

**Robert Bellingham:** “Bob” is originally from Tunbridge Wells, United Kingdom. He lives with his lovely wife Barbara May in Perth, Australia. He met her when she picked him up while hitchhiking around Australia decades ago. Bob paddled the Missouri River solo in an Eddyline Shasta kayak in 2012 from Three Forks, Montana to St. Louis. He and Barbara hiked the Pacific Crest Trail from Mexico to Canada a few years back. Both he and Barbara attended the Missouri River paddlers rendezvous in Aug of 2015.

**FAVORITE MUSICIAN?** *Any sort of blues music is great for me. While driving I'll listen to Gary Moore. Of late I've been listening to Justin Townes Earle and in my workshop I'll tune the radio to where they're playing John Prine.*

**FIRST TIME IN A CANOE OR KAYAK?** *If I say anything other than the duck pond in Bozeman Norm Miller will challenge me.*

**WHO'S FAMOUS IN YOUR FAMILY or DESCENDED FROM ANYONE KNOWN?** *The only British Prime Minister to be assassinated was done in by a Bellingham but not sure if we're related.*

**BEST MEMORY PADDLING?** *Totally alone through the White Cliffs in Montana. It won't get better than that.*

**HOBBIE UNKNOWN TO US?** *I've recently taken up pencil drawing, the hyperrealism (photographic like) that can be achieved fascinates me. A most relaxing pastime that I feel I could get good at.*

**ANY REGRETS IN LIFE?** *Definitely some things I'd do different to change and outcome but no real regrets. I'm a great believer in defining moments where the decision you make at the time sets the course of your life. My time alone paddling the Missouri allowed me to mull-over the decisions, the people and events that have shaped my life and I found it quite therapeutic.*

**BEST BIT OF PADDLING ADVICE?** *That I've received: Don't cross Fort Peck Lake if there's a cloud in the sky (if only I took the advice). That I can give: 1) Just do it, equip yourself with a boat, food and shelter and arm yourself with as much info as you can and then go wing it from there. 2) Don't make a decision at the end of a difficult day a nights rest will refresh your outlook 3) Don't cross Fort Peck Lake when there's a cloud in the sky.*

**WHAT WAS THE MOST UNIQUE JOB YOU EVER HAD?** *I've been blessed with some of the locations I've worked in. The absolute remoteness of Papua New Guinea highland working with gold exploration crews in the jungles is high on the list. Before we were married Barbara and I had the grand title of Assistant Manager and Manageress at a hunting lodge high in the mountains of New Zealand, we arrived to find there was only the boss and his wife and we were to be the lackeys on call 24/7. But I do remember a year later on leaving thinking that we would never find a more beautiful place to work.*