

Friends of the Ridgeway

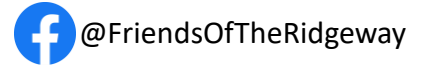


Summer
2022



Summer 2022

www.ridgewayfriends.org.uk



Welcome

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IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR

I followed the sight line to where she was pointing and carefully picked my way down through the meadow. It was deep with weeds. Within twenty paces in any direction I counted balsam, ragwort, nipplewort, knotweed, bindweed, chickweed, aster, nettles, brambles, burdock, cleavers, thistles of various sizes – some sprouting to shin height. I recognised other plants too: sedge, valerian, foxglove and harebells as well as the usual abundance of dandelions, flax and roseroot. It was remarkable how many different species had made their way to the wild meadow, and all vying for the same patch of sky.

From *The Offing* by Benjamin Myers, 2019.

Articles were written by the editor unless credited otherwise.

If you have an idea for an article on some aspect, including your own experience, of the Ridgeway or its environs, or on another section of the Great Chalk Way, do discuss it with the editor davecavanagh1000@gmail.com

Got some great photos of the Ridgeway or nearby countryside, villages and events? Do share them with us.



Photo Dave Cavanagh

You'll find back issues of the FoR newsletter on our website [here](#)

Cover photo. Lucy Duerdoth, National Trails Project Volunteer Coordinator for the Ridgeway and Thames Path, competing in the Race to Stones in July. Photo by Sportograf.

Several photographs in this issue are from the 'Ridgeway and Ancient Tracks of Britain' Facebook page (and have RWATB in their caption). As a reader of this newsletter you would be very likely to enjoy the photographs that are posted there. It was created by Giles Watson, erstwhile inhabitant of Uffington, now in Western Australia.

Race to the Stones

Raising money for the Ridgeway



Lucy at the start.
Photo Mark Bradfield.



Photo by Sportograf.

LUCY DUERDOTH, National Trails Project Volunteer Coordinator for the Ridgeway and Thames Path National Trails, ran the 2022 Race to the Stones, raising money for the Ridgeway in the process. Lucy ran the 100 km race, from Lewknor to Avebury, in two 50 km stages on 9th and 10th July.

“**IT WENT REALLY WELL**, despite the heat,” said Lucy, “although it was really tough on the Sunday in the heat – there is no shade to be had on that last 15 km of the Ridgeway in Wiltshire.” Lucy’s time for the whole 100 km was 14:05:48. [I make that 7 km an hour, or 4.4 mph, on average, sustained for 14 hours over undulating rough ground; respect – Ed.] This was very impressive, putting her 49th in the whole field of those who ran over the two days and 17th for women. “On the whole I really enjoyed the experience,” Lucy said.

EARLIER, Friends of the Ridgeway had registered as a Participating Charity for the 2022 Race. Lucy nominated FoR as her charity when seeking sponsorship for her run. She raised over £750, a very welcome addition to our funds that will be used solely to preserve the spirit of the Ridgeway and maintain the trail within the World Heritage Site at Avebury.



Lucy at the end.
Photo Mark Bradfield



THE UFFINGTON WHITE HORSE GALLOP



HOT ON THE HEELS of her success in the Race to the Stones, Lucy Duerdoth ran the White Horse Gallop, a half-marathon, at the end of July. The start point was at Sparshalt Firs on the Ridgeway, a few miles west of Wantage. The route, described as ‘undulating’, included a wonderful view of Ashdown House, a National Trust property.



At the finish. Photo Mark Bradfield

LUCY DESCRIBED IT as “... a lovely route and a good leg stretch with some ‘fun’ hills.” Lucy said that just under a hundred runners took part. She completed the course in 1:13:58.



Raring to go. Photo Lucy Duerdoth.

Vale of White Horse Ramblers having lunch on Weathercock Hill, overlooking Ashdown House, surrounded by trees. Photo Dave Cavanagh.

What do you call a person who runs behind a car?
Exhausted.
What do you call a person who runs in front of a car?
Tired.



THE INIMITABLE POET Pam Ayres visited Uffington Whitehorse Hill in June to film another episode of a second series of *The Cotswolds* with Pam Ayres* for Channel 5. She met up with David Miles, the archaeologist whose team has done so much to reveal the age and other features of the Uffington White Horse.

Pam Ayres at the Uffington White Horse



Pam talking with David 'all alone'.



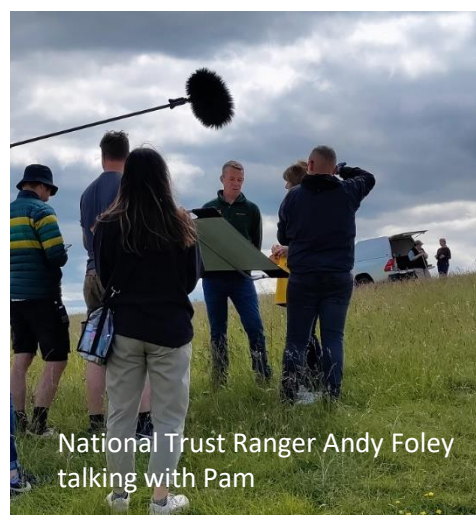
Pam arrives on Whitehorse Hill



Some of the scourers relaxing before their scene, with Pam and David talking about the Horse in the background.

THE FOCUS was on the horse. A dozen or so locals, plus a passer-by, acted as extras. Our role was to scour the Horse (remove weeds). This we did with small trowels.

*If you hadn't thought of Whitehorse Hill as being in the Cotswolds, you are correct; 'Cotswolds' has been interpreted very liberally for the TV series.



National Trust Ranger Andy Foley talking with Pam

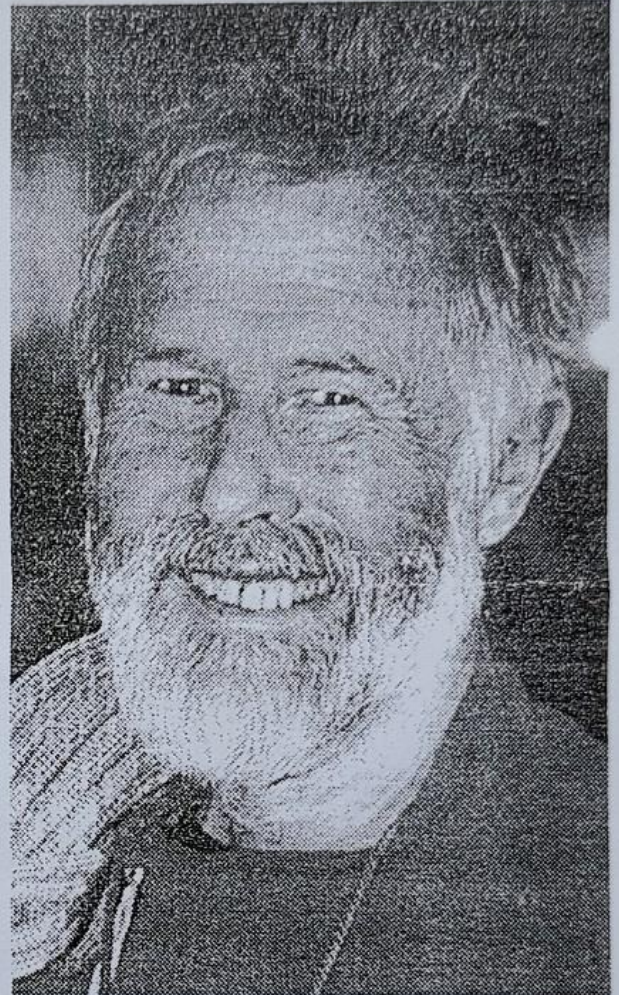
All photos Dave Cavanagh

Setting up a shot for the scouring scene.



As Bill Bryson puts it, the Uffington White Horse "... is older than England, older than the English language. For all those centuries it has been continuously maintained ... is a magnificent creation, but its preservation and continuous maintenance over 3,000 years is perhaps more magnificent still. The 'scourings', as they were known in Victorian times, traditionally took place every seven years and were much-anticipated occasions for community celebration and revelry. Everyone got to lend a hand cleaning and preserving their remarkable animal for posterity (no doubt also subtly changing the shape of the figure in the process.) And the cleaning goes on to this day.

Bill Bryson, *The Road to Little Dribbling: More Notes from a Small Island* (Black Swan, 2016) p.474

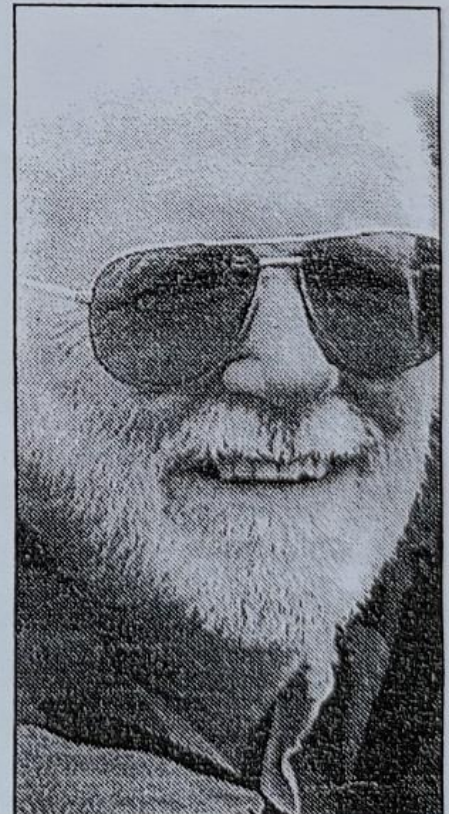


■ Chris Brasher and Chris Bonington ... backing a campaign to get vehicles banned

2006 was a momentous year for Friends of the Ridgeway

AFTER SOME 25 YEARS of campaigning most of the Ridgeway in Oxfordshire to the south of the Thames became a restricted byway, meaning that non-essential motor vehicles e.g. 4 x 4s and motor cycles, could no longer go on it.

THIS WAS THE CULMINATION of several years of lobbying in Parliament, our Chair Ian Ritchie and our then President Chris Brasher being to the fore, also attracting much publicity in the press. Chris Brasher was succeeded by Lord (Bill) William Bradshaw who was very active on this topic in the Lords. Mountaineer Chris Bonington is our Patron.



■ Ian Ritchie . . . chairman of the Friends of The Ridgeway

IAN RITCHIE was also working with the Green Lanes Environmental Action Movement (GLEAM) not only for the Ridgeway to be free of recreational vehicles but also all other unsurfaced roads – green lanes. Ian said “GLEAM and a number of other organisations including the Ramblers, the Country Landowners Association and the British Horse Society set up the Green Lanes Protection Group (GLPG), now disbanded, as

UNFORTUNATELY other RUPPs had been recognised as Byways Open to All Traffic (BOATs) which meant that recreational vehicles could legally drive along them. This applied to the Ridgeway in Wiltshire and parts of West Berkshire. Whilst this is still the case in those counties, significant improvements have been made. “FoR campaigned for a permanent Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) on the Smeeth’s Ridge section of the trail in Wiltshire [which banned all recreational vehicles],” said Ian Ritchie. “This was the first mention by a Highway Authority that action was needed to protect the surface of the trail and gave notice of what was to follow. This TRO was introduced in 2003.”

There has been another improvement recently, as described in the [Latest News](#) section of the Ridgeway National Trail website. Access for four-wheeled motor vehicles was not permitted during summer 2022 on the Ridgeway in the World Heritage Site (WHS) near Avebury. This was an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO), a continuation of one introduced by Wiltshire Council in 2021. Given that a permanent Traffic Regulation Order already existed, as explained above, banning motor vehicles between the beginning of October and the end of April, this meant that four-wheeled vehicles were not allowed for any part of the year on the Ridgeway within the WHS. You can read more about this on the Trail [website](#).

an umbrella organisation to speak collectively at the time of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Bill.” At that time Ian was chair of GLPG. It was this Bill, when it became an Act (NERCA 2006) that banned recreational vehicles from all the unsurfaced roads which were then classified as a Road Used as a Public Path (RUPPs). Henceforth they were classified as Restricted Byways.

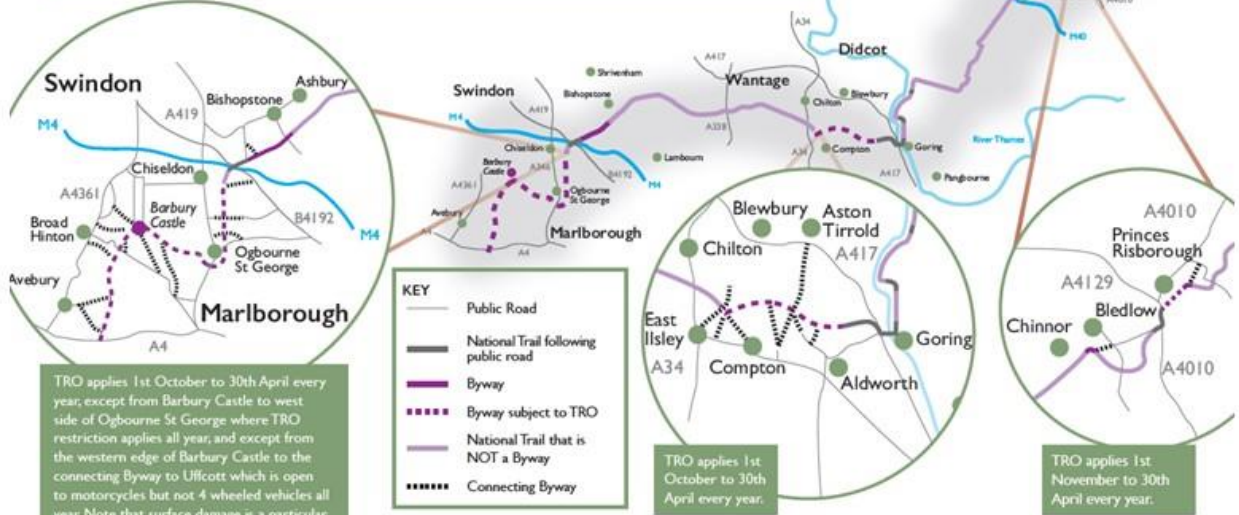
THE NEXT ADVANCE was “The introduction from winter 2004 of seasonal TROs on long sections of the route in Wiltshire, West Berkshire and Oxfordshire.” continued Ian. “With help from the National Trails team we were able to persuade those authorities to place a ban for seven months each year [1st October to 30th April] on the use of the trail by motor vehicles.” This was primarily because it was during those months that vehicles caused the greatest damage to the surface. Of course, those users who are allowed on the Ridgeway e.g. cyclists, horse riders, runners and walkers, have a better experience in part because the surface no longer becomes a quagmire and also as there is peace and quiet.



I bought my friend an elephant for his room.
He said “Thanks”
I said “Don’t mention it”

Illustrative map showing Byway sections of The Ridgeway and connecting Byways

The Ridgeway National Trail comprises several Byway stretches totalling 33km (20 miles). Details of these Byways and other rights of way can be checked for free on interactive maps ('Definitive Maps') provided on council websites: Wiltshire, Swindon, West Berkshire, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire. Other mapping is available but has limitations; for example, Ordnance Survey maps can become out-of-date and Google Maps does not provide adequate information about route status. A simplified summary of the current permanent TROs is provided on this map but details need to be checked with the relevant highway authority and/or signs on the Trail. Notices about temporary and emergency TROs on The Ridgeway are posted on the news pages of The Ridgeway website and on the Trail's social media. Details about TROs on connecting Byways can be obtained from the highway authority. Always use the most up-to-date version of this leaflet which is available as a free download from www.nationaltrail.co.uk/ridgeway/leaflets.



www.nationaltrail.co.uk/ridgeway

This map is part of a leaflet providing further details to help you use The Ridgeway responsibly. Please refer to the leaflet available for free from www.nationaltrail.co.uk/ridgeway/leaflets. Published July 2021.

This map is within a leaflet produced by the Ridgeway National Trail on driving on the Ridgeway, across its whole length. You can see the leaflet and download it from the Trail website [here](http://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/ridgeway/leaflets).

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The Ridgeway

Take a route used since prehistoric times by travellers, herdsman and soldiers through ancient landscapes.

The Ridgeway National Trail's website is at https://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/en_GB/trails/the-ridgeway/

GET CLOSER TO ENGLAND

Introducing the Trail

Find useful facts and learn more about The Ridgeway below. Select the blue tabs below for more details.

About the Trail

What is special about the Trail?

Holiday Inspiration

Latest News

Events

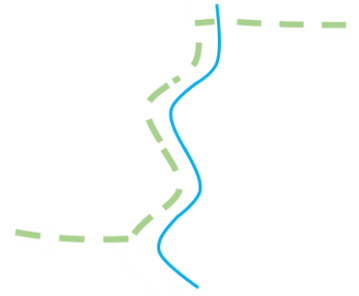
About the Trail

The Ridgeway National Trail passes through a surprisingly remote part of southern central England. From its start in the World Heritage Site of Avebury, it follows a ridge of chalk hills in a northeasterly direction for 87 miles (139 Km) to reach Ivinghoe Beacon. The same route is used by walkers, runners and cyclists.

West of the Ivinghoe Beacon, the Natural Beauty of the Ridgeway is a rolling chalk landscape. The trail passes through rolling chalk hills, Bronze Age round barrows, Iron Age forts and the figures of white horses cut into the chalk. East of the Thames, the Ridgeway travels through the more-wooded and intimate hills and valleys of the Chilterns AONB where, as well as further archaeological treasures, there are several nature reserves rich in the wildlife found in chalk grassland habitats. In the Chilterns, the Ridgeway goes close to or through several villages and small towns where refreshments and other facilities are easily available.

Click on 'Latest News' to get ... the latest news of what's happening on the Ridgeway

My friend asked me to help him round up his 37 sheep.
I said "40"



Mind the Gap

I told my girlfriend she drew her eyebrows too high.
She seemed surprised.



This is a bird box in Billingham built by a 44-year-old dad to slow down passing drivers. Brilliant.



My wife told me I had to stop acting like a flamingo.
So I had to put my foot down.

Are you sweating whilst putting petrol in your car?
Feeling sick when paying for it?
You've got Carowner virus.

Swedish comedian Olaf Falafel won the 2019 'Funniest Joke of The [Edinburgh] Fringe' competition, organised by Dave TV. "I keep randomly shouting out 'BROCCOLI' and 'CAULIFLOWER' – I think I might have florets."



What's in a name?

Dave Cavanagh

PERHAPS YOUR GRANDPARENTS smoked *Craven A* cigarettes. If you are a football fan you'll know that Fulham FC play at Craven Cottage. In May my wife and I went to the Craven District in North Yorkshire (which today includes parts of Ribblesdale, Wharfedale and Airedale). There are a number of pubs with the epithet 'Craven'. Some have the name 'Craven Heifer', several of these being in the Craven District. Others are called 'The Craven Arms', including one (pictured) in the Wharfedale village of Appletreewick, of which more in a minute.



WHAT, you might well be asking, is the relevance of all this to the Ridgeway? There is one; trust me.

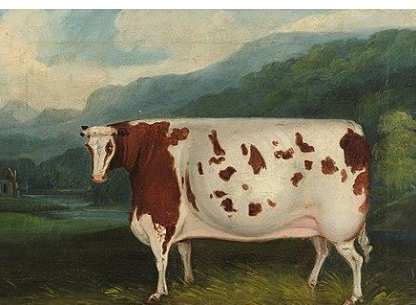
ON THE WEST SIDE of Uffington (the Oxfordshire one – though once it was in Berkshire – not the ones in Shropshire and Lincolnshire) is a house called The Craven, once a pub of that name. See: we are getting closer to the Ridgeway (two miles, to be precise); not long now.



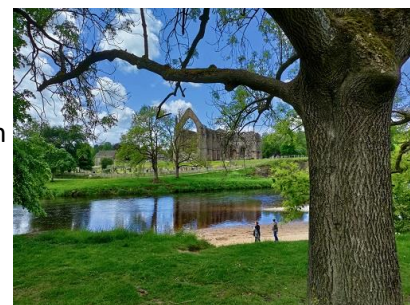
Photo Dave Cavanagh

IN C. 1548 a certain William Craven was born in Appletreewick. A bright lad, he became apprenticed to Robert Hullson, a merchant tailor in London, who came from Burnsall, a few miles upriver from Appletreewick in Wharfedale. William quickly developed into an astute businessman. Long story short, he became a 'merchant prince' in his own right, warden of the Merchant Taylors Company of the Fraternity of St. John the Baptist (a Livery Company that survives to this day), Sheriff of London, a Knight of the Realm, and Lord Mayor of London. Before he died he advised his wife, Elisabeth Craven, to keep investing in property. This she did, including the purchase of the manor of Uffington.

THEIR SON, another William, had the family's land sequestered at the end of the Civil War; they had backed the loser. However, when Charles II reclaimed the monarchy he made William the Viscount of Uffington, and Earl of Craven in 1665. Several descendants of the Craven family later, in the 18th century, another William Craven married another Elisabeth. She divorced him and married a German nobleman. They moved to London, Fulham to be exact, where they purchased a home – Craven Cottage, which later gave its name to the grounds of Fulham Football Club.



THE CRAVEN HEIFER, bred by the Reverend William Carr in 1807, was the largest cow ever shown in England. It was bred on the Duke of Devonshire's estate at Bolton Abbey, downstream from Appletreewick. The poor thing, greatly overfed, reached a weight of 2,496 lb (1,132 kg). Not surprisingly it lived only five years.



IT IS POSSIBLE that a Craven of a later generation went to the USA. Certainly the family had estates there, including what became Craven County in North Carolina. Guess what they grew there? Tobacco. The Craven family went on to produce the famous 'Craven A' cigarettes. The family continued to exert influence in Uffington up to the late 1950s, when many of their holdings were sold.



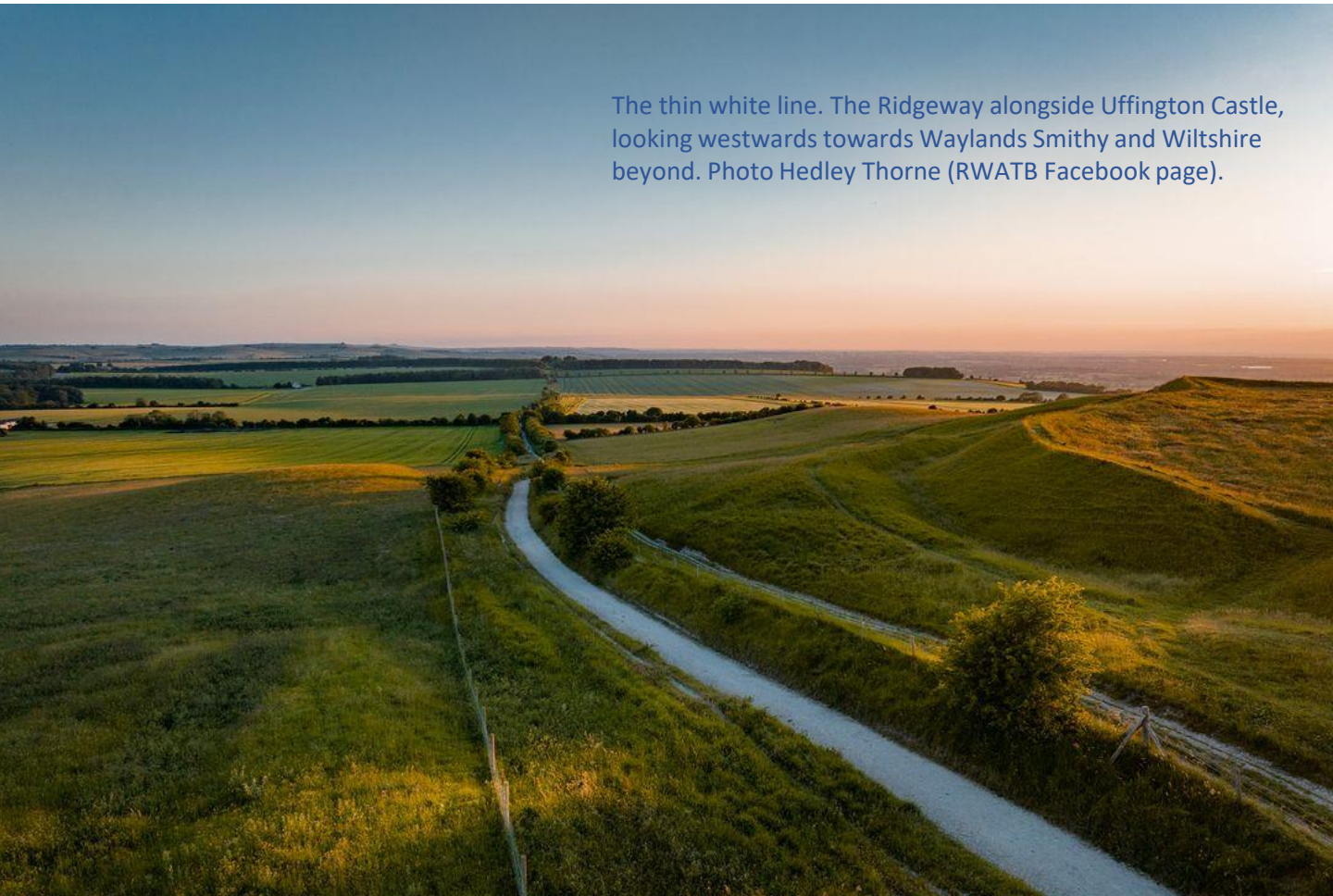
Tom Brown's School Museum, Uffington.
Photo Dave Cavanagh

THE RIDGEWAY skirts the southern edge of Uffington Castle. The boundary of Uffington and neighbouring (to the west) Woolstone village used to pass through Uffington Castle. One Lord Craven wanted the whole of the Castle to be in his parish, Uffington, so he did a land swap to achieve this. If you walk out of the west entrance of the Castle then after 30 metres you'll be in Woolstone parish.

SO, THERE YOU HAVE IT: the Ridgeway on Whitehorse Hill has links to a Lord Mayor of London, a beautiful district in God's Own Country, a football club of some renown, and cigarettes as strong as a capstan.

With thanks to the Tom Brown's School Museum in whose archives can be found much more about the Craven family. The museum is in Uffington and is open on weekend afternoons from Easter until the end of October. You can find out more on their [Facebook](#) page and website

The thin white line. The Ridgeway alongside Uffington Castle, looking westwards towards Waylands Smithy and Wiltshire beyond. Photo Hedley Thorne (RWATB Facebook page).





Digging for Britons

Emeritus Professor Gary Lock, University of Oxford, will be talking about three of the Vale of White Horse hillforts and what they reveal about the prehistoric communities of the area.

Archaeologist Jim Gunter, a trustee of Friends of the Ridgeway, standing on the ramparts of Segsbury Camp.

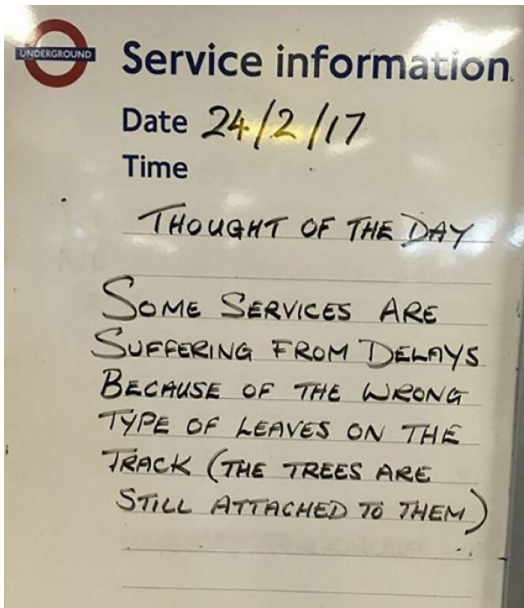
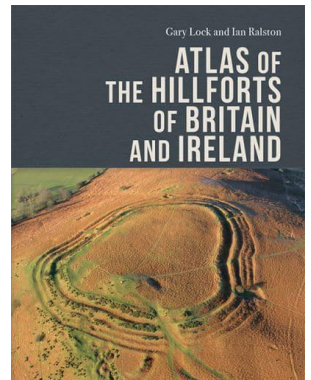
IN “LIVING WITH THE WHITE HORSE: excavations at Ridgeway hillforts.” Gary will describe what has been learned from the detailed excavations of three hillforts, Uffington Castle, Segsbury Camp and Alfred’s Castle, and what this tells us about the people who made them.

GARY HAS BEEN TEACHING and researching Iron Age archaeology at Oxford for more than 30 years. He specialises in hillforts and as well as excavating on the Ridgeway has worked in Wales and Shropshire. He was co-director of the Atlas of Hillforts of Britain and Ireland project.



The talk, arranged by the Friends of the Tom Brown’s School Museum (TBSM), Uffington, will be on Monday 5 September 2022, 7.30pm at the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, Uffington SN7 7SE. Check the TBSM Facebook page for ticket prices nearer the time.

Left, a little further west: Barbury Castle. As seen by Jim Phillips.





Chalking in 2021. Families are welcome.

Refreshing the Horse

THE ANNUAL SCOURING of the Uffington White Horse will take place over five days this year, commencing on Sunday 28th August at 10am until 3.30/4pm, and finishing on Thursday 1st September.

THE SCOURING will be done by members of the public, guided by Andrew Foley, Area Ranger for the National Trust (NT), his colleagues and NT volunteers. Scouring is actually a two-stage process. The first – the scouring – is the removal of weeds that are growing from within the Horse’s chalk surface. This is done using small trowels. ‘Chalking’ is the second stage – adding fresh chalk that is quarried just a 100 metres or so from the Horse. The remains of the lumps of chalk added the previous year are bashed down using club or lump hammers, thereby replacing any chalk that has been eroded away. New lumps of chalk are then poured on from buckets. Where the gradient is steep the chalk is left as lumps. These slow up and divert rain water that would otherwise erode the chalk into channels which would then get deeper.

“**WE’LL BE APPLYING** 15 to 20 tonnes of chalk and will need all the help we can get.” says Andrew. So, if you feel like grooming the Horse, just turn up. Tools and knee pads will be provided.

The White Horse Submits to a Scouring

It is essential to remain perfectly still,
And resist the urge to arch the spine
Or cause a minor earthquake. The crust
Of algal bloom itches like eczema,
And the White Horse feels something
Like a whale who cannot feel his
Tail for barnacles. That scratching
With a gleaming trowel keeps him
On the edge of ecstasy and pain,
And when fresh chalk is hammered
Into his pock-marks, it hurts worse
Than the reverse of depilation.
He mustn’t even twitch his tail
Or close his one visible eye.

If only he could raise his head
And nuzzle the nearest child.

Poem and sketch by Giles Watson from his collection *The Flight of the White Horse*, published in 2012. Sketch: chalk pastel and gouache.



Riding the Wessex Ridgeway

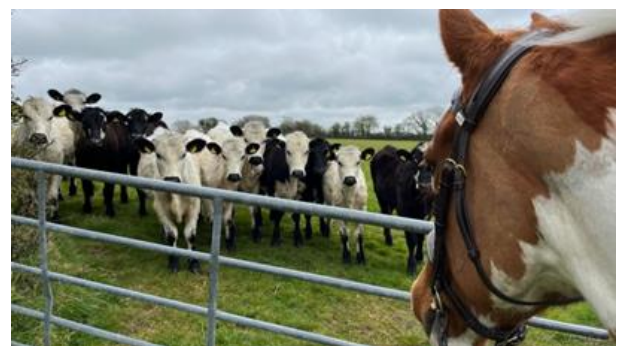
Gina Hemmings

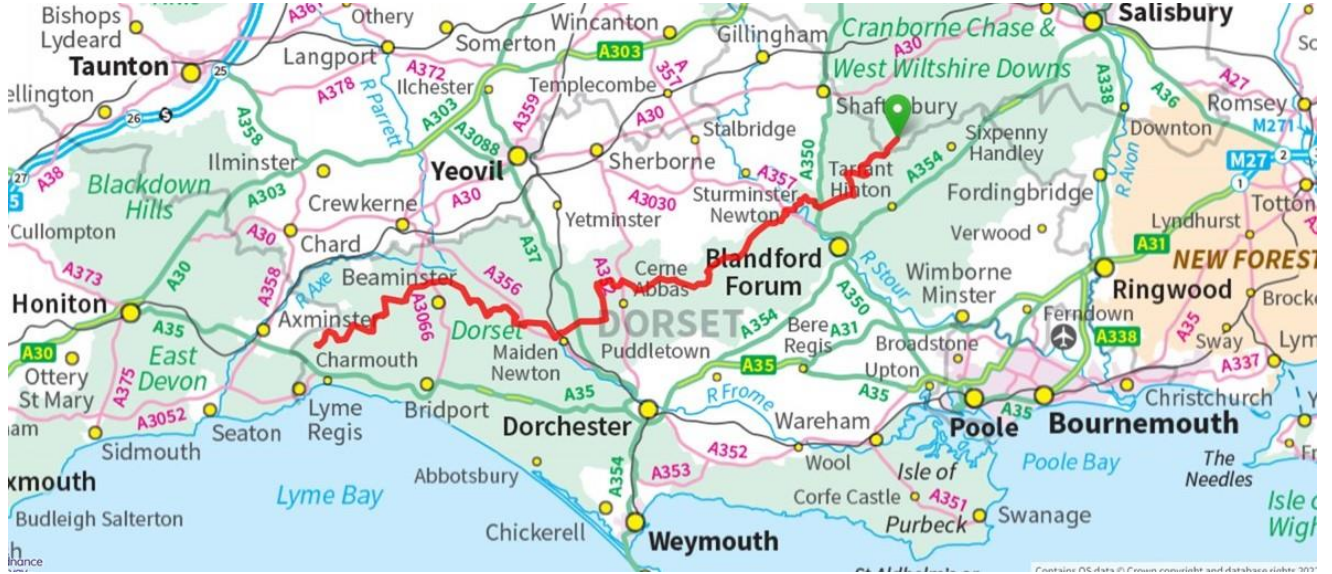
OVER TEN YEARS AGO, I heard about a path you could ride on your horse from a village, not too far away from where we live, down to the sea at Lyme Regis. It sounded rather magical. Opportunity and the right horse to ride it on somehow didn't arise until this April.

ANTHONY BURTON'S 1999 'The Wessex Ridgeway' paperback lay on my bedside table for a couple of years, occasionally emerging from the pile to remind me of the dream. Knowing 'the dreamers of the day may act their dreams with open eyes, to make it possible' I started to study the route in more detail. Obviously not enough detail because the first thing to become apparent was that the book only covered the walking trail! This I discovered after venturing on an exploratory walk from Tollard Royal a few weeks before my ride was due to start. I went to check on a suitable place to park the horse lorry to be dropped off to start the route.

IT MADE SENSE to take a walk at the same time so off I set, book and map in hand. A slowly ascending trail led me away from Tollard Royal; lovely canter to start with I thought. On I went, down a rather busy road, through some horse friendly gates, across a field to a kissing gate. Hmm... flexible my horse may be, but that bendy he isn't. And so I learnt this wasn't the 'Wessex Ridgeway' path I wanted.

HELP CAME TO HAND in two forms. One was the Dorset Council's Official [Guide to the Wessex Ridgeway](#). This outlined where the walking and multi-use trails diverge but gave very limited details and a vague, slightly unclear line in brown for the multi-use trail. More Google searches came up with a very helpful website with the [route](#) marked for cyclists





I WAS ABLE to use the two and trace the route onto my OS maps and also onto the Outdooractive App, which became my soulmate. I downloaded each day's route for safe keeping when out of signal. I obtained the app the weekend before I set off and had never used it before. Perhaps not good preparation, but I had my maps and compass if needed.

I DIVIDED THE ROUTE into four days riding: Tollard Royal to Shillingstone (14 miles), Shillingstone to Sydling Saint Nicholas (21 miles) and then to the east of Beaminster (13.4 miles) and finally (15.5 miles) to the finish at Champernhayes.

MEANWHILE the horse needed his preparation – feet, saddle fitting check, fitness, saddle bags, what food to carry for him, first aid kit and a hoof boot if he lost a shoe among other items.

I STAYED in three different venues: with a friend, in a pub and lastly a shepherd's hut – all of which came with or near a paddock for my horse. This meant for myself I only needed to carry water, lunch and snacks and minimum overnight things. With the horse necessities as well the saddle bags in total weighed 6.5Kg.

AND SO TO THE TRAIL. And what a wonderful route it is. The variety of terrain from grassy fields to sunken lanes, woodland paths, drove roads and country lanes make it both varied and interesting. The ride began through woodlands about to burst into spring with the bluebells hinting at the carpet of colour to come, past banks of primroses, and then up onto Hambledon Hill and Okeford Hills for fantastic views.

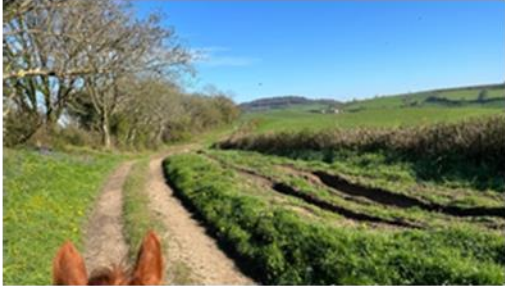
THE TRAIL was easy to follow from the route I'd carefully plotted onto the app, but I wouldn't say it's always clearly signed. I expected more of the Wessex Ridgeway horse trail signs than there were. Mostly the path was only marked with a blue bridlemay arrow.

GATES! All opened but many required doing on foot so I became very adept at hopping off and re-mounting from a gate. Curious cattle made some gates interesting.

THE COUNTRY LANES were very quiet to ride along and often allowed a few miles in trot to help cover the overall distance. There were two short sections of a couple of hundred metres on busy A roads. The traffic wasn't good at slowing down on the occasions I rode them and included some very big lorries, three portaloos in a pick-up truck and some very fast cars. Luckily my horse is very good in traffic. Perhaps consideration could be given to some 'horse' road signs on these two sections?

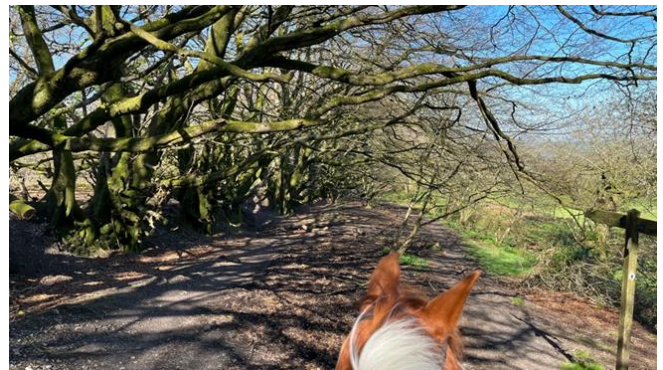


Riding through the back of Maiden Newton, under the railway bridge and down the main streets, was novel to me. The traffic was slow and I felt rather out of place, but obviously I wasn't a novelty as I didn't attract much attention.

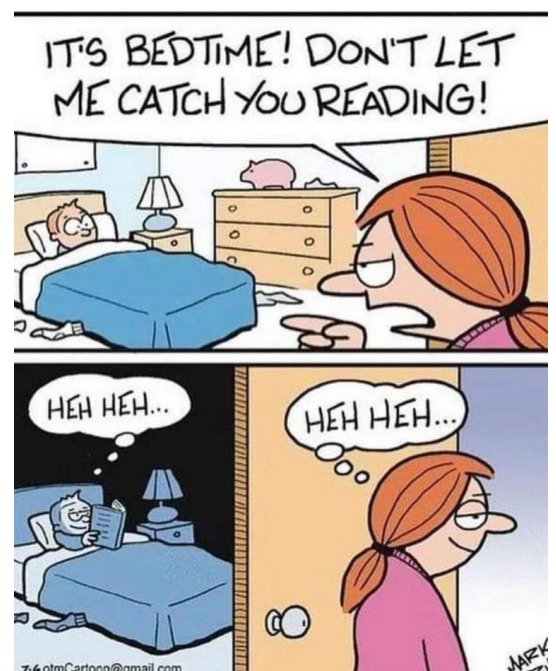


THE ROUTE had so many different moods to it. One of my favourites was the woods at Lewesdon Hill. Steeped in history from hill forts to Armada beacons, as well as being the highest point in Dorset with beautiful views between the trees, I just loved the light and the atmosphere in the trees up there.

LIFE CAN BE TOO SHORT. Riding the Wessex Ridgeway enabled me to remember some special fiends and raise £1000 for Breast Cancer Now and £600 for the Archie Foundation / the air ambulance.



I FEEL PRIVILEGED to have ridden the Wessex Ridgeway and grateful to all those who have worked to create the multi-user route and enabling my dream to come true. Thank you for the amazing opportunity.



Biodiversity along the Ridgeway

THE THAMES VALLEY Environmental Records Centre (TVERC) is conducting a survey of the plant and animal wildlife along the Ridgeway. To date the Centre has concentrated on the North Wessex Downs section of the Ridgeway, between Avebury in the west to Streatley at the Thames in the east. In 2021 TVERC conducted a baseline survey, with a view to informing future management schemes for retaining and extending biodiversity along the chalk Ridgeway.

LAST YEAR Sarah Wright, the Ridgeway National Trail officer, and Julie Kerans from TVERC, gave a videoed talk (Covid was in the ascendant) at the TVERC spring conference. You can see this [here](#) on YouTube.

SARAH AND JULIE are very keen to hear from people about the different wildlife species and habitats of the Ridgeway and how they could be researched in the future, and suggestions for areas for conservation. If you are interested in knowing more about this work and possibly contributing to it click [here](#) to take you to the relevant page on the TVERC website.



Mignonette



Agrimony



Lady's Bedstraw

All photos Dave Cavanagh

Favourite 60s pop group of middle-aged gardeners: Dave Dee, Dozy, Beaky, Mick and Titchmarsh.

Volunteers on the Ridgeway in July and August

The Ridgeway and Thames Path Volunteers are working on the following sections of the Ridgeway in July and August. The main task is soft vegetation clearance, in which mowers are to the fore.

WILTSHIRE

Snap (near Chasewood) & Shipley Bottom
Liddington Castle

OXFORDSHIRE - NORTH OF THE THAMES:

South, North and Little Stoke, Mongewell Park
Grimm's Ditch (west, central and east sections)

OXFORDSHIRE - SOUTH OF THE THAMES

Blowingstone Hill to Vixen's Bush
Ashbury to Idstone
Ashbury, past Waylands Smithy to Knighton Hill
Knighton Hill to Uffington
Bury Down
Watlington Hill



PLUS TWO SESSIONS in the workshop at Sutton, near Eynsham, doing maintenance work on machine tools, and making fingerposts.

If you know someone who is not familiar with the Ridgeway and would like to know more, you could direct them to a slide show, compiled by Steve Davison, which is available on YouTube <https://youtu.be/Uw4B1WTrNLO>
With thanks to Ian Ritchie for drawing this to my attention.

This is my step ladder. I never knew my real ladder.

