



## Horatio Clare

Within striking distance of Hebden Bridge, as dusk falls, accompanied by his dog Freda, radio producer, presenter and writer, Horatio Clare takes Andrew Stuck on a 'slow walk' close to his home in an area known as Hard Castle Crags. The sky above us fills with insects and the birds and bats that feed on them. Always alert to the nature that surrounds us, they don't walk far before they stop, so Horatio can point out some creature Andrew has not spotted and can't identify. In a candid conversation, Horatio shares his enthusiasms for slow walking and how it makes compelling radio listening, as well as talking about his writing about nature and travel, and how walking through the landscape are critical to his work. 25'45"  
12.1MB

Notes from the podcast interview by **Andrew Stuck**: Recorded in June 2018 in Hardcastle Crags, close to Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire. Published in June 2019 on <http://www.talkingwalking.net>

Horatio Clare's website: <https://horatioclarewriter.com>

Horatio has presented 'Slow Radio on BBC Radio3:

A slow walk across the Black Mountains along the Hash Hall Ridge between Capel-y-ffin to Hay-on-Wye <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/32T1mrqmKffm1MGfD0V5fZ0/the-route-capel-y-ffin-to-hay-on-wye> Broadcast 29/5/2017 <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b08rg41l> - currently unavailable - a clip and video trailer is available however <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p054591c>

Horatio's homework included: Kilvert, Chatwin and David Jones

Richard Andrews was the sound engineer at the BBC: <https://uk.linkedin.com/in/richardandrewsuk>

Tom Beulow artist was interviewed on the walk

The Bach walk over 230 miles <https://player.fm/series/slow-radio/bach-walks> in 5 episodes in the footsteps of the composer from Arnstadt to Lübeck, home to the great composer and organist Dietrich Buxtehude <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b09l9xhp/episodes/guide>

Producer Lindsay Kemp <https://twitter.com/lindsaykemp3?lang=en>

Horatio has written *Something of his Art: Walking to Lubeck with J. S. Bach (Field Notes)* Little Toller published Oct 2018

As a radio producer, Horatio Clare has produced The Verb (with Ian McMillan) BBC Radio 3 <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/profiles/3LHjWWK1Rd4Y0zqNmclJsD/ian-mcmillan> and Front Row arts magazine programme for BBC Radio 4 <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qsq5> and programmes for Sirius XM that broadcasts to the USA <https://www.siriusxm.com/> with Noreena Hertz <https://www.theguardian.com/profile/noreena-hertz>

Horatio also teaches creative writing <https://news.liverpool.ac.uk/2014/11/26/feature-horatio-clare-on-inspiring-students-to-think-sideways/>

The interview was recorded at Hardcastle Crags owned by the national Trust: <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hardcastle-crags> nearby to Hebden Bridge of which Horatio talks about the flood in 2015 <http://www.hebdenbridge.co.uk/news/2015/242.html>

Silvia Plath poet [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sylvia\\_Plath](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sylvia_Plath) is buried at St Thomas-a-Becket Heptonstall <https://www.visitcalderdale.com/ruins-of-the-church-of-st-thomas-a-becket>



Lumbank Ted Hughes' house is nearby and is now the Arvon Centre: <https://www.arvon.org/centres/lumb-bank/>

Living writers nearby include Ben Myers <http://www.benmyers.com/> , Amy Liptrot [https://twitter.com/amy\\_may](https://twitter.com/amy_may) , Zaffar Kunial <https://literature.britishcouncil.org/writer/zaffar-kunial> , Dr Doug Field <https://www.research.manchester.ac.uk/portal/douglas.field.html> has written for the the TLS (Times Literary Supplement) <https://www.the-tls.co.uk/articles/public/affirming-flame-manchester/>

Granada TV [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ITV\\_Granada](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ITV_Granada)

Horatio would swap Hebden Bridge for Greenwich in south London <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greenwich>

Roald Dahl <https://theculturetrip.com/europe/united-kingdom/wales/articles/22-things-you-may-not-know-about-roald-dahl/>

Horatio says he got the inspiration to write "Down to the Sea in Ships" while on a walk in Verona <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Verona> having read Moby Dick <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moby-Dick> . He travelled on a Maersk container ship <https://www.maersk.com/>

Novelist Rupert Thomson <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2013/mar/08/robert-thomson-life-in-writing>

Horatio's first children's book is "Aubrey and the terrible Yoot" <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/book/a/aubrey-and-the-terrible-yoot/>

Writer Stephen King <https://www.stephenking.com/> wrote a book about how to write: "On Writing: A memoir of the craft".

JK Rowling <https://www.jkrowling.com/>

Will Atkins <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2018/jun/09/immeasurable-world-journeys-desert-places-william-atkins-review>

Robert MacFarlane [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert\\_Macfarlane\\_\(writer\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Macfarlane_(writer))

### Horatio Clare's suggested walks:

1. Martin's Haven, tip of Pembrokeshire - Deer park walk: <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/marloes-sands/trails/martins-haven---the-deer-park-walk> views of Midland Isle and Skomer <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/marloes-sands/features/exploring-the-islands-off-the-marloes-peninsula>
2. Sheep's Head, Bantry Bay, west of Ireland <http://www.thesheepsheadway.ie/index.cfm/page/location>
3. The Pyrenees <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/activityandadventure/2798012/Five-great-walks-in-the-Pyrenees.html>
4. Way of St Francis, along the spine of Tuscany <https://caminoways.com/ways/st-francis-way-cammino-di-francesco>
5. Black Mountains - Cwn du valley to Pen awlt moor and Castle Dynnys <https://www.walkingenglishman.com/wales09.html> and the Farmers Arms <http://www.the-farmers-arms.com/>