



Outdoor Recreation Network

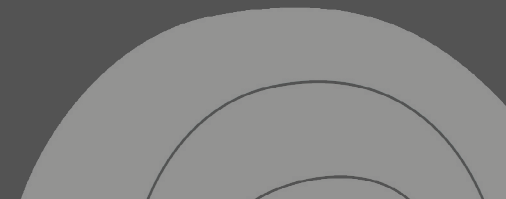
Encouraging more people to enjoy  
and engage with the outdoors

# Welcome to the Outdoor Recreation Network

The Outdoor Recreation Network (ORN) has the vision of encouraging more people to enjoy and engage with the outdoors.

Our members from across the United Kingdom and Ireland work in collaboration to help share research, facilitate information exchange and champion sustainable good practice.

Our current members are researchers, enablers, providers and practitioners, all committed to providing diverse and immersive experiences in the outdoors, something we are proud to build on.





# Vision

'Support and encourage everyone to responsibly enjoy and engage with the outdoors.'

# Mission

'Collaborate with members to share research, facilitate information exchanges, and champion inclusive and sustainable good practice.'



# Themes

Our Action Plan 2019-2022 will focus on the following themes:

Accessibility & inclusion

Making a more sustainable sector to tackle climate change

Sustainable outdoor recreation related tourism and visitor management

Local greenspace and green infrastructure

Transform nature connection

Download our full [Action Plan 2022-2025](#)

# Membership Opportunities

Benefits of Membership	Full Membership	Support Membership	SMALL Member & Academic Institution
<b>Collaboration</b>			
Membership of a UK and Ireland wide industry network	✓	✓	✓
Collaboration on joint initiatives e.g. research	✓	✓	✓
Eligibility to be elected onto ORN Executive Committee	✓		
<b>Events</b>			
Number of free tickets to ORN Webinars	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited
Number of free tickets to Annual ORN Conference	2	1	25% off
Number of free tickets ORN Seminars ( 2 per annum)	2	1	25% off
Hosting priority for ORN events	✓		
Seminar & conference content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insights</li> <li>• Presentations</li> <li>• Case studies / journal</li> </ul>	✓	✓	✓
Webinars & Member only break-out rooms	✓	✓	✓
<b>Networking</b>			
Number of spaces for representatives at ORN Member's Meetings ( 3 per year)	2	1	1
Access to key insights and outworking from ORN Member's Meetings	✓	✓	✓
<b>Information</b>			
Annual ORN E-Journal	✓	✓	✓
Bi-Annual ORN E-zine	✓	✓	✓
Contribute and share information via ORN communication channels e.g. Twitter & LinkedIn	✓	✓	✓

## COLLABORATION

By definition, the Network provides a catalyst for collaboration to allow our members to achieve their collective aims. ORN proactively identifies opportunities in which members can combine expertise, resources and budgets to provide outputs which are greater than a sum of their parts.

## EVENTS

Full and Support Members gain free tickets to ORN's Annual Conference and two seminars per year which provide high quality insights and practical learnings from influential speakers and outdoor recreation practitioners. Small Members have the opportunity to avail of 25% off conference and seminar ticket prices.

Member organisations have free and unlimited access to all ORN webinars and online conferences, meaning that any number of colleagues can participate and benefit from the online training and information sharing events.

If for some reason you cannot attend, members can still access links to key insights, presentations and selected videos online. New members will be given priority when selecting hosts for upcoming events allowing them to avail of professional event management and promotion services provided by the ORN Secretariat.

## NETWORKING

In addition to the conference and seminars, ORN provides Members Meetings which provide a focused and unique opportunity to engage, network and share with industry counterparts.

Join the ORN Members and the Executive Committee for an informal pre-conference meal and the opportunity to share information on the current work of your organisation such as upcoming projects, new partnerships and appointments, and the latest developments in policy and strategies.

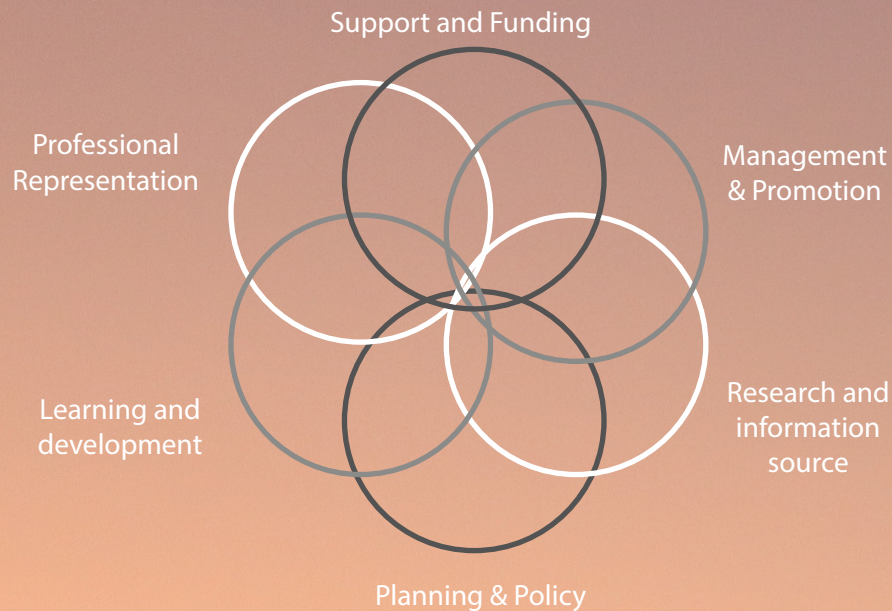
## INFORMATION

Members can stay in touch with industry news and insights via our annual e-journal, bi-annual e-newsletters and regular updates via our Twitter and LinkedIn channels. Members can utilise ORN channels to communicate with industry counterparts, drive recruitment and source collaborators.



# Membership Opportunities

ORN membership is aimed at organisations with an active engagement in outdoor recreation and with a passion to share and collaborate with others. Our members typically include organisations with a role in:



We currently offer three levels of membership to attract organisations at national, regional and local level. You can sign up as a member at any time for a 12 month period.

## FULL MEMBERSHIP

Aimed at larger organisations operating at a national or regional level - £1850 per year

## SUPPORT MEMBERSHIP

For smaller organisations, directing work at local level - £750 per year

## SMALL MEMBER & ACADEMIC INSTITUTION

For small not-for-profit / charitable organisations - £300 per year

## OTHER WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

We appreciate some organisations may not be in the position to join as members, however there are several ways you can engage with us:

- Purchase individual tickets for our Annual Conference and two Seminars per year

- [Sign up to our e-newsletter](#) so you can receive updates on our work, upcoming events and other opportunities to get involved.

We are always looking at creative and flexible ways to work with new members. So please talk to us if you have ideas on this.

## HOW TO JOIN US...SIGN UP NOW

Simply contact Elizabeth Rogers of the ORN Secretariat.

Email: [enquiries@outdoorrecreation.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@outdoorrecreation.org.uk)

Phone: 028 9030 3930

# Meet our Executive Committee



**JAMES NEVITT (Co-Chair)**  
Senior Public Access & Recreation Advisor  
Environmental Support and Compliance - Technical Services - Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)

James currently holds the Senior Public Access and Recreation Advisor role for the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO). This is the estates and infrastructure management organisation within the Ministry of Defence. Bridgette is responsible for leading the recreation and community teams across England. As Senior Advisor James works with his team to support a fine balance of providing and managing responsible public access in all its diverse forms, alongside priority tri-service military use and the wider requirements of the estate. James works with a variety of organisations and stakeholders and is always on the hunt for new opportunities. Away from work James enjoys mountain biking and bikepacking, hiking and climbing; all crucial for his mental and physical health and useful reminders of why our roles across the sector are so important.



**PIPPA LANGFORD (Co-Chair)**  
Principal Specialist Recreation and Access - Natural England

Pippa is currently Natural England's lead on the evidence relating to the delivery of recreation and access, a brief that covers both the management of the physical resource that people use when they are outdoors and the communication of information and inspiration that gets them outdoors and enjoying the experience. Previously Pippa held a number of related specialist and management roles within NE and the Countryside Agency. In addition, Pippa was previously Director at Wildlife & Countryside Link and a Senior Lecturer. Pippa is also a member of the Institute for Public Rights of Way and is a Chartered Manager.



**LEE NEWTON (Finance Officer)**  
Head of Operations – Ordnance Survey

Lee has worked with Ordnance Survey, Great Britain's National Mapping Agency since 2008 and is now Head of Operations. Ordnance Survey aims to provide mapping that informs, guides and inspires. As a consumer business, it believes in helping more people get outside more often. Lee is accomplished and highly experienced at working with cross functional teams to create, implement and achieve a desired strategy. He has strong commercial skills with excellent financial awareness building high growth, high margin businesses.

# Meet our Executive Committee



**KATY DAVID**

Head of Marketing & Supporter Development - Forestry England  
(Katy shares her role on the ORN Committee with Ed Woolward)

Katy has led the Marketing and Supporter Development team at Forestry England since 2015. Her team is responsible for raising brand awareness for the organisation and building engagement and support for the nation's forests. Previous to Forestry England, Katy has worked in a number of marketing and product development roles in the recreation and third sector, such as with the National Trust, Guide Dogs for the Blind and the Science Museum in London. Throughout her career she has been a passionate advocate for encouraging people to connect with the outdoors and nature to improve wellbeing. In her spare time Katy is an avid outdoor enthusiast, enjoying running, hiking and cycling with her family.



**KEVIN LAFFERTY**

Chief Executive Officer - Paths for All

Kevin is the CEO of Paths for All. Kevin was previously National Policy Advisor for Access, Health and Recreation in Scottish Forestry with his remit covering access legislation including rights and responsibilities, outdoor recreation, tourism and woods for health programme. Kevin is an expert in health and environment policy and practice and has a passion to reconnect people with woodland and natural environments.



**JONATHAN WOODS**

Countryside Strategic Manager – Access and Wellbeing - Hampshire Countryside Services

Jonathan is the Countryside Strategic Manager for Access and Wellbeing at Hampshire Countryside Services. In his role Jonathan manages access and engagement to some amazing and special spaces and places, the service manages 6 Country Parks, over 80 countryside sides and 3000 miles of Rights of Way. His experience over 30 years of working in the public sector in countryside management and outdoor access includes leading projects and initiatives in the Countryside, Heritage and Access sectors and supporting partnerships with Third Sector Trusts.



# Meet our Executive Committee



**FIONA MURRAY**  
Visitor Partnerships Manager - Forest and Land Scotland

As Visitor Partnerships Manager at Forestry and Land Scotland, and with over 25 years' experience in public and private sector Scottish tourism, Fiona supports the development and delivery of FLS' visitor strategy. She has a particular focus on creating and maintaining positive relationships with external organisations, with the aim of ensuring wider audiences are able to undertake more diverse and sustainable activities in Scotland's national forests and land. When not providing parental taxi service, Fiona sings in a community choir, 'enjoys' an early morning outdoor bootcamp, loves being a leader in the local Beaver Scout colony, discovering new places and exploring favourite spots with her family.



**ED WOOLWARD**  
Head of Recreation & Public Affairs - Forestry England  
(Ed shares his role on ORN Committee with Katy David)

Ed is the Head of Recreation and Public Affairs for Forestry England in Yorkshire and has been with the organisation since January 2022. Ed and his team are responsible for developing the outdoor offer across Yorkshire and promoting the benefits of the public forest estate for recreational use. Ed has previously held commercial roles for National Trust and English Heritage and has worked on a number of visitor experience projects at various attractions across the country. In his spare time Ed is a Run Leader for a local running group that combines outdoor exercise with volunteering activities and is also a Trustee for a Friends of Group in one of York's most popular public green spaces. Ed has a passion for hiking and fell running and can often be found knee-deep in mud in the hills of the North York Moors.



**SARAH WILKS**  
Head of Engagement - Peak District National Park

Sarah has worked in education and training for more than 25 years, and has worked for the PDNPA for the last 18 years in a variety of roles. Sarah is a passionate advocate of environmental education, engagement and recreation. She is a firm believer in the power and long-lasting impact of learning out of the classroom and connection to the natural environment. Her extensive experience of working with all age ranges, levels of ability and knowledge, has given her an understanding of how best to deliver engagement and educational learning objectives in many different ways, sharing her enthusiasm with and inspiring others. She is also a trustee of the Institute of Outdoor Learning. Sarah represents the Association of National Park Authorities on the ORN Committee.



# Meet our Executive Committee



**JOE ROBERTS**

Lead Specialist Advisor: Outdoor Access and Recreation - Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales

Joe is the Lead Specialist Advisor for Outdoor Access and Recreation for Natural Resources Wales (NRW). His role covers outdoor access, recreation, tourism, art and culture. He develops advice, guidance, policy and programmes intended to support NRW, Welsh Government and key partners' work in those areas. He shares his spare time between family, his forge and the mountains and waters of North Wales.



**SOPHIE GORDON**

Campaigns Officer - Cycling UK

Sophie Gordon is a campaigns officer at charity Cycling UK, focusing on increasing off-road access for cycling particularly in England and Wales. Her work ranges from engaging with supporters and local campaigners to liaising with land managers, and developing new long-distance trails to demonstrate the benefits of off-road routes and inspire more people to go out and ride. Sophie is an enthusiastic advocate for outdoor adventures, especially if they involve cycling, running or wild swimming.

## ORN SECRETARIAT

The Executive Committee is supported by Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland who provide professional secretariat services which include event management and promotion, membership liaison and communication, network development and administration.



# Our Members

Our growing membership base across the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ensures proactive representation across the nations, providing a collective industry voice.



## WHAT OUR MEMBERS SAY...

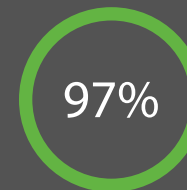
'Forestry England is the largest provider of outdoor recreation opportunities in England. As a part of the Forestry Commission it was also a founder member of ORN some 50 years ago. For us it is as relevant and forward thinking today as it was at the start. The benefits of ORN membership are wide ranging, from the CPD opportunities it provides to our staff members, excellent networking sessions, and quality conferences covering the hot topics of the day, it makes membership very good value for money!'

[Bridgette Hall – Head of Recreation & Visitor Experience, Forestry England](#)

The Ordnance Survey joined the ORN to learn from others, take part in conferences to ensure our thinking remains current, and to meet new contacts via the excellent networking sessions. We have not been disappointed! The ORN is a fantastic membership network that has helped the Ordnance Survey form new partnerships and achieve its aim of encouraging more people to get outside, more often.

[Lee Newton – Head of Leisure – Ordnance Survey](#)

## DELEGATE FEEDBACK FROM 2020 EVENTS



of delegates stated they would recommend ORN events to a colleague or industry counterpart

'Engaging Children and Young People with Nature and the Outdoors' Conference, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh - March 2020

"The conference is so well organised...it has been so great to network with so many recreation specialists because in Coillte, we are trying to learn more about what we should provide for the public not only for school children, but all of our visitors....The conference has been so great to network with those who have already ploughed the furrow ahead of us."

[Daithi de Forge](#)  
[Head of Recreation, Coillte](#)



# Contact Us

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@ORN\_official



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