

Media Release – Landscapes for Life Awards 2015

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For immediate release

14 people who between them have given 394 years service to AONBs will today receive recognition for their work.

The Landscapes for Life Award recognises those who have contributed 20 years or more to the conservation and enhancement of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs).

Philip Hygate NAAONB Chairman said

“This new Award bestows national recognition and gratitude for the service given by staff, volunteers and elected members who have assisted the work of their AONB partnerships”.

He added

“These people share a great knowledge and expertise and are, in many ways, the best advocates for, and representation of, what AONBs stand for. Staff who have been in post since the early days of the AONB partnerships have played a role in embedding AONBs as part of our cultural and political landscape.”

Recipients will receive a certificate and copy of the Landscape Photographer of the Year book that includes outstanding images of AONBs. The publication has been kindly provided by Visit Britain.

The Awards Ceremony will form a fitting close to Landscapes for Life Conference 2015 which has focussed on “Sharing, Learning and Inspiring”.

Ends.

**The National Association for
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty**

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Editors notes:

- The National Association for AONBs (NAAONB) is a charity that provides a strong collective voice for the UK's 46 Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs). Its objectives are to promote the conservation and enhancement of AONBs, advance the education, understanding and appreciation by the public of AONBs, and promote the efficiency and effectiveness of those promoting or representing AONBs, other Protected Areas and those areas for which designation might be pursued. It does this by taking a collaborative and partnership based approach to working with our membership and other organisations at a national level to achieve shared goals. For more information see www.landscapesforlife.org.uk Twitter: @naaonb @AONBFamily
- Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), along with National Parks, are considered to be the most special landscapes in the country and belong to an international Protected Landscape Family. There are 38 AONBs in England and Wales, and a further eight in Northern Ireland. For further information about the AONB Family visit www.landscapesforlife.org.uk
- **Landscapes for Life Conferences** provide an opportunity for the AONB Family and those interested in protection our precious landscapes to join together and address issues of current concern. See <http://www.landscapesforlifeconference.org.uk/>

List of recipients

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| Dave Dixon | Former NAAONB National Collaboration and Learning Manager |
| Dave Edgcombe | North Devon AONB Project Officer |
| Philip Kennett | Chichester Harbour Conservancy Harbour Hand |
| Colin Peacock | Chair of Arnside and Silverdale AONB Landscape Trust |
| Katherine Potts | Former Dedham vale AONB and Stour Valley AONB Manager |
| Tony Riden | Arnside an Silverdale AONB Countryside Officer |
| Malcolm Ridge | Former Chairman of Gower Society |
| Ruth Ridge | Former Secretary of Gower Society |
| Steve Rodrick | Former Chief Officer Chilterns Conservation Board |
| Tim Russell | Former Quantocks Hills AONB Ranger |
| Ashley Thomas | Wye Valley AONB JAC member |
| Robin Toogood | South Devon AONB Manager |
| Michael Ward | Chichester Harbour Conservancy workshop technician |
| Pete Youngman | East Devon AONB Project Officer |