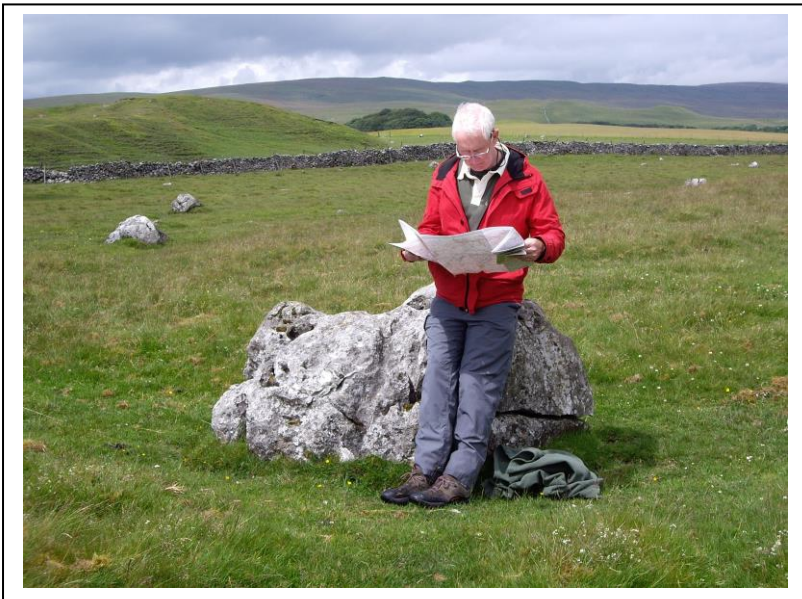


School of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development Seminars
1-2 pm, Monday 12 January 2015
Room 3.05, Agriculture Building
Hosted by the Rural Development Group

Whose land is our land?

Peter Hetherington



Whose land? Let's start with the monarchy, national and local government - through extensive forests, defence estates, council- owned farms, for instance - the National Trust and other charities, the aristocracy, the established Church, agri-businesses, pension funds, smaller-scale farms, the new rich seeking a safe speculative haven to dump millions, supermarket giants sitting on large land banks and, more recently and remarkably, a swathe of large community-owned holdings in the Scottish highlands and islands. That's just a sample from a seemingly endless list of diverse institutions occupying c60 million acres of the countryside. To gain a full picture of land ownership in the UK, particularly in England, it is clearly essential to know who owns what. Remarkably, no one is quite sure. In this seminar Peter Hetherington will explore some of the thorny issues involved and invite discussion.

Peter Hetherington is a former Regional Affairs Editor of The Guardian, a former visiting professor at CURDS, and current chair of the Town and Country Planning Association.