

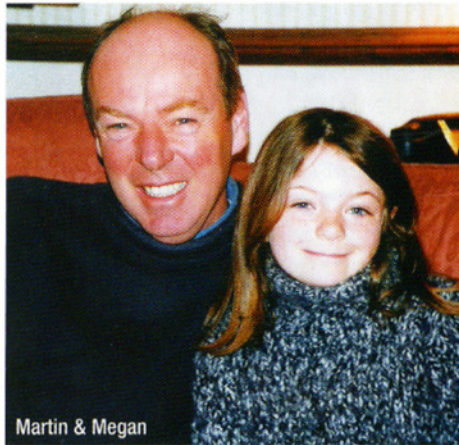
“Surely Martin Hayward Smith will be a household name by the end of the year !”

SAYS FIONA FRASER AS SHE MEETS THIS AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHER, WILD LIFE FILM MAKER AND PUBLISHER.

Martin is a product of North Norfolk, born in Fakenham. He now lives with his 7 year old daughter, Megan, in an idyllic cottage, the garden stretching down to the banks of the Stiffkey river, where the kingfisher's call wakes him in the early morning..

Surely Martin Hayward Smith will be a household name by the end of the year. His six weeks exploit, hanging from a helicopter high above the glaciers of the Cairngorms, will be shown on TV. The rarity of the wildlife, during the coldest spell of winter, will be seen. The film will feature – many aspects of the most ruthlessly unfor-giving terrain in the Highlands, out of reach to most of us. All is revealed in his distinctive style – an unerring discernment through the lens, which gives the viewer an intimate insight. Also on TV, later in the year will be the sequel to Jimmy's Farm, filmed in Suffolk.

The driving force in Martin's life was not so much the influence of his photographer father but a visit to George Adamson, of “Born Free” fame. There in Kenya he found a fulfilment of his dreams. His visual and spiritual needs



were satisfied by the freedom, the sense of living with danger and the oneness with the natural world. All this has influenced the rest of his creative life, resulting in an element of risk and a pursuit of the unattainable. The result has been manifest in the quality of his work.

Last year, in partnership with the wildlife writer, David North, he published “Elements of the North Norfolk Coast”. This exceptionally beautiful and informative book encapsulates the elusive and magical minutiae of the area. For those who prefer the visual, it has Martin's photographs; for those who prefer the verbal, David's text leaves no stone unturned. It is the perfect book to own and as a gift. Copies at a special reduction of £25 from Birdseyeview Books, Villa Farm, Thurgarton, Norwich. NR117PD. Tel 01263 761450 www.birdseyeviewbooks.com

His recent Exhibitions in North Norfolk, in Burnham Market at the Brazen Head Book Shop, The Big Blue Sky in Wells and at Pensthorpe have widened Martin's admiring public. Finally, I asked Martin what he feels that he has yet to achieve. Two things he desires; the first is to be offered a gallery in London's West End, for an exhibition . The second is that Megan, the apple of his eye, should win an international Photographic prize. Martin's dedication to his work and as a father will surely reap the benefits before long.