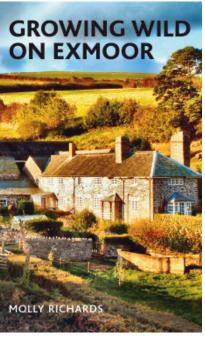
HALSGROVE TRADE PACK GROWING WILL ON EXMOOR

INFORMATION FOR BOOKSELLERS



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GROWING WILD ON EXMOOR

Molly Richards

rowing Wild on Exmoor is about a family of six children, close together in age, growing up on a remote Exmoor farm between the two world wars. The family was often without structure and out of control. Molly Richards recalls vividly her alcoholic father, her mother who he worshipped and resented, and the firm presence of her grandparents, especially Grannie Richards – a better sheep farmer than Molly's father, so much the outdoors woman that Molly never saw her do a domestic thing, not even wash a cup.

As well as being a compelling and poignant personal memoir, the book describes many of the practicalities of farming life and offers fascinating glimpses into a way of life that is gone for ever – village schools, sheep-shearing, harvest homes, cream-making and a visit to the 'Likeness Taker'.

The narrative is supported by many photographs of Molly's family and local scenes and events, to make *Growing Wild on Exmoor* one of the most remarkable reminiscences of genuine country life to have appeared in decades.



Molly Richards has always enjoyed being part of a farming community, not least because she is related to many of the Exmoor families farming in North Devon and West Somerset. A published poet, she approached the age of eighty thinking that she would like to try other kinds of writing. She joined a creative writing class, where she was encouraged to write about her childhood. She has now put all her fragmented memories together in *Growing Wild on Exmoor*. The book was written, she says, 'With pleasure, pain and, in parts, black humour.' Molly now lives in Minehead.



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HALSGROVE TRADE PACK

FFATURE CHAPTERS AND GALLERY – GROWING WILD ON EXMOOR



Circa 1913 Harvest Home at Oareford.



1913 Oare Harvest Home.



1920s Blackmore Gate monthly auction



Author's parents, circa 1924.



1911 Back row from left: Grandfather Richards, Irch Richards (bridegroom), Ada Richards (bride), Mr Woollacott. Front row: Grannie Richards and Mrs Woollacott.



Example of a double page spread.



WALKING ON a new path, it occurred to me that being without my-dog took so much pleasure away, made walking alone almost suspect, and me unable to relax enough to notice such turn of the lane and each

are view.

The wooden shed stood dase to the lane, insequented here, where there issued to be no access for motion. Further down, on a curve, I ould see the owner of a stone bulk cottage, and behind trees, a chirancy

The shot, is single door open, attractor etc. I passed long recogn to an of their was anyone around and using no one note, a sup inside. At over it all secred so familia, the old bench, a tury amechais, a wooder talkin in the cumer. The code, wave, hammers, now and tree wooden planes were all see nextly against the side of the shell. There was not de-pline table, satisfied and chipped, and on the table an onepy may with uses of dried cocou.

And there was the small. Each man's shed, it seems to me, has its even

And there was the smell. But hards shad, a surein to me, has its even peculi smell, and shi sone, at but, had that some smell of sandware, sauffile, a paint and shee poids that I had so often emembered from any quantifative fields shed low had rever slow; come across It was my job, when on helday with my grandparents, to take learnful's delevance cut to the shed where he would always he, resembly counting or cleaning the family shows, arranging dema is dishing over-

something or channing the finally thous, arranging there in thining roots. That I we rather two injection, an Granty would not true one to take two copy of occus and in blessish all at east. These were three plain because for from Liver of the lade in the cold ordinary for from Liver of the lade in plainter of small houses, flowers and beatraffies. I had another look attack, flower and beatraffies. I had another look observable, for an ordinary of the lade in the aerochoin. I was superiority to ordinarials. I rate or hand had put a work or and flow purely members before the received beatraffies and with a relative of the put of the lade of lade of lade of the lade of lade o

attering anyone. I wanted to see no one. Not now. Memories had stimed, some good, some bad, and I randed time to think.



1920s Open air service, Culbone Church.



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