

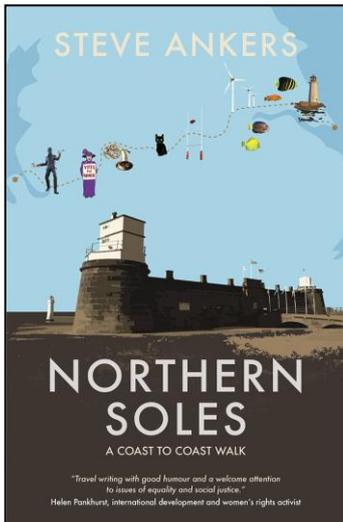
NEW BOOK: PRESS RELEASE

A FASCINATING WALK, FROM COAST TO COAST ACROSS NORTHERN ENGLAND

"Travel writing with good humour and a welcome attention to issues of inequality and social justice."

Helen Pankhurst, international development and women's rights activist.

PUBLICATION DATE: 26 MARCH 2018



NORTHERN SOLES

A COAST TO COAST WALK

by Steve Ankers

"Delightful ... Exploring multitudes of unknown highways and byways, Steve Ankers' journey bristles with insights" Polly Toynbee, journalist



ISBN: 978-1-78132-756-2 Paperback 215 pages RRP: £8.99 26 March 2018
Published by SilverWood Books (Bristol, UK) www.silverwoodbooks.co.uk
Available through the publisher, all good bookshops and internet booksellers
(Also available as an ebook: £3.99)

With a (very small) spring in his step and a song playing on his smartphone, Steve Ankers sets out on a 200-mile coast to coast walk from the Mersey to the Humber

Travelling from one City of Culture to another takes Steve through varied landscapes (some stunning, some stark) and across terrains of varying difficulty. Our intrepid hero (who is old enough to be excused such strenuous jaunts) battles snow, torrential rain and sweltering heat to a mighty gathering of brass bands, a collection of police truncheons, a ghost train, the Taj Mahal of swimming, and a liquorice festival.

He encounters a Vimto sculpture, the country's finest cat hotel, a lost town, and a justification for donkey stoning. He discovered where gravity was invented, where rugby league was first discovered, how wind turbines breed, and why Sylvia Pankhurst is still a hero in Addis Ababa. Along the way he consumes more scouse, spam fritters, and potato patties than you can shake a black pudding at – and certainly more than his doctor would recommend.

Best of all, Steve gets to meet his heroes – the largely unsung volunteers and staff at the heart of our heritage and communities, and those who, in this **centenary year from women's suffrage**, honour the legacy of those who fought for the vote and still campaign today on issues of gender inequality and injustice.

This is a fascinating, emotional and often very funny journey with many intriguing surprises along the way.

"Wisecracking travelogue, liberally peppered with British rain, bunions and curious factoids Mark Elliot, travel writer

"I so enjoyed this witty, somewhat serendipitous adventure walking in the countryside isn't always the sublime experience it's cracked up to be. Do read it." Fiona Reynolds, environmental campaigner & writer



About the author: Steve Ankers is a **Liverpudlian by birth** and now plays the role of expatriate, opinionated northerner in the south.

Steve lives in **Lewes, East Sussex**.

Steve Ankers co-authored two satirical books on town planning and a humorous memoir, *It's a Dog's Life for the Other Half* (Mereo, 2014), about his life married to a vet.



Places of local interest mentioned in *Northern Soles*:

On his coast to coast walk across northern England, Steve visited: **The Wirral: New Brighton/Wallasey/Birkenhead • Liverpool • Widnes • Warrington • Manchester • Ashton under Lyne • Salybridge • Uppermill (Saddleworth) • Marsden, West Yorkshire • Huddersfield • Dewsbury • Wakefield • Castleford • Goole • Hull • Holderness**



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