



PRESS RELEASE

EMBARGO: 21 January, 2019

3 December, 2018

Matilda Temperley: A View From the Hill

*Media Opportunity with Matilda Temperley at 10.00 am on Thursday 24
January at Somerset Rural Life Museum, Glastonbury, BA6 8DB*

Documentary and fashion photographer Matilda Temperley is turning her camera towards home territory for a new exhibition about Somerset today.

Matilda received the commission from the South West Heritage Trust, with an exhibition, book and documentary film out now. The exhibition, *Matilda Temperley: A View From the Hill*, is at Somerset Rural Life Museum in Glastonbury, close to where Matilda grew up and now lives. Her associated photobook further explores the people and places that are close to her heart.

Matilda said: "Having a commission to explore my own area has been wonderfully eye opening. Looking a little harder at my surroundings has been an incredible adventure.

"It is more diverse and interesting than I ever imagined, and I have only scratched the surface."

The South West Heritage Trust is a charity supported by Somerset and Devon County Councils and other generous funders

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Registered office: Somerset Heritage Centre, Brunel Way, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, Somerset TA2 6SF
Company number: 09053532 Charity Number: 1158791 VAT Registration Number: 197221592

With brother Henry Temperley, and sister-in-law Lara Stower, Matilda has also produced a documentary about Somerset which will be premiered at the Museum and shown there in the Abbey Barn.

Sam Astill, Principal Museums Officer with the South West Heritage Trust, said: “We are delighted to be working with Matilda to open this exhibition of her work at Somerset Rural Life Museum.

“As well as capturing Somerset’s wonderful distinctiveness, the project documents some of the issues facing rural communities. It will be an important contribution to the story of Somerset already explored by the Museum. Matilda’s striking images capture the county today but also evoke its rich past and uncertain future.”

Matilda’s photography is diverse and includes fashion and documentary commissions. Her work regularly appears in internationally recognised newspapers and magazines and her best-selling book, *Under The Surface – Somerset Floods*, won the Royal Photographic Society’s Vic Odden Award in 2015.

Matilda Temperley: A View From the Hill, is open at Somerset Rural Life Museum in Glastonbury until 1 June 2019.

Somerset Rural Life Museum is part of The South West Heritage Trust, an independent charity that protects and celebrates the region’s rich heritage.

Visit srlm.org.uk

#srlmmatildatemperley

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SHORT VERSION FOR LISTINGS:

Matilda Temperley: A View From the Hill

Somerset Rural Life Museum, Glastonbury, BA6 8DB

22 December 2018 to 1 June 2019

An exhibition of new images by the award-winning photographer capturing Somerset's wonderful distinctiveness and some of the issues facing rural communities.

Admission as part of museum entry.

www.srlm.org.uk

Photo Captions:

1. Sophia Campbell preparing her scythe for topping weeds in the pasture at Tinkers Bubble.
2. Cheesemaker Tom Calver in his cheddar cheese cellar at Westcombe Dairy. Westcombe is a small artisan dairy making traditional Cheddar and other West Country cheeses with unpasteurised milk from their own cows.
3. A fire is lit during the Beltane celebrations at Chalice Well Gardens in Glastonbury. People are invited to jump over it to signify new beginnings.
4. Rocky the Jacob Ram at the Royal Bath and West.

Image/s: Photographs are granted for one time use in conjunction with this press release only. More images available on request.

Notes to editors

1. Somerset Rural Life Museum

The Museum tells the story of Somerset's rich rural and social history. Here you can explore rural life from the 1800s onwards and discover more about the county's heritage including its landscapes, food and farming, working life and rural crafts. The Museum is on the site of what was formerly Abbey Farm. The farmhouse and former farm buildings are now home to a series of galleries and exhibition spaces. The magnificent 14th-century Abbey Barn is one of the West Country's finest buildings and the centrepiece of the site.

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2. About Matilda Temperley

Matilda grew up on a farm on the Somerset Levels with her three siblings - Alice, Mary and Henry. Set amongst 180 acres of cider apple orchards, at the base of Burrow Hill, the farm is now famously the home of Somerset Cider Brandy and Burrow Hill Cider.

Matilda went to a local Somerset school, going on to study biology at Edinburgh University, after which she completed an MSc in the control of infectious diseases at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

After working in the field in East Africa Matilda returned to the UK where she pursued a career in photography. Having honed her technical skills in a London studio Matilda returned to Africa to begin her first documentary project.

Matilda lives on the Somerset Levels.

For more about Matilda's work visit matildatemperley.com

Instagram @MatildaTemperley

3. The South West Heritage Trust

The South West Heritage Trust is an independent charity committed to protecting and celebrating Somerset and Devon's rich heritage. As well as the widely-praised Museum of Somerset and the redeveloped Somerset Rural Life Museum, in Glastonbury, the Trust manages state-of-the-art facilities in Taunton and Exeter to care for the extraordinary archive collections of the two counties. The Trust also provides essential advice about the historic environment and manages historic sites. Individuals and businesses are invited to support the charity through its Supporters' scheme. Visit swheritage.org.uk

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