

## **DEVON COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS FORUM MEMBERS 2011/12**

**Chairman – Dr Justin Robbins**  
**Vice Chairman – Robin Head**

### **Kevin Bateman (Land management 2011 - 2014)**

Kevin is a tenant farmer for the National Trust, a farm with permissive and educational access. He is Deputy Chairman for the Tenant Farmers' Association in the South West and, as a Rural Surveyor, is also a panel member of the Agricultural Lands Tribunal. The Agricultural Land Tribunals (ALTs) play an important role in settling disputes and other issues between agricultural tenants and landlords arising from tenancy agreements held under the Agricultural Holdings Act 1986. Kevin also advises farmers on Single Farm Payment applications and the various environmental schemes available through Natural England. He has a herd of 36 Exmoor ponies which he lets out to graze on environmental sites to improve biodiversity.

### **Alison Clish-Green (Other interests. Re-appointed 2009 - 2012)**

Alison has lived in West Devon for thirty years and combines the roles of supply teaching and Borough Councillor. She is particularly interested in ensuring all user groups have access to the countryside. She is currently a member of the Rural Commission of the Local Government Association, which she chaired from 1997-1999, and has extensive experience of local government. For many years she also chaired the Environment and Health Committee of West Devon Borough Council and was instrumental in establishing Junior Life Skills courses for all year 6 primary school children in the area. Alison enjoys walking and is a member of a number of environmental bodies including the Dartmoor Preservation Association and the National Trust. In March 2007 she was appointed to REPAC, the Environment Agency's Regional Environment Protection Advisory Committee.

### **Patrick Healy (Other interests. Re-appointed 2009 - 2012)**

Patrick has lived in Devon for over twenty five years and has a particular interest in promoting the needs of people with disabilities. As a wheelchair user for more than thirty years he understands the difficulties all disabled people encounter in gaining access to the built and natural environment. He has experience of working with disabled people, planners, designers and other key people to ensure that the needs of people with mobility problems are given due consideration. He is a founder member of South Hams Access Group and is also a member of the Spinal Injuries Association. Patrick enjoys exploring coastal paths and other routes, where these have been made wheelchair accessible. He believes that his experience will be valuable to the overall aims of the DCAF in making the Devon countryside accessible to a wide range of users.

**Robin Head, Vice-Chairman (Landowner. Re-appointed 2009 - 2012)**

Robin has lived in the area for 29 years and has a small mixed farm, mainly sheep. He provides bed and breakfast with the additional facilities of a farm trail and 'helping' on the farm. He is keen to ensure tourists have a good experience when cycling, walking or riding in Devon and is on the Devon Farms Accommodation Committee as a project officer/PR officer. Robin also represents Farm Tourism/Farm Stay UK on the SW Chamber of Rural Enterprise and is on the board of the newly formed Devon Destination Management Organisation, Destination Devon. He is a member of the NFU and CLA and has wide knowledge of the farming community and its activities

**Tom Holway (Access user. Re-appointed 2011 - 2014)**

Tom is a recently retired chartered management accountant. He was brought up in Mid Devon and has lived in the South Hams since 1983. He is Chairman of Ugborough Parish Council, has been a parish paths coordinator (P3 co-ordinator) since 1998, and has designed and installed 'dog gates' to most of the stiles in the parish to improve access for dog walkers while maintaining the security of farm animals. He leads a monthly informal walking group using parish paths, an activity enjoyed by a wide age range of local residents and visitors. As well as walking, he enjoys local history, sailing, motor sport and being an active member of a vibrant village community.

**Christine Ingram (Access user. Re-appointed 2011 - 2014)**

A former teacher, Christine is actively involved with the South West Riders and formerly with Crediton & District Bridleways Association. She frequently uses local bridleways and footpaths and has a holiday cottage, let to those who enjoy rural activities. Key interests are raising the profile of equestrians and, in particular, provision of off-road riding opportunities and road safety issues related to public recreational access. Other interests are the development of long-distance bridleways and multi-use of access facilities.

**Rosemary Kimbell (Other interests. 2010 – 2013)**

Rosemary has spent her working life with the NHS and private research organisations as a biochemist, working particularly on cancer treatment, and also as an editor and proof-reader. She previously held the position of chair of the Taunton and Musgrove Patient and Public Involvement Forum, and the London Borough of Sutton's Lay Visitors Scheme, which assessed treatment of people in police custody. She recently obtained a Masters degree in human nutrition and from this perspective is very aware of the need for healthy and active lifestyles. Rosemary is interested in the protection of urban green space and is working with local residents to register a village green. She is a keen walker and cyclist and is a footpath officer and group researcher for the Ramblers and a member of Sustrans and the Open Spaces Society.

**Laura Leigh (Land management 2011 - 2014)**

Laura owns farm land in Devon, currently tenanted, and has a single holiday cottage business. She is Chair of the Devon Branch of the Country Land and Business Association and has previously represented the CLA at national level on its Business and Rural Economy and Membership and Communications groups. She sits on the CPRE Devon Advisory group and

the Devon County Agricultural Association Council, as well as being a member of the Royal Forestry Society and the National Trust. She enjoys playing tennis, occasionally cycles and was previously a keen rider.

**Dr Justin Robbins, Chairman (Access user. Re-appointed 2011 - 2014)**

Justin previously worked as a GP in south Devon and has a professional interest in the relationship between outdoor recreation and health. He is a walker, canoeist and cyclist and pursues these interests actively through work as a Sustrans Ranger and on the Footpaths Subcommittee of his Parish Council. He previously did some work for TROT (Toll Rides (Off-Road) Trust). He is a member of the Dartmoor Preservation Association, the Open Spaces Society, Ramblers' Association, British Canoe Union, the Camping and Caravanning Club, Sustrans, CPRE, the Two Moors Way Association and the Yealm Estuary Trail Action Group

**Julie Rudge (Access user. Re-appointed 2009 - 2012)**

Julie is an artist with extensive experience of rights of way and access. She has been P3 (parish paths) coordinator of her local parish since 1992 and also carries out research for the Definitive Map Review. At County level she is Secretary of the Devon Green Lanes Group and Secretary for CPRE (Mid Devon). She is a former representative of the Byways and Bridleways Trust. She enjoys a number of leisure pursuits including walking, cycling, riding and swimming.

**John Skinner (Access user. Re-appointed 2010 - 2013)**

John is an experienced ramble and cyclist and is currently Access Officer for the Devon Area of the Ramblers. For the Ramblers he had extensive involvement with the preparatory work and mapping of access land for the introduction of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CRoW) in Devon in 2005. He now monitors closure of land under the CRoW Act, and any matters affecting public rights of way. He expects to provide input to the current proposals for the introduction of a coastal corridor and improvements to the coastline. John is Chairman of Dartmoor Rambling Club and a member of the Ramblers, Dartmoor Preservation Association, the Open Spaces Society, the National Trust and the YHA. He has been retired for several years but spent his career with HM Land Registry

**Sarah Slade (Landowner. Re-appointed 2010 - 2013)**

Sarah is a farmer in mid Devon and National Access Adviser for the Country Land and Business Association. She has contact with a variety of rural businesses in a professional capacity and sits on a number of Forums, including the Rights of Way Review Committee and Natural England's Stakeholder Group on Public Rights of Way. She walks and rides and, in managing her own farm unit, balances the needs for land management, agricultural production, wildlife conservation and rights of access.

**Mark Simpson (Land management 2011 - 2014)**

Mark's family has an estate on Dartmoor which includes let farms, common land with open access and several miles of the River Dart. Mark is also Managing Director of the River Dart Country Park, a tourist attraction with

adventure playgrounds, parkland, camping / caravanning and also runs Holne Park House as a venue for weddings and corporate events. He is familiar with the pressures exerted by recreational use on access land and Sites of Special Scientific Interest as well as the pressures on the river. He is Vice Chair of the Devon Committee of the CLA and studied Rural Land Management and is a qualified Chartered Surveyor. Mark is a keen rider and a member of the Countryside Alliance

**Peter Smith (Other interests 2011 - 2014)**

Peter is a Landscape Architect and licentiate member of the Landscape Institute. In this capacity he worked for a number of years on the Tamar Valley Mining Heritage Project with the Tamar Valley AONB, he has also worked on a diverse portfolio of projects in the community, public and private sectors working with clients, fellow professionals and contractors. He also helps on the family environmental farm which promotes and provides educational farm visits for schools, conservation groups and other interested parties. He enjoys sailing, kayaking, snow boarding, coastal and moorland walking.

**County Councillor**

**Councillor Philip Sanders, Chairman of the Public Rights of Way Committee**

Philip is a County Councillor and Chairman of the Public Rights of Way Committee. He was born into a Devon farming family and did an agriculture degree at Nottingham. After some time in hotel management he joined the NHS, becoming Trust Board Director, before running his own health care consultancy business

He is a Town Councillor on Tavistock Town Council and a West Devon Borough Councillor, in which capacity he chairs the Planning and Licensing Committee. He was a Secretary of State appointee to Dartmoor National Park from 1998 -2004 and rejoined the Park as a County Council representative in 2009. He is Chairman of the Dartmoor Trust, a Governor of Tavistock College, and as a voluntary warden with Dartmoor National Park he regularly walks and maintains many paths.

Philip is involved with young people as an assessor for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. He was previously involved with the Dartmoor Rescue Group as a team member, search coordinator and controller and Chairman.

He enjoys the outdoors and recreational activities and has walked, cycled, climbed and caved quite extensively throughout the UK, including walking many long distance paths, and has done a lot of walking in Northern Europe. He is Vice President of Tavistock Rugby Club.