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The AONB Family – A UK Perspective

Plas Tan y Bwlch
January 2015

Howard Davies,
CEO
National Association for AONBs

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- 46 AONBs
- 8000 square miles
- 700 elected members
- Home to 1.1 million people
- Nearly 20% of England and Wales is AONB

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THE NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION
Areas of Outstanding
Natural Beauty



The Range from Bryn Alyn - Clwydian Range

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Burwash Village - High Weald

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Ivinghoe Beacon - Chilterns

Photo: Ian Rolfe

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High Cup - North Pennines

Photo: Natural England & Steve Westwood

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Llyn

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Bushmills Distillery - Causeway Coast

Photo: CCGHT

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Wolfhole Crag - Forest of Bowland

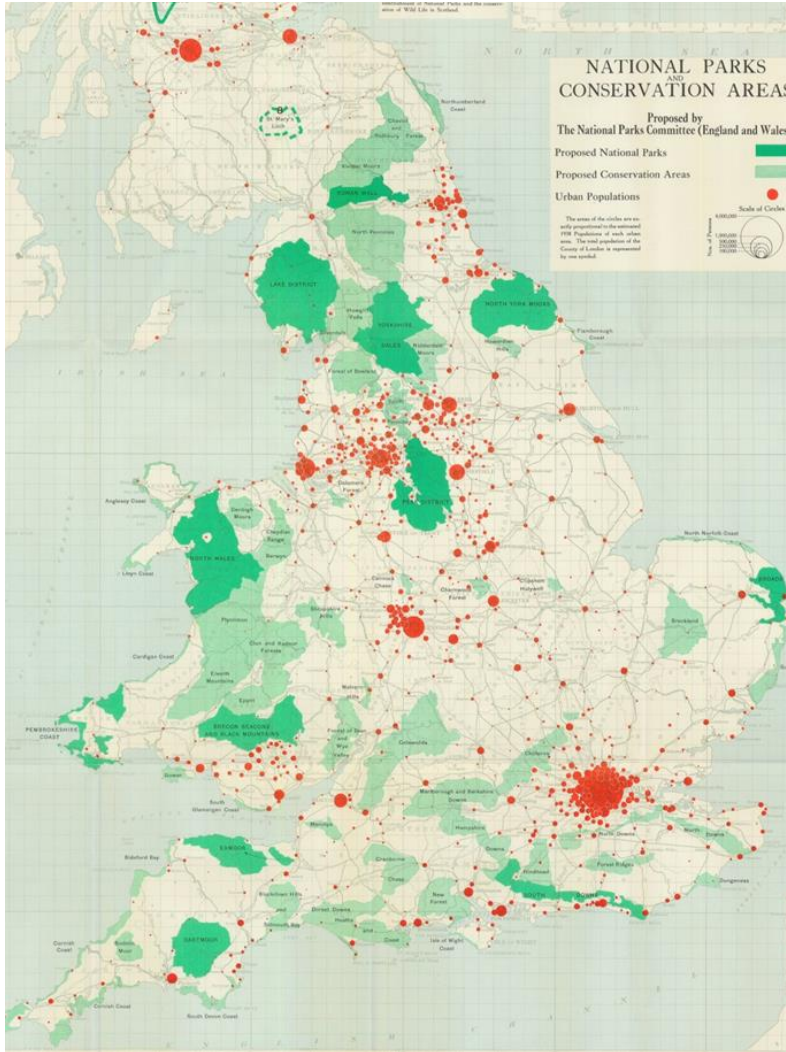
Photo: Charlie Hedley

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Hobhouse Map 1947

National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949

- Country Agencies
- Designation National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty– to conserve and enhance natural beauty
- Duty of Regard (National Parks)

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Rhossili Bay - Gower

Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000

- Designation of AONBs
- Establishment of Conservation Boards
- Duty of Regard (AONBs)
- Statutory duty to prepare and publish a management plan
- Open Access

AONBs – Equal in status to National Parks

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A partnership approach

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- Highly trusted
- Co-operative
- Democratic
- Consensual

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- The AONB Family
- 240 members of staff
- 38 partnerships

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An uncentralised network

Self-organizing, self governing, adaptive, interdependent

Where behavioural rules and standards are derived by consensus

Where activity is based on collaboration, collective action, co-operation

Where individuals, teams, partnerships, and committees are innovative, experimental, ingenious

The AONB Family - the whole is more than the sum of its parts

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Yat Rock - Wye Valley

Its all about the landscape – people and places