

# PORTRAIT OF ROBIN HOOD COUNTRY

Janet and Peter Roworth

Sherwood Forest has been attracting visitors for centuries because of its connection to the legendary hero Robin Hood and his band of Merry Men. Lying to the north of Nottingham, the Forest was originally the huge hunting ground of Norman kings. Over the centuries much of the woodland was cleared and great landowners took control over significant swathes: indeed, the part of the county to the south of Worksop was given the name The Dukeries because it contained the estates of four dukes and one lord. Although some of these grand houses have now gone and others are in private ownership, the public can enjoy open access to the beautiful parks and woodland at Clumber, Rufford Abbey and Thoresby.

Today's Sherwood Forest is a mix of oak and birch woodland with areas of open heath and rough grassland. Visitors can marvel at the amazing ancient oak trees with their huge knobby trunks and spreading branches and enjoy a walk to the Major Oak, the largest and most famous of them all. Another area of forest, this time planted with conifers, forms the Sherwood Pines Forest Park and this has many miles of footpaths, bridleways and cycle trails.

The husband and wife team of Peter and Janet Roworth have spent a year photographing this unique part of Nottinghamshire. Their collection of photographs takes you on a seasonal journey through the fields, parks, heaths and woods that make the area so special. From wide open views, to close-ups that reveal the tiniest details, their photographs capture a unique portrait of the landscape in its many moods.



## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

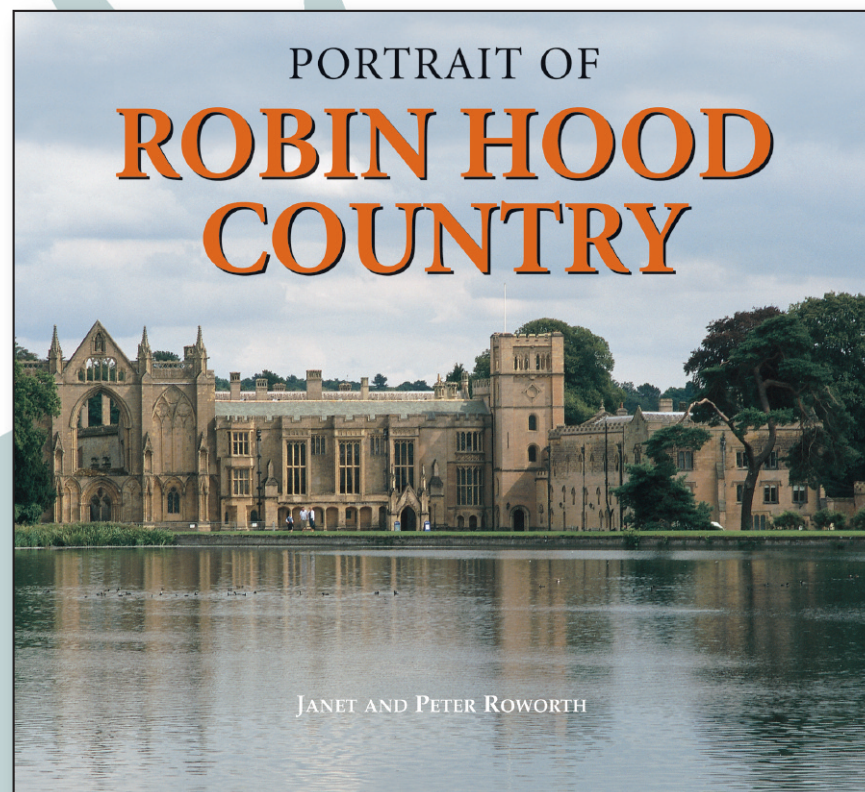
**Janet and Peter Roworth** share a background in farming and a concern for the natural and built environment. Janet's photography developed from her interest in local history, buildings and architecture. She is a freelance family history researcher and has recently gained an MA in local history. Peter has worked in conservation for over 30 years and is currently employed by Natural England as Site Manager for the Lower Derwent Valley National Nature Reserve. His photography has been a life-long interest, specialising in landscape and agricultural subjects, and he is an Associate of the Royal Photographic Society. The couple live in the East Riding of Yorkshire and their work has featured in numerous publications.

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### Halsgrove Sales Contacts:

Sue Rhodes-Thompson – DDI 01823 653770 [suet@halsgrove.com](mailto:suet@halsgrove.com)

Roger Start – DDI 01823 653773 [rogers@halsgrove.com](mailto:rogers@halsgrove.com)

Helen Deakin – DDI 01823 653772 [helend@halsgrove.com](mailto:helend@halsgrove.com)

Marie Lewis – DDI 01823 653771 [mariel@halsgrove.com](mailto:mariel@halsgrove.com)

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Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre. The legendary figures of Robin Hood and Little John form the centrepiece at the busy Visitor Centre.



The Chesterfield Canal.

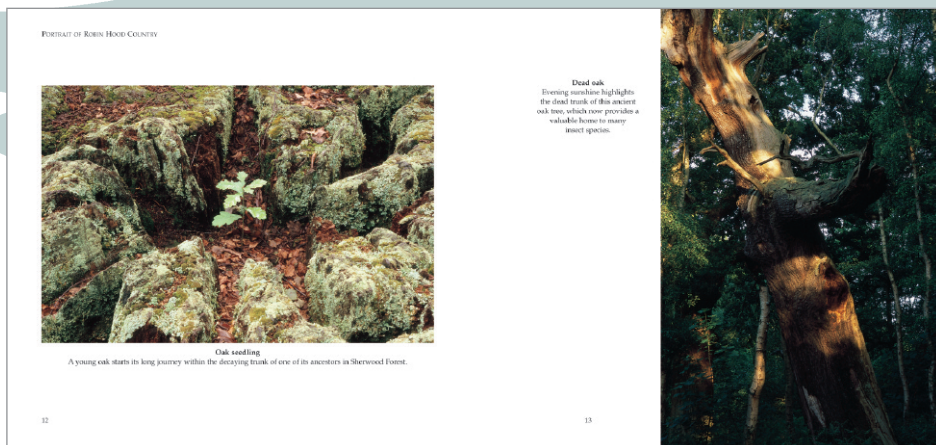


Tuxford Windmill.

The Major Oak, named after Major Rooke who first described it in a book published in 1790, could be as much as 800 years old. It has long attracted visitors and its hollow trunk is reputed to have been the hiding place for Robin Hood and his Merry Men.



Example of a double-page spread



Above: Hardwick Village.

Left: Clumber Bridge  
The semi-circular arches of the bridge are reflected in the still waters of Clumber Lake. The bridge was built in 1763 for the Duke of Newcastle.