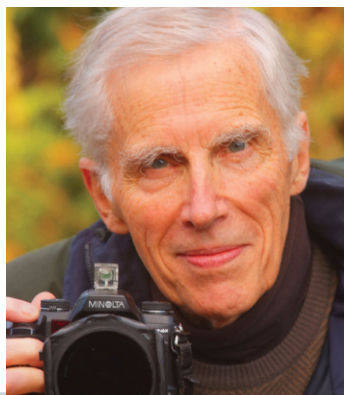


# PORTRAIT OF THE SHROPSHIRE HILLS

Robin Jukes-Hughes



The Shropshire Hills were designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in 1958, and remain to this day one of the most beautiful, tranquil and unspoilt parts of the country. They have been a popular holiday destination since Victorian times and now attract over half a million visitors a year. Yet get away from the popular valleys and hiking trails and you may not see another person all day.

The Hills are well known for the astonishing variety of their scenery, plants and wildlife, which is due to the varied nature of their underlying rocks. Nowhere else in Britain can one find rocks from ten out of the twelve recognised periods of geological history within such a small area.

This beautifully produced book, illustrated with over 150 of Robin Jukes-Hughes' stunning landscape and natural history photographs, captures the Shropshire Hills in all their glory and will be a fine memento for visitor and local alike.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Robin Jukes-Hughes** lives in Shropshire and runs Shropshire Hills Photography from his home south of Shrewsbury. He provides images to the National Trust, Shropshire Tourism and similar organisations, and his postcards, prints and calendars are sold widely across the county.

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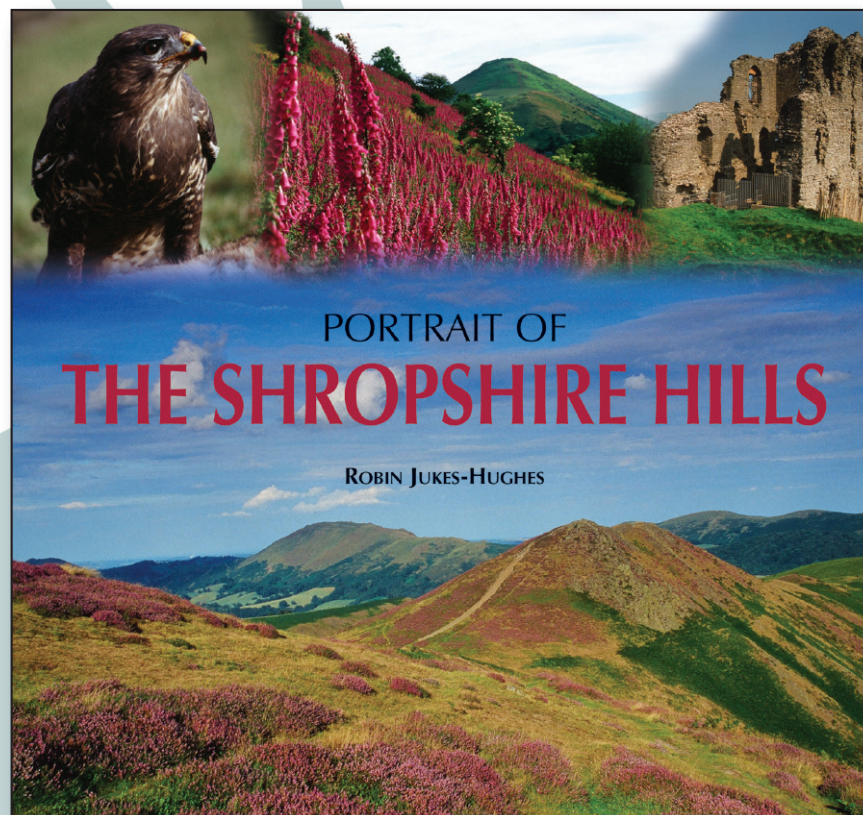
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# PORTRAIT OF THE SHROPSHIRE HILLS



Looking South from Manstone Rock



Carding Mill Valley in Winter.



Tankerville Mine



The Long Mynd and Church Stretton from Caer Caradoc

## THE LONG MYND

The Long Mynd was born 560 million years ago close to the Antarctic Circle. The sedimentary rocks were laid down in layers, a bit like the pages of a book. Earth movements folded them on their side on their journey north, so that the rock strata are now almost vertical across the Mynd from east to west. Ice and water have smoothed the plateau, leaving a steep scarp on the Welsh side and deeply cut valleys known locally as batches or hollows in the Stretton Valley. A Neolithic trade route known as the Prebrey runs along the spine of the Mynd from north to south and a number of Bronze Age burial mounds have been found along it. An Iron Age hill fort on Bodbury Hill overlooks Carding Mill Valley.

The Mynd first became popular as a tourist destination in the 1860s when it was advertised as 'England's Little Switzerland'. The National Trust acquired 5000 acres of it in 1965 and established their offices, shop and restaurant in Carding Mill Valley a few years later. They maintain a network of hiking trails and bridleways across the Mynd, and manage the heathland as a habitat for birds and wildlife. The National Trust also runs a drawing educational programme for about 24,000 children annually, mainly from the urban West Midlands.



Jonathan's Rock

Looking down the Bath Valley from Jonathan's Rock. Legend has it that a driver called Jonathan used to meet his lady here, and flung himself to his death one day when she failed to turn up.



The Clun Hills and Valley

Example of a double-page spread.