
Preface

The book is written to provide a first point of reference for those interested in, working in or studying subjects related to the countryside. We have put at the end of each chapter a section on references, further reading and websites that we hope will be useful to you.

The countryside is a place of industry, a major resource for leisure and a haven for wildlife. *The Countryside Notebook* started life as a collection of ideas formed during the 15 years of editing *The Agricultural Notebook*. With each edition of *The Agricultural Notebook* the debate ran as to which subjects could or should remain. Despite the book increasing from 500 to 720 pages in length, the pressure to include more on existing topics meant that some subjects had to go. I am delighted that with this new title, *The Countryside Notebook*, contemporary subjects such as social capital are included, along with some more traditional areas such as game, aquaculture and equine.

We do hope you enjoy reading *The Countryside Notebook*, not I suspect from cover to cover but as an essential reference book on the shelf. We would welcome feedback from readers on aspects of the book that we might amend in subsequent editions.

We hope this book will be welcomed by the many, many people who live, work or simply enjoy non-urban areas.

Acknowledgements

Particular thanks to all the contributors who have found time in their busy schedules to write for this first edition of *The Countryside Notebook*. We hope this may be the first of many editions.

I should also mention Primrose McConnell who started the idea of an *Agricultural Notebook* back in 1883. Twenty editions later the book is selling better than ever, although to a different audience. His *Agricultural Notebook* has always been part of the countryside.

Grateful thanks also to the team at Blackwell Publishing, particularly Nigel Balmforth as publisher, who helped nurture the idea into reality, and also Josie Severn, Laura Price and Shahzia Chaudhri. Many thanks to Julie Musk for her work as copyeditor on the script – her attention to detail as ever is so impressive.

Finally, thank you to my family, Nicci, Will, Libby, Loretta and Charlotte, for their support.

Richard Soffe

Contributors

Richard Soffe, MPhil, MCIM, M Inst M, ARAgS

Present appointment: Director of Professional Development, Faculty of Social Science and Business, University of Plymouth

Richard's previous appointments have included a lectureship at Sparsholt College, Winchester, and assistant farm manager of a large estate in Hampshire. Research interests include rural leadership, management and marketing. Richard is Course Director of the innovative and well-respected Challenge of Rural Leadership course at the University of Plymouth. He was co-editor of the eighteenth and editor of the nineteenth and twentieth editions of *The Agricultural Notebook*.

Sue Blackburn, BSc

Present appointment: Senior Lecturer in Planning and Environmental Management, University of Plymouth

Sue is a professional planner and spent time in practice as a consultant and in the public sector before pursuing an academic career. She has research interests in environmental transitions, community participation and governance, gender and environment, and representation of countryside in children's literature.

Paul Brassley, BSc (Hons), BLitt, PhD

Present appointment: Senior Lecturer in Rural History and Policy, School of Geography, University of Plymouth

After reading agriculture and agricultural economics at the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Paul went on to research in agricultural history at Oxford. Since his appointment to his present post at the University of

Plymouth, he has taught agricultural economics and policy and researched agricultural history from the seventeenth to the twentieth centuries.

Paul R. Brunt, BSc, PhD, MILT

Present appointment: Head of Marketing, Tourism and Hospitality, Plymouth Business School, University of Plymouth

Paul started work at Seale-Hayne Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Land Use in 1989 as a lecturer in tourism, following PhD research in the Department of Tourism at Bournemouth University. He led the development of the tourism management degree programme in 1992, and has been its programme manager since its inception. He has also assisted in the development of numerous other undergraduate and postgraduate programmes within the University and throughout its partner college network. More recently, curriculum development work and other professional activities include external examination, chair of programme approvals, QAA Subject Specialist Reviewer and executive committee member of the Association for Tourism in Higher Education. Paul's teaching and research interests include tourism and crime and tourism research methods (Subject Specialist for Tourism and Hospitality Research Methods by the LTSN). Paul has published widely the results of research in the tourism and crime area including media representations of terrorist acts against tourists. He is the author of *Market Research in Travel and Tourism* (Butterworth Heinemann) and co-author of *Tourism: A Modern Synthesis* (Thomson International Publishing). He has recently embarked on research investigating social exclusion and crime in English seaside resorts.

Adam Carter, BSc (Hons), MSc, MBBS, MRCPCH (Part 2)

Previously: Lecturer in Forestry, Faculty of Land, Food and Leisure, University of Plymouth

Adam graduated in rural environment studies from Wye College, University of London, before completing an MSc in forestry at the Oxford Forestry Institute, University of Oxford. His previous experience includes British silviculture and forestry extension work in Sudan with Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO). Current research interests are in forest ecology, silviculture and medicinal uses of forest products.

Peter Child, MA (Cantab), Dip Conservation Studies, IHBC

Peter has recently retired from Devon County Council where he was Historic Buildings Adviser, a post he held for 14 years, following other jobs in building conservation and planning. The study and conservation of farm buildings was a significant part of his work and he has published on this subject. He is a committee member of the Historic Farm Buildings Group.

R.A. Cooper, CDA (Hons), NDA, MSc, PhD

Previously: Principal Lecturer, Animal Production, University of Plymouth

Dr Cooper taught animal production at the Shropshire Farm Institute before moving to the University of Malawi as lecturer in animal husbandry and assistant farms director. He joined Seale-Hayne in 1974 following an MSc at Reading University and in 1982 completed a PhD on interactions between growth promoters and reproductive physiology in ewe lambs.

Tim Felton, LLb (Hons) of the Middle Temple, Barrister at Law

Present appointment: Senior Lecturer, Bar Vocational Course, BILP, University of West of England

After reading law at Leeds University, Tim was called to the Bar of the Middle Temple. Following a period of legal practice he took up a career in practical farming and obtained a Diploma in Farm Management from the University of Plymouth. Prior to taking his present position he was share-farming a mixed dairy, arable and

beef farm of 185 ha at Tiverton, Devon. Particular interests include access to the countryside and employment law issues in the rural environment.

Patrick Houghton, MSc, BSc (Hons)

Present appointment: Senior Lecturer, Sparsholt College, Winchester

Pat joined the fishery section at Sparsholt College in 1983. He lectures in sport fishery and fish farming business management and finance. He jointly owns and manages a coarse fish farming business, Hampshire Carp Hatcheries.

Dan Horsely, BSc (Hons)

Present appointment: Sparsholt College, Winchester

Dan completed his degree in aquaculture and fisheries management at Sparsholt College in 2003. He now works for the Environment Agency performing fisheries monitoring work, and is looking to take on a fisheries-related PhD.

Jeremy Houghton Brown, FRAGS, BPhil Ed. (Hons), BHSSM, PrinDip ABRIS

Jeremy is a practical and experienced horseman who was manager of the British National Equestrian Centre and the British Racing School prior to becoming Head of the Horse Department at Warwickshire College, where he led the development of equine education in Britain. He is also the author of several equine text books.

Nicolas H. Lampkin, BSc (Hons), PhD

Present appointment: Senior Lecturer, Agricultural Economics, Institute of Rural Sciences, University of Wales, Aberystwyth

Nicolas graduated in agricultural economics from the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, and then undertook PhD research on the economics of conversion to organic farming. Subsequent research has focused on the financial performance of organic farming and the role of organic farming in the development of the Common Agricultural Policy. He is currently co-ordinator of organic agriculture teaching and research

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at IRS and director of the Organic Centre Wales. He is author/editor of *Organic Farming* (Farming Press) and the *Organic Farm Management Handbook* (UWA/EFRC).

Matt Lobley, BA (Hons), PG Cert, MSc, PhD

Present appointment: Assistant Director and Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Rural Research, School of Geography, Archaeology and Earth Resources, University of Exeter

Current research interests lie in the areas of CAP reform and the transition to European rural policy; environmental and social impacts of agricultural restructuring; farm household processes including lifecycle and succession issues; and the design, delivery and response to agri-environmental policy.

Matt Reed, BSocSc (Hons) MSc, PhD

Present appointment: Research Fellow, Centre for Rural Research, School of Geography, Archaeology and Earth Resources, University of Exeter

Matt graduated in social science, specialised in politics and for several years worked in the catering industry in a variety of roles. On returning to university he spent several years at the University of the West of England, as a Research Student and Visiting Lecturer, before taking up the post of Research Fellow at the University of Plymouth. He has recently concluded a doctoral thesis on the development of the Soil Association and is engaged in a DEFRA study of the contribution of organic farming to the rural economy. Other research interests included rural protests, new technologies in rural areas and rural social exclusion.

Alison Samuel, BSc (Hons)

Present appointment: Senior Lecturer, School of Biological Science, University of Plymouth

Alison's current research interests lie in the fields of organic farming, crop protection and potato quality, with teaching interests in crop production and protection and agricultural systems.

Mark A.H. Stone, BA (Hons), MSc (Econ), MCIPD

Present appointment: University of Plymouth Teaching Fellow and Principal Lecturer in People Management

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After reading economics and politics at the University of Central Lancashire, Mark went on to a masters degree in employment studies at University College, Cardiff. He spent five years working in industry, during which time he achieved membership status within the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development. He is involved in people management and information technology teaching. Mark recently led a national project into student progression and transfer and is now Director of The Higher Education Learning Partnerships Centre for Excellence.

Stephen Tapper, BSc, PhD

Present appointment: Director of Policy and Public Affairs, The Game Conservancy Trust, Fordingbridge

Stephen has written and edited numerous papers on game conservation.

Paul Tyler, BSc (Hons), DipTP, MRTPI

Present appointment: Strategic Implementation Officer, Devon County Council

Paul joined Devon County Council in 1982 as a strategic planner specialising in retail and rural policy issues. He is currently involved with the development of two new towns in Devon, particularly advising on service delivery and sustainability. He also lectures part time in town planning at the University of Plymouth.

Pauline Warner, BSc (Hons), DipTP, MRTPI

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Pauline is currently employed as a Strategic Planner working on regional spatial strategy and rural planning issues.

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Present appointment: Visiting Professor, University of Plymouth, Visiting Professor, Department of Agriculture, University of Reading, Research Associate, Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research, Academician, Russian Academy of Agricultural Science

After completing a PhD at the University of New England, Australia, he was appointed to the Grassland Research Institute, Hurley, in 1966. He held a series of posts in that Institute and its successor, the Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research, including Institute Deputy Director, Head of the North Wyke Research Station, Devon, and Head of the Soils and Agroecology Department, until retirement in 2000. Research interests include the production and utilization of grassland and the environmental implications of grassland farming. He was recipient of the RASE Research Medal and the British Grassland Society Award, and President of the British Grassland Society, 1986–87 and 1995–96.

Eirene Williams, BSc, PhD, MIEEM

Present appointment: Principal Lecturer, University of Plymouth

Eirene's current research interests lie in the fields of plant ecology and mycology, with recent work on rare species on the Culm grasslands and multi-access computerized keys to plants and fungi.

Ian Willoughby, BSc (Hons), MBA, MIC (For)

Present appointment: Silviculturist, Forestry Commission Research Agency, Alice Holt Lodge, Farnham, Surrey

After joining the Forestry Commission as a forest manager, Ian moved into research and has published extensively in scientific journals and technical manuals in the field of forest vegetation management. His current research interests include integrated forest vegetation management, reducing pesticide use, and direct seeding.

Michael Winter, BSc, PhD

Present appointment: Head of the School of Geography, Archaeology and Earth Resources, University of Exeter, Professor of Rural Policy and Co-Director of the Centre for Rural Research, University of Exeter

Current research interests lie in the fields of rural policy, sustainable agriculture and food systems, rural social change, and animals in rural society. Michael has held visiting academic positions at the Universities of Bath and Wageningen. He is currently a Research Associate of the Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research and a Visiting Professor at the University of Plymouth. He is Chair of the South West Rural Affairs Forum, a member of the Chamber for Rural Enterprise, Chair of the Hatherleigh Area Project and Chair of the Devon Rural Network.

