

Fascinated by Fungi

exploring the majesty and mystery, facts and fantasy of the
quirkiest kingdom of life on earth

For millennia the mysterious nature of fungi has intrigued the intrepid. Fungal fruits of field and forest have fed the fearless, while the (surprisingly few) resulting fatalities have fuelled myths and legends. Monks and murderers have turned mushrooms to their advantage; artists and authors have fallen for the fascination of fungi. Once enticed in to this quirky kingdom, the magical mix of majesty and mystery has enough power to captivate the interest for a lifetime. But the complexity and scientific jargon of the subject make it difficult for newcomers to gain a broad view of this vast topic.

Fascinated by Fungi is an easy-to-follow introduction to a complex and largely unexplored kingdom of life and the history, mystery, facts and fiction born out of the fascinating foibles of fungi.

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of the quirkiest kingdom on earth



Pat O'Reilly



“A clear, logical guide to a crucial part of our life support system; the kind of book that most people (including me) really need.”

Roger Thomas

Chief Executive, Countryside Council for Wales

450 pages; 1000+ colour photographs; 400+
fungi species illustrated and described.

RRP £25-00. Contents include:

- Uses, history, facts and mythology of mushrooms and other fungi;
- Fungus biology and classification;
- Wood, trees and forest ecology;
- Woodland fungi and their vital roles;
- Grass, grasses and grassland types;
- Fungi of grasslands – lawns, meadows, moorlands and mountainsides;
- Photography; microscopy; foray planning; recipes for the ‘Mushroom Magnificent Seven’

Written by naturalist, bestselling author and broadcaster Pat O'Reilly, this unique book is based on 40 years experience of fungus photography, forays and conservation work.

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