

PORTRAIT OF THE NORTHERN ISLES

Graham Uney

Rough-edged islands dot the wild seas, like a careless scattering of beautiful jewels, to the north of mainland Britain. Here, in Orkney and Shetland, a vividly diverse, and brazenly stunning landscape awaits.

This, the Northern Isles, is where the adventurous traveller will discover some of Britain's most charismatic wildlife, or come to explore hidden secrets from our ancient past, all set in a broad landscape of magnificent coastal crags and voes, rolling moors of heather and bilberry, small-scale farmlands of rich flower-filled meadows, and Scandinavian-style towns and villages thronging the steep-sided fjords of countless sea-lochs. Each island within the Northern Isles is unique – each is very different from its neighbours both in terms of physical geography, and in character.

Every single island within the Northern Isles group has something to offer; and this book opens a window onto this magical land. *Portrait of the Northern Isles* is a magnificent collection of more than 140 photographs taken in all seasons within these wild island groups, introducing you to the savagely-beautiful landscape and gentle people of Orkney and Shetland.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

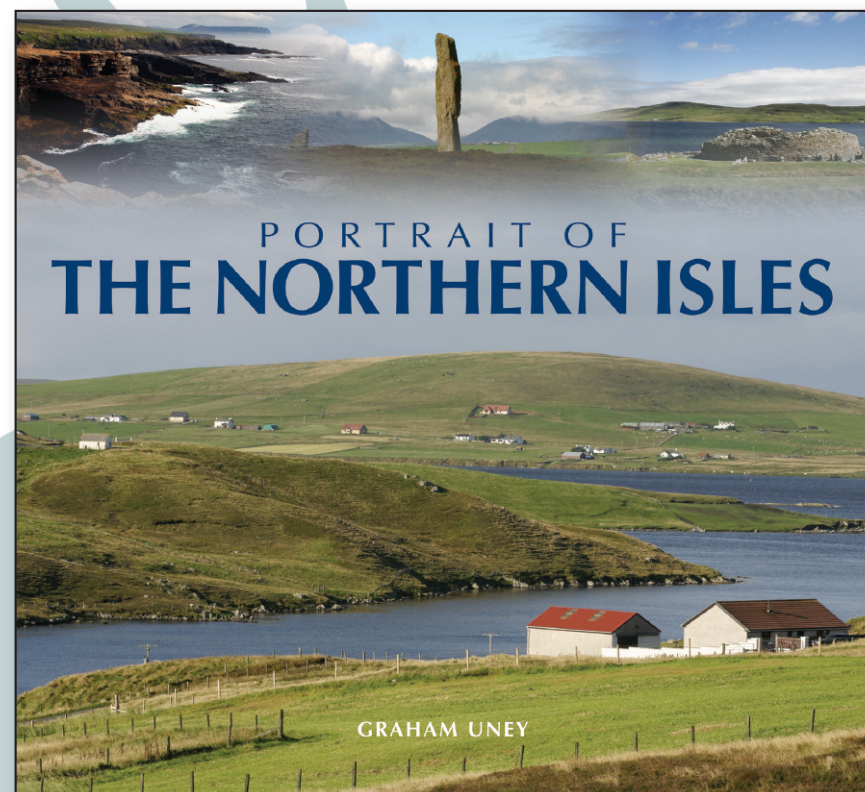
Graham Uney has spent a lifetime exploring all corners of Britain, as well as further afield. His photographic and writing work has appeared in countless magazines and newspapers, as well as books. Aside from working as a writer and photographer, he has been exploring the Northern Isles for a number of years, and today works as a walking and wildlife holiday guide in both Orkney and Shetland for Wilderness Scotland.

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Halsgrove Sales Contacts:

Sue Rhodes-Thompson – DDI 01823 653770 suet@halsgrove.com
Roger Start – DDI 01823 653773 rogers@halsgrove.com
Helen Deakin – DDI 01823 653772 helend@halsgrove.com
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An old stone wall leads the eye off Enyas Hill towards the island of Gairsay, out in Gairsay Sound.



Skaill House is an early seventeenth-century mansion containing lots of interesting artefacts, including the dinner service from Captain Cook's Resolution. It stands guard over Skaill Bay on the west side of Mainland Orkney, on the same site as the famous Skara Brae.



There is some superb seacliff scenery along the coast at Yesnaby, and a walk here should be at the top of everyone's list of ways to get the wind in your hair!



Lerwick in the summer.

Example of a double-page spread



The lighthouse on the tip of the island is an important Pictish stronghold. The island was an important Pictish stronghold from around the sixth century and many interesting archaeological remains have been found here from this period.

The lighthouse on the tip of the island. The cliffs here hold nesting shags, fulmars, and a few puffins, razorbills, and gulls in the busy summer season.



Overlooking the Loch of Harray at Stenness there is a Neolithic village settlement known simply as the Barnhouse. Today all you see is a reconstruction, but it is well worth a visit if you're in the area.