



LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2009

in association with



28th June 2009

English National Parks Prize – New for the Take a view Awards 2009

Time is flying by and you only have until July 15th to enter this year's 'Take a view' competition to find the UK's Landscape Photographer of the Year.

'Take a view' celebrates the very best of the United Kingdom, offering photographers worldwide the opportunity to showcase their images of this richly diverse country - and the top prize is £10,000.

This year sees the 60th Anniversary of the Act that led to the creation of National Parks in England and Wales, and this year's competition is supported by England's National Park Authorities¹. Many celebrations are planned throughout the year and details can be found at www.diamondsinthelandscape.org.uk The site also gives routes for many of the best walks in the National Parks - a great help when planning a day out with your camera.

To help to celebrate the Anniversary, 'Take a view' will be giving a special prize for the best picture taken within an English National Park. And the best picture taken in each National Park will also receive a copy of the dramatic *Landscape Photographer of the Year* book.

Paul Hamblin, Director of the English National Park Authorities Association, said:

"The National Parks are known for their stunning landscapes that have inspired countless people over the years. They are living landscapes where people live, work and play and are truly Britain's Breathing Spaces. We are delighted to be supporting this year's competition and hope it will encourage more people to enjoy these very special places."

Images of people working in the landscape or enjoying the challenges of the terrain, together with views of the towns and villages within the Park boundaries are all welcome. From the sweeping hills & tranquil valleys of Northumberland to the ancient woodland and coastal saltmarsh of the New Forest, you will find plenty of images worth making in all the National Parks. So don't miss your chance to win a short break in a Park of your choice, including a day with a Park Ranger.

An exhibition of winning & selected images will be held at London's National Theatre from early December.

The 2009 Awards are held in association with Natural England and the English National Park Authorities.

All entries must be uploaded via the competition website, www.take-a-view.co.uk and the closing date is 15th July 2009. Entry fees apply. Full terms and conditions can be found on the site.

- Ends -

1. England's National Parks are currently: Broads, Dartmoor, Exmoor, Lake District, New Forest, Northumberland, North York Moors, Peak District and Yorkshire Dales.

Notes to editors:

Competition closing date: 15th July 2009

Exhibition – National Theatre from 5th December 2009

Contact:

Diana Leppard

info@take-a-view.co.uk

Images from the 2008 Awards are available to support this press release on request from info@take-a-view.co.uk

Charlie Waite and representatives from the English National Parks Authorities Association (ENPAA) and Natural England would be available for interview.



This year is an important one; a celebration of 60 years of protected countryside, our *Diamonds in the Landscape*.

The National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act was a law passed in 1949. It established how the countryside could be protected and enjoyed by future generations. The 1949 Act paved the way for the creation of today's family of 14 UK National Parks, 49 Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), 294 National Nature Reserves and 2,900 miles of National Trails.

<http://www.diamondsinthelandscape.org.uk/>



Natural England – "For people, for places, for wildlife"

Natural England is an independent public body that acts to protect and improve England's natural environment and to encourage people to enjoy and interact with it. It provides practical advice, grounded in science, on how to safeguard England's natural wealth and ensure that it can adapt and survive intact for future generations to enjoy. Its responsibilities include:

- Reducing the decline of biodiversity in England
- Increasing the opportunities for everyone to enjoy the wonders of the natural world
- Managing England's green farming schemes, paying over £300million a year to over 55,000 agreement holders
- Designating National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- Managing most National Nature Reserves
- Notifying Sites of Special Scientific Interest and delivering the public sector targets to improve their condition
- Licensing of protected species across England

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/>