



### **Graham Stevens:**

Graham Stevens is an environmental scientist, avant garde artist and inventor who has created a number of pneumatic inflatable structures, that have helped us to explore solutions to global warming, bounce about at parties, and walk on water.

In this interview, recorded on the tops of the downs in the west of the Isle of Wight, walking along a route dedicated to 17<sup>th</sup> century scientist, Robert Hooke, whose birthplace was at nearby Freshwater, Graham explains how walking has been fundamental to his own creativity.

Notes from the podcast interview by Andrew Stuck: Recorded in September 2010 and published in January 2012 on <http://talkingwalking.net>

The interview opens with Graham describing his fascination of Robert Hooke, the 17<sup>th</sup> century scientist, accredited with Sir Christopher Wren for the rebuilding of London after the great Fire.

Robert Hooke Trail

Charlie Davidson – local walk leader and co-author of the Robert Hooke Trail book and Guide

Robert Hooke – the first experimental “scientist”:

<http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/history/hooke.html>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert\\_Hooke](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Hooke)

Dimbola Art Centre, Isle of Wight – <http://www.dimbola.co.uk/> invited Graham to exhibit his early photos

Hooke and Wren were founder members of the Royal Society the motto for which is “take no man’s word for it”. <http://royalsociety.org/about-us/> Their Local Heroes project that celebrated their 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary

1969 Isle of Wight pop festival: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isle\\_of\\_Wight\\_Festival\\_1969](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isle_of_Wight_Festival_1969)

Graham and girlfriend walking on water: <http://ssa.nls.uk/film.cfm?cid=74959364&fid=T0829>

Top photo on this webpage shows one of Graham’s structures:

<http://www.ukrockfestivals.com/iow-1969-photogallery.html>

The bean bag, the bouncy castle and the water bed are all popular items that Graham had a hand in inventing.

Clips of films of Graham’s work can be seen here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-W1NOU8EDU>

Royal Institution UK branch of International Solar Energy Society

<https://www.ises.org/ises.nsf/primarypages/AboutUs>

<http://www.uk-ises.org/>

The Rocket Museum on the Isle of Wight

<http://www.derelictplaces.co.uk/main/showthread.php?t=6583>

Graham’s work will be exhibited at the Kinetica Art Fair in February 2012:

<http://www.kinetica-artfair.com/>