque village of Mogrovejo. Six days of walking in fine weather except for the return along the Cares valley which was a rather wet 10 miles, but cheaper than a 75 mile taxi trip back to Potes. He returned with a wealth of imagery from the routes covered.

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Image Along the Cares Gorge Inset image Rutas De Senderismo

Paddy Dillon

Mother of All Walking Festivals

After an absence of many years, Paddy Dillon made his way to the West of Ireland to take part in the Castlebar International Four Days' Walks. Ten visits earns a gold medal, so he finally has that in the bag.

Walking festivals are commonplace these days, and if you ask the organisers of any of them where they got their inspiration, they would all say that they got it from another festival. Quite likely, none of them could tell you which festival came first, but Paddy has tracked everything back to Castlebar, where it all started 52 years ago. Paddy is of course willing to tell all.

Image 52 years a-growing in the West of Ireland

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A hiker in a blue shirt and a wide-brimmed hat stands on a rocky mountain trail, holding a trekking pole. The background features a range of rugged, snow-capped mountain peaks under a clear blue sky. The foreground is a rocky slope with sparse vegetation.

Alex Roddie

On top of Europe

Alex Roddie recently completed a spell as acting editor of *The Great Outdoors* magazine, and was responsible for editing and producing the August 2019 issue. As luck would have it, he was able to squeeze one of his own features in there too – ‘A Test of Mettel’, about glacial retreat in the Alps and returning to a peak ten years after his first visit. This year he has also edited *Sky Dance* by John D. Burns, available to pre-order from Vertebrate Publishing in July. Alex is available for feature commissions and editorial work on both books and magazines.

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Backpacking across Northern Spain

John Sutcliffe



John's coast to coast walk across the mountains of Northern Spain started last year when he completed 1,000 km of the GR-1 that runs along the Pyrenean foothills, (Autumn Media Bulletin 2018). Resuming the walk in the spring, he continued on the GR-1 into the Cantabrian Mountains, crossing the Western Massif of the Picos de Europa on the GR-203 (Ruta de la Reconquista). After dropping down to

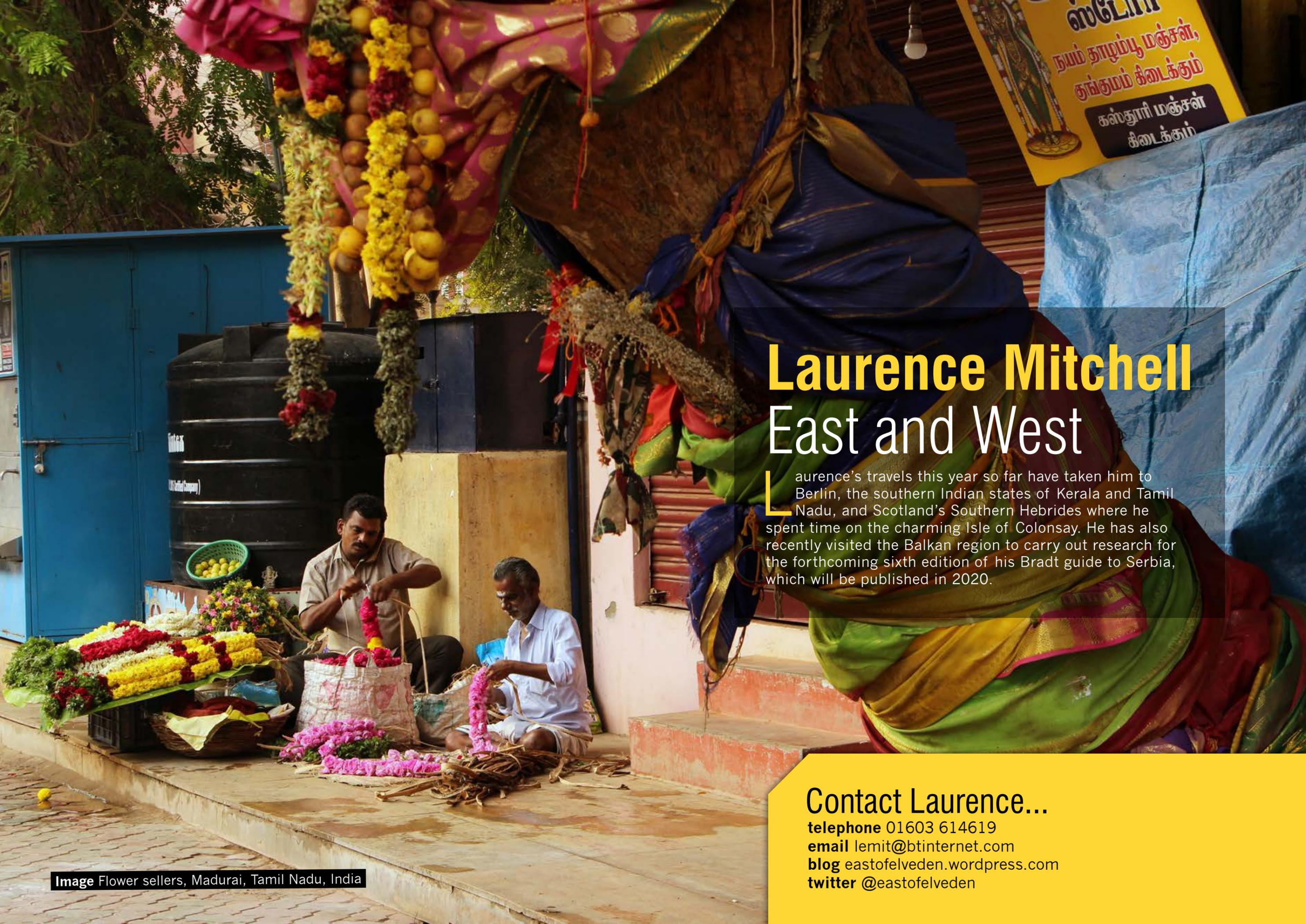
Oviedo, John followed the Camino Primitivo along the beautiful Cantabrian high-country to Santiago, then completing the walk with a short dash to Cape Finisterre on Spain's western seaboard. 'A sheer joy to explore some of Spain's spectacular mountain landscapes, and across lush valleys and solitary plains steeped in history', comments John. A diary on the walk is being posted on John's website.

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Laurence Mitchell East and West

Laurence's travels this year so far have taken him to Berlin, the southern Indian states of Kerala and Tamil Nadu, and Scotland's Southern Hebrides where he spent time on the charming Isle of Colonsay. He has also recently visited the Balkan region to carry out research for the forthcoming sixth edition of his Bradt guide to Serbia, which will be published in 2020.

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Tony Howard

Quest into the Unknown

In his autobiography subtitled 'my life as a climbing nomad', Tony Howard takes us from a Yorkshire village in 1940 through a lifetime of exploration from the Arctic to the Antarctic including North Africa, the Middle East, the Americas, Asia and elsewhere. His climbs, treks, canoe journeys and canyon explorations, include the first ascent of the Troll Wall, a 1000 mile arctic Canada canoe trip, the discovery of Wadi Rum in Jordan and exploration of

the award-winning Jordan Trail. Tony was also a founder of Troll Climbing Equipment and largely responsible for the design of today's standard climbing sit harness. A busy life and a fascinating story.

For more information visit the *Quest into the Unknown* page on Tony's website www.bit.ly/QuestUnknown, or listen to Leon McCarron's interview with Tony www.bit.ly/TonyHowardInterview

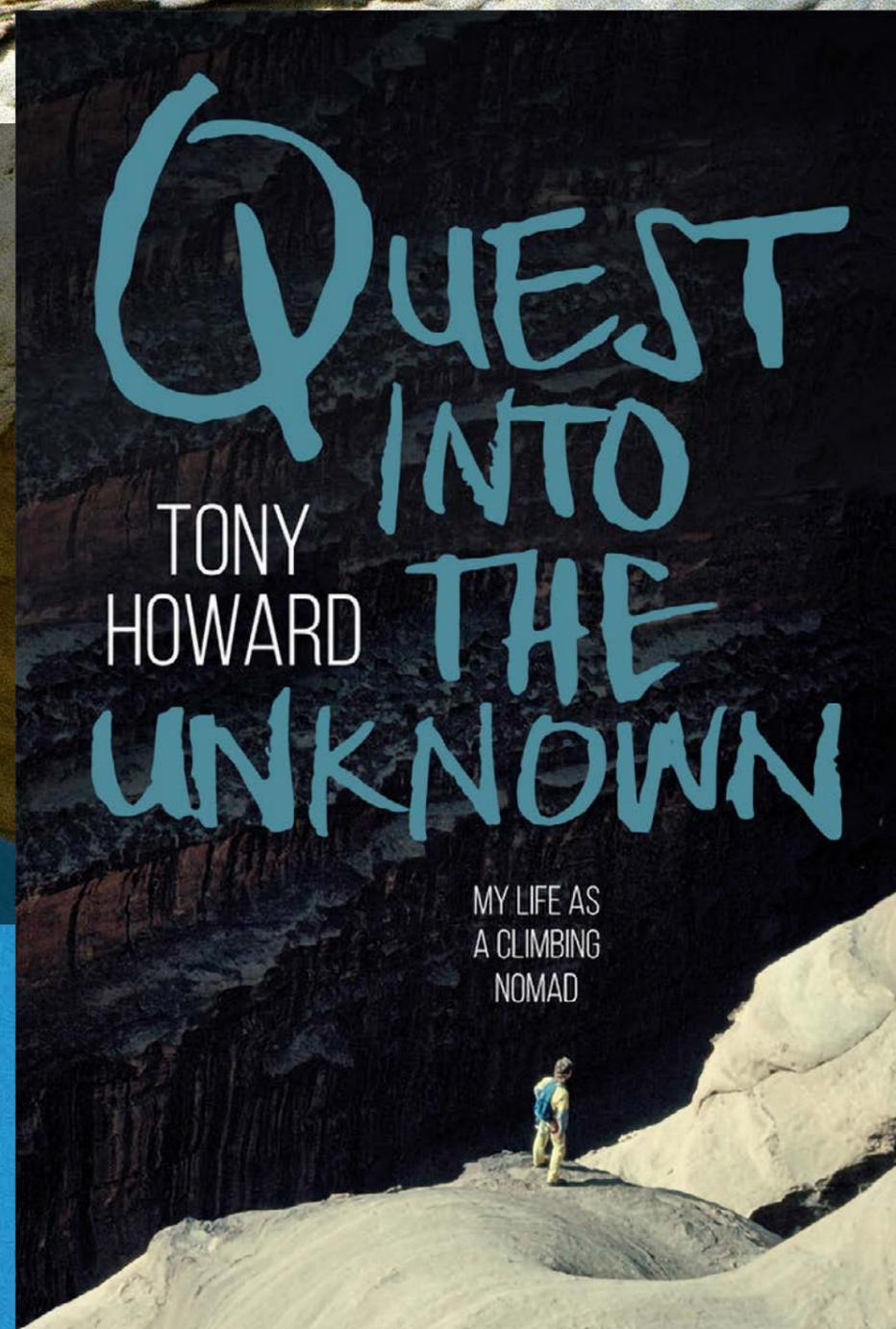


Image Tony Howard exploring in Egypt's Red Sea Mountains

Contact Tony...

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Rudolf Abraham

Mountains and marshland

Award-winning writer and photographer Rudolf Abraham recently returned from hiking in Austria's beautiful Salzkammergut region, and from a visit to the watery world of the Audouard, the wetlands surrounding Saint-Omer in northern France.

Other recent trips have taken him to Estonia to cover the huge Song Celebration which only takes place once every five years, Croatia to photograph traditional folk costumes, and Slovenia's Karst region to photograph dry stone walling.

A new edition of his Cicerone guide to walks and treks in Croatia (www.cicerone.co.uk/walks-and-treks-in-croatia-third) was published in June. Magazine work over the past few months has included features for *France Magazine*, *Green Outdoors*, *Hidden Europe*, *Morning Calm*, *n by Norwegian*, *OE*, *Songlines* and *TGO*.

In August he returns to Austria to finish work on his latest book, a new guide to hiking in the Salzkammergut region and Dachstein. Other upcoming trips include cycling across Normandy on the Veloscenic, hiking in Slovenia's Triglav National Park, and revisiting some parts of the 750km Alpe Adria Trail. Commissions welcome...!

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David Taylor

Staying local

Photographer David Taylor is currently working on a project for the Northumbreland National Park, shooting the northern end of the park. He also has plans to shoot elsewhere in the UK over the course of 2019, including the Peak District, Scottish Highlands, and Cairngorms. Editors interested in words or photos about these places should contact him using the details below.

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