

A PICTURE OF THE SOUTH DOWNS

Art in the National Park

Terry and Christine Timblick

This lavishly illustrated book treads a unique path. In celebrating the creation, in 2011, of the South Downs National Park, it vividly records an historic legal landmark for one of England's best-loved landscapes. The distinctive beauty of that landscape is fixed here in a bold publishing format in which many of the finest Downland artists of our day reveal how and where the Downs inspire their pictures, and the techniques entailed in realising observations, impressions and emotions.

The first section, 'The Forerunners' describes many leading artists working in the area in the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and has examples of their work; this is mainly in the keeping of local public art galleries. Then comes the bulk of this book – about contemporary artists and their paintings or other forms of manual depiction of Downland scenery, motivated by this lovely diverse area. The rich tapestry showcases the work of nearly 40 selected artists (in alphabetical order) who work within the National Park, interpreting scenes from countryside, village and town. Christine and Terry Timblick have talked to them in their studios and heard about what inspires their Downland visions and their methods in transferring these ideas into pictures.

With over 200 illustrations, many making their debut in book form, *A Picture of the South Downs* presents fascinatingly varied facets of the incomparable scenery. Step this way into a magical realm...

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Many friendships for Chichester-based Terry and Christine Timblick have been nurtured by the South Downs. Time has been well spent exploring on foot the mellow villages and finding glorious fresh panoramas from Downland heights.

This book sprang from Terry's lifelong interest in the countryside (in the 1990s he was a volunteer with the South Downs Conservation Board and he remains a Rambler and member of CPRE) and in art locally and, through Pallant House Gallery, internationally. After a long career as a journalist, including 26 years in Fleet Street, he is still looking for new challenges, writing widely, Elgar to cricket, for *Sussex Life* magazine.

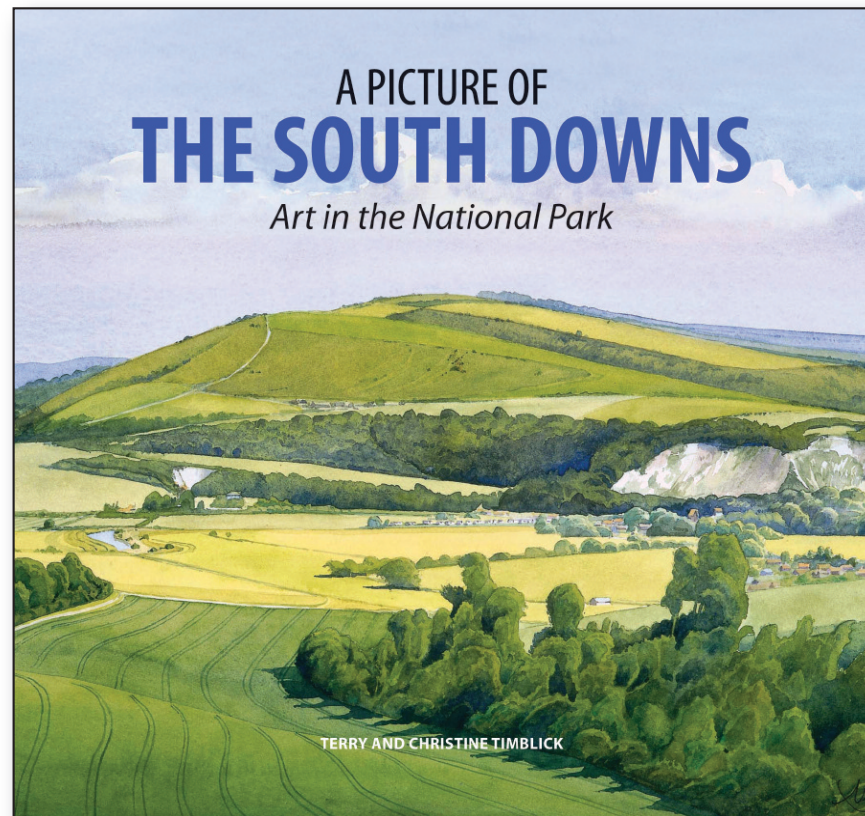
Since retiring from adult education work Christine has enjoyed editing and writing for newsletters of several local voluntary groups. This is her first involvement in commercial publishing so learning and developing new skills has been part of the process. After a lifetime of art appreciation the research and writing of this book have widened her knowledge of art as well as stretching her well-honed organisational skills.

HALSGROVE CATALOGUE

The full Halsgrove catalogue
is available free or visit
www.halsgrove.com
for regional and category
listings of available titles.

Halsgrove Publishing
Halsgrove House,
Ryelands Business Park,
Bagley Road, Wellington,
Somerset TA21 9PZ
Tel: 01823 653777
Fax: 01823 216796
www.halsgrove.com
e-mail: sales@halsgrove.com

HALSGROVE TITLE INFORMATION



Format: Hardback, 144 pages, 238x258mm,
profusely illustrated in colour throughout.

Price: £34.99

ISBN: 978 1 906690 44 1

Imprint: Halstar

Published: October 2012



**Great Books from
your Local Bookseller**

A PICTURE OF THE SOUTH DOWNS ART IN THE NATIONAL PARK

Right: Adur River
(textile art) Sally Verrall

Below: High Summer, Alfriston
(mixed media) Paul Evans



Above right:
Broken Sunshine on the Downs
(watercolour) Andrew Dandridge

Below right:
Blue Downs
(oil) Kate Penoyre



Example of a double-page spread.

PAUL BROWN



FEW ARTISTS ARE bringing the Country so effectively to the City as Paul Brown, whose marine and pastoral scenes have earned him a following which has carried him to the heart of the London art world in Mayfair.

Recognised almost instantly as the most naturally gifted artist at his school for years, Paul found an early spur in his artistic upbringing – the Hog's Back. In the early 1990s he needed just a debut exhibition of oils in a City of London church vestibule to set art duties afloat.

"By 1997," he says, "I decided to organise my own London exhibitions and act as my own dealer. It seems to have paid off."

Collectors of his work have included Prime Ministers, the cultural and aristocracy among them the Duke of Richmond, at Goodwood, at Goodwood. Perhaps his especiality is taken by Paul's subject matter: gentle Sussex landscapes, horse racing scenes, and bright days down on West Wittering's sands.

Paul adds, "My commissions have taken me to New York, Venice, Paris, Rome, Tuscany and many places in the UK, and a recent portrait I did was of Eric Clapton and his three daughters as a surprise present for his 65th birthday."

"When I'm on the Downs I try to make my paintings reminiscent of the Impressionists. Use of light and colour is the key to it, with large, more energetic strokes suited to the more expansive canvas."

Paul knows the importance of instilling his enthusiasm and imagination – and therefore his passion – by making regular visits to the South Downs, particularly around Ditchling Beacon, which he can see from his studio.

"With the variations in light and wonderful cloud formations it is a magical and uplifting part of England to paint."

PAUL BROWN



Sheep Grazing on the Downs
(oil on canvas)

PAUL BROWN

Gate near Blidding Beacon
(oil on canvas)



PAUL BROWN

The Gate on the Downs
(oil on canvas)

