

SEEKER

The magazine of the Geocaching Association of Great Britain

15

July 2013





Contents:

ISSUE 15: JULY 2013

Letters to the Editor	4
The new Oregon	6
Website developments	9
Getting all CITO'd	10
Portrait of Brittany	14

Contributions to Seeker are welcome; please contact the editor (editor@gagb.org.uk), but the Association is unable, at the present time, to pay for submissions. Copyright in all such contributions will revert to the author on publication of the subsequent issue; pictures are published on a single use, non-exclusive UK editorial rights basis under which copyright remains with the photographer.

Cover image: Standing stone at Carnac:
Above: Mont-St-Michel.
© Terry Marsh 2013

The Geocaching Association of Great Britain (GAGB)

is the leading UK Geocaching body, recognised by and acting on behalf of cachers. The association was established in 2003 to provide a voice for its members in the United Kingdom with the aim of establishing good geocaching practices, providing a focal point for public liaison, and supporting the growth and enjoyment of Geocaching within the UK.

Find us on www.gagb.org.uk

MEET THE COMMITTEE

So that you know who we are, here's the Committee for 2013



Jen Harley
Chairman
(Maple Leaf)



Jackie Catterall
Secretary
(JackieC)



Dax Wood
(daddyanddude)



Dave Edwards
(The Wombles)



Cass Flowers
geocass



Terry Marsh
(countrymatters)



Lilian Maund
(Mollyjak)



Steve McGeough
(bobo frett)

Chairman's Message



At long last it is nice to see the warm weather...but now I hear some of you saying that it is too hot to go caching!

Thank you to all of you that hosted or attended a GAGB10 event last month – lots of rubbish was collected and fun was had by all.

It is nearly that time of year for the duo of summer Mega events – Piratemia and the annual UK Mega event. They both promise to be fun packed weekends with several side events in the days between the two events – so, plenty to keep the whole family occupied. Several members of the GAGB committee will be at one, or both, of these events and at the UK Mega event, there will be a GAGB stand, so come along and visit us. We have games to play, prizes to be won and GAGB10 trackable tags and cache box labels to purchase...or just come along for a chat.

In this edition of Seeker, Cass gives us a report of the new Garmin Oregon she was given the opportunity to field test, and a glimpse at the new GAGB website.

Have a great caching summer and hope to meet many of you at an event.

Jen

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

NEEDS MAINTENANCE?

I've noticed recently in my area that the number of 'Needs maintenance' logs has skyrocketed. Now being 'up north' we do tend to get alot in the spring (after the caches have thawed out) but these are the post-snow type of logs. For example one cacher put a needs maintenance log on a cache says "no pen/pencil", another put a log saying "log full" but only one side of the logbook pages had been written on.

Now I know people are already muttering "its the new phone/app cachers..." and maybe it is, but maybe it isn't. In the old days (I'm one of the more established cachers who remembers when you could clear a county in a day) when a cache may only be found a few times a year then almost everyone did what they could to keep the cache maintained.

Please don't think that I'm decrying the NM logs, they are a most valuable tool, and they alert me to issues that I may miss in the found it logs. I also know that they are my caches, so they are my responsibility to maintain it (and I do). What I'm lamenting is the (apparent) loss of community spirit to help each others caches out, or maybe I'm lamenting the lack of info that we give to new cachers to make them aware that helping out, where possible, is a good thing. (I'm not for a moment suggesting that cachers should be replacing boxes, but taking out a wet/leaky item and drying the contents isn't a lot to ask, is it?)

So I'm trying to restart the concept of "Pay it forward" to my local caching community, especially to the cachers who haven't come across the concept, in the hope that the more cachers will start drying out boxes, replacing mushed logs with dry ones, replacing ripped log bags etc, and not slap a needs maintenance on without a second

thought. I've given out caching first aid kits to event attendees, so they have some basic supplies and an understanding that they can help out and it will be appreciated. The NWMega team also gave out replacement logs and other useful goodies, so its not a new concept.

So if you meet a new cacher at an event, or on the trail, why not drop into the conversation that you carry a few spare emergency log books or the likes, and even more lets all thank that cacher when they do some much needed maintenance on a cache for us. After all they've saved you from having to go and do it yourself and that's valuable caching time.

Thanks for letting me rant.

JackieC

TO LOG OR NOT TO LOG

Would feel very miffed about my decision, but wouldn't log the cache that I could see but couldn't reach - my understanding is that one only finds the cache if the container has been opened and I have written my caching name on a piece of paper inside the container. Will be interested to read what other people think!

Red.Roaming

Having read the "To log or not to log" article I must agree with Red Roaming that people shouldn't log a cache as found if they haven't physically signed the log. Surely it's the getting to the cache and signing the log that changes a cache from a Difficulty/Terrain 1 to a Difficulty/Terrain 5? I was under the impression it is one of the rules of geocaching that you cannot log a find unless you have actually been to the location and signed the physical log, or obtained the relevant information and photos if it is a virtual / Earth / webcam cache.

I know there are some cachers who log a find even if they haven't actually found

the cache, but just think they know where it was supposed to be. I'm afraid I regard this as cheating and I don't see the point of saying I've found something I haven't actually found. If it's not there, log a DNF or a Needs Maintenance and let the owner know so they can put it right and then you can find it and sign the log.

1967kevin

My take has always been that a find is only valid with a signature in the log. I read that

somewhere on geocaching.com main site when I started, and that is what I have stuck to. I have gone further to not even log finds even though I have signed the log, examples being when I have skipped part of high terrain routes when caching as a team.

I have strict rules for myself that I keep to. But I don't enforce those rules on anyone else, i.e. if someone has not signed the log of one of caches, I let it stand, it doesn't bother me.

Neal (Gackt)



Any plans for August?

August is being celebrated by geocachers around the world as the "31 Days of Geocaching." Find a geocache, log a "Found it" (or an "Attended" for an Event Cache) and earn a unique calendar-style Geocaching souvenir for each day in August. That's 31 souvenirs up for grabs.

Dates for your diary

July 2013

Saturday 27th July

Mega Piratemanía 2013

Stratford Racecourse
Stratford-upon-Avon
Warwickshire
CV37 9SE

<http://coord.info/GC456DA>
<http://www.piratemanía.org.uk/>

August 2013

Saturday 3rd August

Annual UK Mega Event 2013 – West Midlands region

Heritage Motor Centre
Gaydon, Warwickshire
CV35 0BJ

<http://coord.info/GC3V2NV>
www.mega2013.co.uk



The new Oregon:

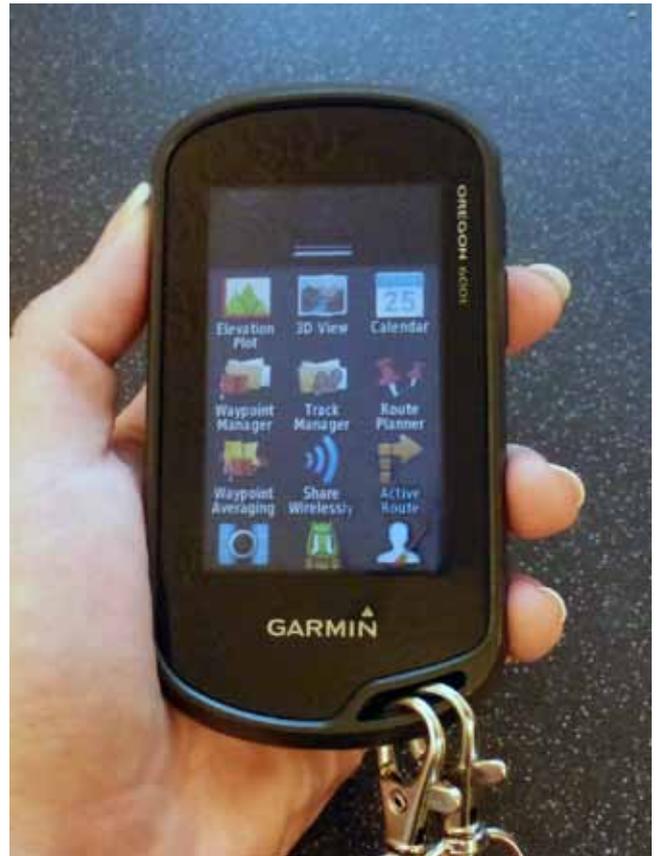
Does it match up?

Cass Flowers (*geocass*) reports

Garmin have recently released their Oregon 6xx series of GPS. In the range are the 600, 600t, 650, and 650t. The 't' models include "Full European Recreational mapping 1:100K". The 650 units include a rechargeable NiMH battery pack (this can be purchased separately for the 600 for under £20), an 8MP geotagging camera, a torch, and a larger storage capacity. The devices are currently retailing at between £370 and £500, depending on the model and whether you add 50k OS maps to your purchase. I took a look at an Oregon 600 with 50k OS maps to see if it was a worthwhile upgrade...

First impressions

My first impression of the device was that the screen seemed smaller than the Oregon 450 that I've used. In fact the screen size is the same (3 inches/240 x 400 pixels). Whereas previous Oregons have the protective raised plastic around the edge of the screen the new version is completely flat with the glass of the screen extending to the edges. This does make the device appear to look more modern and phone-like, however means that the screen isn't as protected around the edges and gives the illusion that the screen is smaller than it is. It also seems a bit of a waste as it'd be more desirable if the screen filled this vacant space. The glass used on the screen is however "chemically enhanced" meaning that it should be more



scratch resistant and durable and therefore doesn't need that added ridge. Check out this [YouTube video](#) where they throw it on concrete and hit it with a hammer and it still doesn't break!!!

The unit fitted nicely into my hand and although it weighs a few grams more than the previous Oregons (210g compared to 192.7g) it wasn't that noticeable. The dimensions of the new Oregon are 11.4 x 6.1 x 3.3 cm compared with 11.4 x 5.8 x 3.5cm of previous models meaning that it's slightly wider across the front (which sadly doesn't improve the actual screen size, just the space around it). It's also slightly thinner. Without the extra protection that the previous models have it does indeed feel less bulky. After I

turned the unit on the display looked very crisp with improved menus. There's a faster processor in these new Oregons too, which is noticeable when you start to zoom into, and move around, the map as it refreshes a lot quicker.

Features

The latest Oregons come with a few new features, as you'd expect. In my opinion the most desirable ones are the improved display and unlimited geocache storage. There's also the ability to use GLONASS satellites as well as standard GPS satellites, Bluetooth sharing, an updated track recording interface, and a better spot to clip your lanyard...

Display

The display features "reflective display technology" that uses external light combined with the LED backlight to increase brightness and conserve power as you won't need to turn the backlight up in bright sunlight. This feature does indeed work very well. Along with this there is also the dual-orientation feature meaning that you can use it in landscape or portrait mode, or both as the screen will rotate depending on how you are holding it. This was first featured on the Montana, which I found very useful as the large screen means the device conveniently doubles up as a car Satnav where landscape orientation is a must. Whilst in Geocaching mode, however, I do find it quite annoying that the map rotates around at will, especially when the device is hanging around your neck on a lanyard. It's therefore a feature that I typically turn off preferring that it's set permanently in portrait mode.

One last new feature of the display is the ability to pinch-zoom like you would on a Smartphone. Although this is handy for quickly enlarging an area, the display doesn't respond if tapped with a fingernail, unlike previous Garmin touchscreen GPS. Personally this is something I find handy as you can precisely click on geocaches on a map. In tests it was harder for me to select geocaches on the map using my fingertips unless I was really zoomed in. I can imagine those cachers with large hands may get frustrated by this. Other than that, the screen

is very responsive and it's far easier to type in comments after you have found a cache and to use the menus as it seems more like you are using a phone than a GPS.

Geocaching

The 6xx series supports unlimited geocaches. Up to 4 million apparently! Although I couldn't test out loading on quite this many, I did successfully load on 17,000 Geocaching.com caches. Do beware that loading this many onto the GPS does considerably affect the amount of time it takes for the device to initially load. To allow this unlimited geocaches feature the device shows you just the caches closest to your current location. I should add that the most recent Magellan eXplorist GPS' support unlimited caches too.

Tracks

The current track interface has been vastly improved. The buttons for track recording are larger and easier to use. From here you can pause, save or discard the current track. The interface includes the track information, map view, and elevation plot tabs which show data about the track. There's also the ability to add a track control dashboard whilst looking at the map. New Track Log recording functionality has been added to the unit: Auto Start and Auto Pause. Auto Start begins recording as soon as the device is switched on and has satellites. Auto pause temporarily stops track recording when you stop moving and starts again when you do. This should remove clutter from track recordings when you have stopped for a long period of time.

Satellites

Like the units in the latest Garmin eTrex series, the latest Oregons can also use GLONASS satellites along with standard GPS satellites. This supposedly gives quicker position fix times and helps maintain your location whilst under heavy tree cover. The improved accuracy of GLONASS is debatable. The unit did quickly get a GPS fix as soon as I turned it on, however in tests performed as well as an Oregon 450 when I hunted out a few caches under dense tree cover.

/...continued...

Improved wireless sharing

As well as ANT+, which allowed us to share caches with other units and locate chirps, the Oregon 6xx series also supports sharing with Bluetooth-enabled devices meaning that you can share photos that you take on your Oregon with your phone (for example) and also means that you can connect to Garmin's BaseCamp mobile app and upload waypoints, routes and tracks. When I first heard about this I thought maybe it was now time we could log our cache finds from our GPS by connecting to our phone, however unfortunately not yet.

I thought I'd test out connecting it to Garmin BaseCamp. Unfortunately this requires an iPhone 4S and above. I was however able to download the iPhone app onto my iPad to test and successfully uploaded all of my tracks and waypoints to it and viewed them on maps. A nice feature, but it's limited and the novelty soon wore off!

Lanyard Clip

Although a very minor improvement I really liked the fact that the part that your lanyard can attach on to is a lot larger, meaning that you can get a sturdy clip securely fastened on to the device.

Conclusion

The Oregon 6xx series has some handy new features. The screen is much more like that of a phone and the device is much more responsive when viewing and zooming the map. Also Garmin's attempts to make the screen more readable in bright sunlight

seem to have paid off. The new Geocaching interface and Current Track interfaces are a lot more intuitive and user friendly and the ability to store unlimited geocaches makes the device seem quite desirable. It's clear that Garmin have put a lot of thought into redesigning the look of the Oregon series and it does appear to look more modern and phone-like. However, I don't feel as comfortable out and about with it as I do with previous Oregons. These bulkier models definitely feel more rugged in the hand.

I'm slightly disappointed that there is nothing on this new Oregon which makes me go "WOW!" So, I'd say I wouldn't recommend it as an upgrade for existing Oregon users as there aren't really enough new features to justify it. For a user looking to get their first GPS or upgrading from a Garmin Dakota or eTrex then the device does seem more appealing. Oregon 450s are currently priced at around £200. An Oregon 600 is £319. If a better display and unlimited geocache storage are worth the extra £120 to you, then the device is a worthwhile purchase.

Although the unit I have been testing seemed quite reliable with just a few crashes and loss of caches here and there, a friend of mine found the Oregon 600 unit he purchased to be very unreliable. It therefore may be worthwhile to wait a few months for any bugs to be ironed out with firmware updates. It may also be worth the wait seeing as just a few days ago Garmin announced the release of the Garmin Monterra, an Android-based GPS the same size as a Montana. It is rumoured to appear around September time. Now that DOES look exciting!

Keep track of your trackables!

An interesting and useful site to give you an overview of where your trackable items are and the different countries they have visited.

www.geotastic.com/geotribes

Website developments

Since being elected on to the GAGB, *geocass* has been the GAGB's webmaster. She looks after the website behind the scenes, but has also been spending a lot of time developing a new GAGB website, one with a totally new look. Although she had hoped to roll out the new site a lot sooner, the amount of developmental work required to create a new agreements system and a bespoke news system seemed to increase rather than diminish. Juggling time developing the site with working full-time and researching for a part-time Masters degree hasn't been easy. Once finished, however, everyone is confident that it will be well worth the wait and time invested!

With a brand new custom solution for updating news and articles on Geocaching in the UK, the GAGB hope to expand their website to include more information and advice for geocachers. There will be a Twitter widget down one side of the page along with the ability for visitors to comment on news articles. The new Land Agreements system will provide an advanced filter so cachers all over the country can quickly see exactly which land agreements apply to the area that they live in. Visitors will be able to quickly send the committee feedback about land agreements, as well as mark land agreements as "used" to give an idea of just how many cachers are using the system.

Behind the scenes is a custom coded solution which will allow the committee to easily update, contribute to and manage the site. Cass hopes to get the site online this summer and then spend time developing it to make it even better.

Here's a peek at what the new site will look like (Note: This is not a final version and is subject to change).



The screenshot displays the GAGB website interface. At the top left is the GAGB logo, which consists of the letters 'GAGB' in a stylized font with a Union Jack pattern. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links for Home, News Articles, About the GAGB, About Geocaching, Services, Land Permissions, Forum & Social, Events, Contact Us, and Links. The main content area features a large image of a lighthouse on a hill. Below this is a section titled 'Latest GAGB/UK Geocaching News and Articles'. The first article is 'Constitution - Adopted', dated 11th Jun 2013. Other articles include 'GAGB10 Tags - Preview', 'GAGB10: Profile badges', 'GAGB10: Trackable Icon', and 'Annual CITO weekend (April 2013)'. A sidebar on the right contains a 'Connect & Share' section with social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. Below that is a 'Recent Articles' list and an 'Article Tags' section for 'CITO Events GAGB Geocaching.com Seeker'. A Twitter widget shows tweets from @TheGAGB. At the bottom of the sidebar is a 'Support the GAGB' section with a 'Donate' button and logos for various payment methods. The footer of the page reads 'GAGB © Copyright 2003-2013 Geocaching Association of Great Britain. All rights reserved.'



The weekend of 20 and 21 April 2013 was Groundspeak's CITO weekend. UK geocachers played their part, as these reports reveal.



DODDER VALLEY, DUBLIN

As Geocachers, we're all prolific park users – whether it be for walking the dog, bringing the kids for a kick-about, or simply to enable our strange compulsion for lunch-boxes and poke about in the hedgerows. And even in nice parts of the world, litter is a scourge that we are surrounded by – and often ignore and mentally filter out. The great revelation at the Dodder Valley CITO (GC44XC9) in Dublin on Sunday April 21st was that it was not so much the 'large' items of litter that were essentially destroying the amenity – it was the tiny stuff.

The event drew 28 'attended' logs, representing about 40 people – very much a family affair. And Irish cachers were

there in droves, but the real treat was that we also had visitors from Italy, Germany, The Netherlands and Sweden – as well as our regular crew of international locals from Poland, Czech Republic, Denmark and Australia.

Wonderful support was received from South Dublin County Council who not only approved the event, but also provided practical support in the form of litter pickers, bags for various categories of litter (plastic, aluminium, general litter etc.) and protective tabards. The event was part of an annual Irish initiative known as the National Spring Clean – where local groups work to improve their local amenities

I place a series of caches in the linear park along Dublin's River Dodder at the start of the year – and as I explored the park, it was apparent that there was a chronic litter problem; other parks around the city and county are well tended, with budgets, hard-working permanent staff, playgrounds for all ages, football pitches, lakes and rivers, wildlife reserve status and all the glory stuff. The 10-mile long Dodder Valley Linear Park is the undeveloped jewel of South Dublin – and with the current financial situation in Ireland, is likely to remain undeveloped for the foreseeable. And with no staff on site, as the park is primarily composed of a patchwork of littoral remnants

of land along the river, it is prone to some antisocial behaviour at night. The majority of the work undertaken by the Council in this park was with regard to maintenance of the soccer pitches, tending of the many mature trees and maintenance of the river bank – as the River Dodder is prone to flooding, which in itself washes considerable litter along the river.



We all know parks like this – lovely, but undeveloped and under-utilised. And even a quick walk around one particular section of this park, you could find endless beer cans, carelessly dropped soft-drink bottles – and due to some dirty neighbours, a good quantity of larger items from bicycles to car parts, from drain pipes to chemical containers. This stuff, while an eyesore, did not represent the majority of the litter collected; neither by weight, nor by volume. It was the little things that live in the hedgerows, among the leaves and the branches of the trees that really caused the problem – and as a group we came to the realisation that in fact it was the stuff that we

mentally filter out, choose not to see, as it were, and blithely ignore that really was the problem. I'm talking about scraps of paper and small pieces of plastic from plastic bags to sweetie wrappers and crisp packets – the stuff that gets buried under leaves and is partially obscured from sight. The white scraps among the brown leaves.

Our event was short – just two hours, but we collected, in addition to the large items, 9 large bags of aluminium cans, 15 bags of plastic bottles – but the surprise was 40 bags of general waste – almost entirely made up of small plastic scraps – and these bags were heavy! Rather pleasingly, we managed to find the two hours of the day which were filled with bright sunshine – there was heavy rain before and after the event – and that's always a satisfying state of events in this country. One of my best memories of the day was listening to the amount of laughter emerging from the woods! Who knows what was going on in there!!!

Afterwards, as is our tradition in Dublin as we're a social lot, we repaired to a local hostelry for some lunch and a lot more geo-chatter (who's found what, recent FTF runs, who can help with this puzzle, who fancies a walk through Wicklow next weekend, where will we have the next event – you know the topics). But I believe three topics emerged from the group more than any others:

surprise at the volume of loose soft plastics collected, the destructive effect upon the park's amenity by such small items & a surprising level of satisfaction and pride at a job well done. It's safe to say that there will be further CITO events in Dublin.

And at the end of the day, I went back to the park and walked the route we had worked in the morning – and I honestly did not recognise the place. As CO, I'd like to thank each and every one who participated in the event – huge, valuable work was done.

And I hope this will be an encouragement to others to consider organising a CITO in their area.



CUERDEN VALLEY PARK, CHORLEY, LANCASHIRE

Terry Marsh (countrymatters) reports

Not so long ago, Cuerden Valley Park – a largely unknown but delightful corner of Chorley – was a ‘No-Go’ area for geocachers. The Head Ranger had experience of the problems that Letterboxing had

caused on Dartmoor, and so was set against geocaching, expecting much the same sort of issues. But, with a bit of roadcraft and gentle persuasion, that involved ‘Yours truly’ becoming a Trustee of the park, he finally relented, and gave consent to place caches here. Today, nearly all of the caches I originally placed have had over 250 finds. So, as a way of saying ‘Thank you’ to Jim and his team, I offered to arrange a CITO event in the park.

I chose the day after the great Morecambe Bay Walk, largely because I organise that, too, and it turned out to be an agreeable way of relaxing after the miles of sand some of us had toiled over the day before. But I didn’t really want to do the usual litter picking, mainly because the park rangers are very good at doing that themselves. And I wanted something different.

Jim came up with the idea of a bit of balsam bashing, since Himalayn balsam, an invasive plant, is a real problem in the park. And so it was to be: ‘A Bit of Balsam Bashing’ (GC45XCP) recorded 40 ‘Attended’ logs, which represented half as many again in terms of willing bodies. It was an event we followed up with a bite of lunch at a nearby hostelry: Bashing’s End, although, as I discovered the day before when I turned up to check the arrangement, the original venue was a demolition site, having been sold and was in the process of being renovated. Oops, I said, and hastily beat a retreat to another of our regular haunts, who kindly took us on at 24 hours’ notice.

In the event, lack of rain – ‘lack of rain...in Lancashire???’ – meant that the balsam had barely grown, so balsam ‘bashing’ was more a case of balsam weeding. How could we possibly make a difference?

Well, so Ranger Joe told us, just one handful of balsam seedlings represented over 30,000 seeds on a mature plant...no wonder he was delighted that we contrived to fill about 10 big plastic bags; even we couldn’t believe it.

I went back into the park a few weeks later, and diverted to where we’d been weeding, and, do you know what I saw?...bluebells, lots of lovely bluebells that simply wouldn’t have had a chance to flower if the balsam was there. I was reet chuffed, and want to thank all those, of all ages and bendability, that turned up for doing such a splendid job. Here’s to a spot of rhodie bashing later in the year.



THE BLACK ISLE CITO 2013

Jackie Catterall (JackieC) reports

Whenever there is a CITO event on the Black Isle, the weather is always pretty bad and today was no exception.

There had been two CITO beach cleaning events in March to get the area looking good for the Easter visitors, one at Rosemarkie and the other at Fortrose. The Community Council, who run the beach cleaning events, were amazed at the number of cachers who travelled quite a distance to help out. There must have been around 12 black bags full of rubbish that had been collected over the two weekends.

The community council decided to organise another CITO event on the CITO weekend to take advantage of the good nature of the geocachers and get the harbour area spruced up with another litter pick-up. It just so happens that the vice-chair is a geocacher!

Some cachers braved the elements and turned up for the harbour clean up. Unfortunately, it was torrential rain, which was also coming in horizontal in the blowing gale. Bags couldn't even be opened due to the wind. A risk assessment took place and it was decided that it would not be safe for people to pick up litter in these conditions and the bags would probably blow away and cause more litter.

We had to get a bag of rubbish out of one of the cars so that it could be used as a prop for the photo. Some cachers braved the elements and walked around to do a nearby cache, they found a confectionary wrapper at GZ and that was all the litter that was picked up on this wild evening. It was then back to the CO's house for tea and biscuits. The Community Council would like to pass on their thanks to the geocachers who travelled far and wide to help out with the three beach cleans this year.



RUNKERRY SPRING CLEAN CITO 2013

(Northern Ireland: GC4696W)

The recent Runkerry Spring Clean CITO is number 3 in a series of 4 CITO's on this beach. These CITO's are a valuable part of a European research programme. The data collected are vitally important as it will help provide an overview of the problem of marine litter not only in Northern Ireland, but across the whole of North East Atlantic. The data will then be used to help formulate solutions to address the problem of marine litter.

The OSPAR Commission run a programme with fifteen countries within Europe to co-operate to protect the marine environment of the North East Atlantic.

TIDY NI is monitoring the level of beach litter at fourteen beaches in Northern Ireland one of which is Runkerry Strand. Beach litter surveys are carried out at set times, four times a year, to assess the type and amount of litter on each beach. The results are reported back to the OSPAR Commission. To meet the programme criteria, each beach needs to be cleared of rubbish following each survey to ensure that items are not counted twice and that is where our CITO comes in!

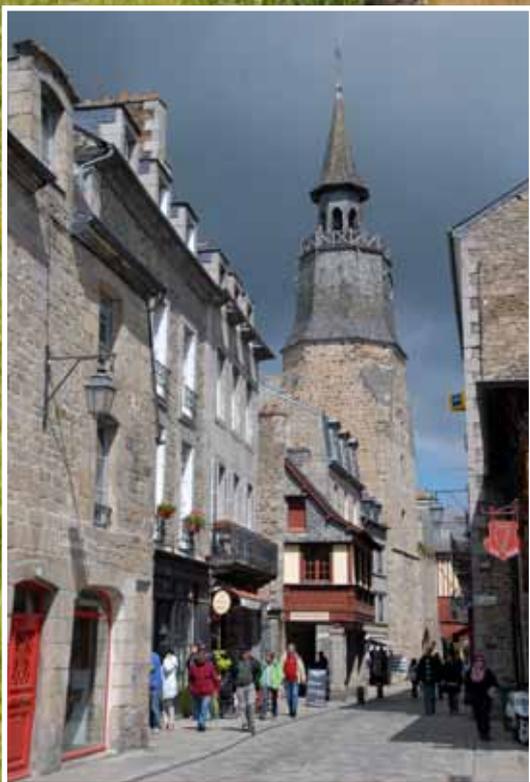
We have had varying quantities of litter during the CITO's dependant on whether there have been storms, the wind direction, the amount of sand moved by longshore drift and an assortment of other factors best know to the scientists. During the most recent CITO the sand had hidden most of the rubbish so 9 cachers only filled 5 bags compared to the previous CITO where the same number filled twice as many bags - and rescued two rather battered rubber ducks!

It's good to know that CITO's not only make a difference to the local environment but also on a global scale.



Portrait of

BRITTANY





Main image: Chateau Josselin; inset, Dinan.

This page: Left the stones at Lagatjar; Below, a wall mural, Quimper. Bottom left: Anyone for onions, Roscoff; Bottom right: rusting boat, Camaret-sur-Mer, Crozon Peninsula.

All images: © Terry Marsh, 2008-2013.

Brittany, in spite of its proximity to British weather, is a delightful place for geocachers, comprising the départements of Finistère, Morbihan, Cotes d'Armor and Ille et Villaine. With a huge coastline, perfect for strategically placed caches, and a lush, undulating hinterland.

In this vast arena lie such delightful towns and villages as St Malo, Vannes, Quimper, Roscoff, Locronan, Josselin as well as the megalithic wonder that is Carnac, close by the island-in-waiting of Quiberon.



Nor is it only Carnac that boasts some fine standing stones, Lagatjar on the Crozon Peninsula has its fair share, while the rather neglected port of Roscoff enjoys fine coastal views and myriad places to locate caches.

There is a lot to see and do here, and, if you want to give caching a rest take a punted boat trip in La Brière National Nature Reserve, north of St Nazaire.



Members discounts...



www.ukgeocachers.co.uk

UK geocachers are happy to offer **GAGB members** a **5% discount** on their products. In order to obtain your discount, you need to email UKgeocachers and set up an account, so that the discount is applied to each order.



We are pleased to announce the renewal of the **15% discount** from Cotswold Outdoor which was offered last year.

More detail and the discount code are available from the Members' Chat section of the GAGB forums.



Geotees: For geocoins, travel bugs, caches and more. We can also have your own coins or tags made for you to your design. Please visit us at www.geotees.co.uk where **GAGB members enjoy a 5% discount**. To get your discount, open an account, then PM or email me (Mongoose39uk) through the GAGB website before you place your order. This only needs to be done once, the discount will then be applied to all future orders.

GeocacheKit are pleased to be able to offer all GAGB members a **5% discount** on all items on the website www.geocachekit.co.uk. Including geocoins, trackables, readymade caches and much more.

The discount code is available from the Members' Chat section of the GAGB forums.



Pulse72Geocaching are happy to offer GAGB members a 10% discount on their wide range of geocaching products – see www.pulse72geocaching.co.uk.

The relevant discount code is available from the Members' Chat section of the GAGB forums.



Cicerone Press are pleased to offer GAGB members a **discount of 20%** on **all** Cicerone titles purchased online at www.cicerone.co.uk.

All members need to do to claim the discount is to add the voucher code 'GAGB' on the shopping basket page of the Cicerone website.

NE GEOCACHING SUPPLIES are happy to offer GAGB members a 5% discount on their wide range of geocaching products – see www.negeocachingsupplies.co.uk.



The relevant discount code is available from the Members' Chat section of the GAGB forums.