

# SEEKER

Roving Events  
CITO Weekend  
Encryption

Autumn 2018

#37

Autumnal Advice  
for Beginners



# The 2018 Committee



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*Sharant*  
GAGB Chair



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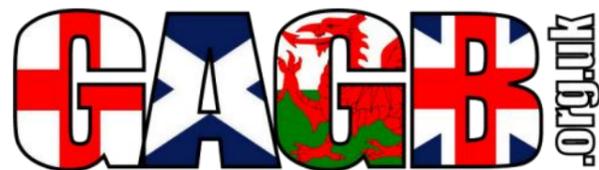


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Cover: *Aljoland, Southern Scotland (CaptainMowser) - [GC54E76](#)*

Above: *Piratemanía 11, [GC7FWD6](#)*



The Geocaching Association of Great Britain (GAGB) is the leading UK Geocaching body, recognised by and acting on behalf of geocachers. The Association was established in 2003 to provide a national organisation that represented geocaching, and to serve as a UK point of contact for geocachers, landowners, the media and others with an interest in geocaching. Find us online at [www.gagb.org.uk](http://www.gagb.org.uk).

Contributions to *Seeker* are welcome; please contact [editor@gagb.org.uk](mailto:editor@gagb.org.uk). 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. *Seeker 37* published by **Ant Reid**, based on a design by Jamie Douglas & Sharon Reid.

## SEEKER 37

### In this issue...

- 03 Chair's Message
- 04 News Roundup
- 05 Will you or Won't you?
- 06 Roving Event Report
- 08 GAGB CITO Weekend
- 11 Geocaching For Youngsters
- 14 GAGB Beginners' Basics
- 15 Ciphers Explained—pt 2
- 17 Guidelines of the GAGB
- 18 GAGB Committee Elections
- 19 GAGB Needs your Help
- 20 Annual Committee Reports
- 23 GAGB Friends

# Chair's Message

**Sharon Reid**

**Sharant**

GAGB Chair, 2018



This is the last issue of Seeker from the current committee and contains our annual reports explaining what we have achieved this past year, as well as information on our upcoming elections. It's important that our members get involved in the elections - whether to vote, nominate or stand for the role of one of the eight committee member posts or Chair. If you have something to say or do, please get involved!

If you don't want to stand for election but still want to get involved in helping geocachers, why not become one of our "GAGB Friends of Geocaching"? More and more members are stepping forward—to give advice, listen to what geocachers want and like, and passing on messages, as well as finding new local agreements and connecting with local councils and landowners.

Also in this issue we have the next instalment of how to solve encrypted puzzles, an argument in favour of 'Will Attend' logs for events, and some advice for youngsters who want to get involved in geocaching for the first time. We also recap some recent events—our Roving Event in Yarnfield and our Annual Weekend of CITO events, too.

# Members' Discounts...



**10%**

**Discount**

**Pulse72 Geocaching** are happy to offer GAGB members a **10% discount** on their wide range of geocaching products.

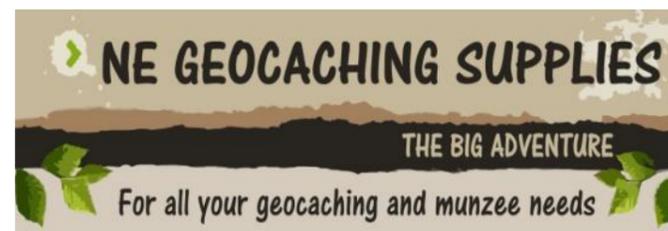


**5% Discount**

[www.ukgeocachers.co.uk](http://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.



**5% Discount**

**NE GEOCACHING SUPPLIES** are happy to offer GAGB members a **5% discount** on their wide range of geocaching products.



**5%**

**Discount**

**Cache & Carry**, who specialise in custom 3D printed caches, offer GAGB members a **5% discount**.



**5% Discount**

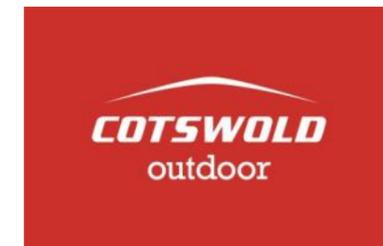
**Base of Tree** geocaching supplies are happy to offer GAGB members a **5% discount** on all geocaching supplies



**5% Discount**

For geocoins, travel bugs, caches and more. We can also have your own coins or tags made for you to your design. Visit us at [www.geotees.co.uk](http://www.geotees.co.uk) GAGB members enjoy a **5% discount**.

To get your discount, open an account, then PM or email me (Mongoose3guk) 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.



**15%**

**Discount**

**Cotswold Outdoor** offer a wide range of outdoor clothing and other gear. They offer GAGB members a **15% discount**.



**10% Discount**

**GeocacheKit** are pleased to be able to offer all GAGB members a **10% discount** on all items on the website [www.geocachekit.co.uk](http://www.geocachekit.co.uk). Including geocoins, trackables, ready made caches and much more.



**5% Discount**

**Geocache Land** are happy to offer GAGB members a **5% discount** on their wide range of geocaching products.

All codes are available to GAGB members at: <https://www.gagb.org.uk/forums/forumdisplay.php?64-GAGB-Member-Discounts>

## Christmas Fayre, Halifax

On the 24th November 2018, the Yorkshire Christmas Fayre returns to Halifax. Running all day (from 11am until 10pm!) this year, the team who brought us such a fantastic Mega event in Newby Hall want to spread the cheer and invite you to a geocaching Christmas party!

The event will have three phases to suit all tastes, so go along for some or all of it. From the start there will be stall holders offering you great offers on geocaching and other types of potential Christmas pressies—and some folk will be trying to raise money, too. For the kids there will be a certain mystery guest to meet, as well. In the mid afternoon the second phase starts with some new geocaches to go out and find—as well as explore this great part of the town. The final phase is an evening of not-too-noisy music and socialising, with the bar available as well as coffees and teas (and suchlike). Part of that is a 'pot luck' buffet—bring along your contribution and everyone can share and munch and chat the time away.

More details are available at [GC7T987](http://GC7T987)—don't forget to log a 'Will Attend'!

# GAGB

[GAGB.ORG.UK](http://GAGB.ORG.UK)

## News Round-up

### GeocoinFest Manchester

On the 7th September, 2019, the GeocoinFest Europe event will be held in Manchester. This roving mega event attracts hundreds of geocachers and in it is being held in Manchester Central—a fantastic exhibition complex housed in a former railway terminus. In 2018 (in Nantes) there were four days of 'side' events all with a strong local theme to make the whole experience interesting to all sorts of geocachers, and no doubt the GB team will be similarly fantastic.

The theme for this event is 'Science, Industry and Society', so look forward to an interesting short break in the area, as well as a chance to take a look at many (many) interesting geocoins and other trackables and merch—and maybe pick up a few for your collection! More details will be posted to their website <http://gcf19.eu/> over the coming months, and at [GC7TTNT](http://GC7TTNT)—don't forget to log a 'Will Attend'!

### Winter Geolympix 2018

On the Saturday October 27th 2018. Noon-10pm the Geolympix Mega [GC75FTF](http://GC75FTF) returns at the National Trust: Ashridge Estate, north of Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire. There will be lots of geocaches, lab caches and challenges as well as night caching. Also a Vendor Village for all your geocaching needs (caches, coins, other trackables) and so on. On the day after the Mega (Sunday Oct. 28th) there's a CITO Event on site: [GC7X3NX](http://GC7X3NX).

### Start The Year

On the 12th January 2019, we at the GAGB are organising a roving event in Nottinghamshire—come and *Start The Year* with us! As always with our roving events we'll have a good mix of information, help, advice, and a main theme of getting to know each other. **The Makers' Workshop** will be here

too, so you can play with glue guns and other equipment, and pick up some cache-making skills and ideas.

**Event Info:** We will have info on various significant events in the year, so you can decide where to spend your hols and meet others who are doing the same, whether that be geocaching games, pirate events, coin fayres, or exploring Scotland!

**What we do:** You can also find out more about GAGB's campaigns for 2019 and meet some of the new committee.

**New Caches** may be placed, thanks to John Beaton, our local host geocacher.

[GC7X2V9](http://GC7X2V9) will be at Keyworth Village Hall, and I hope you can brave the snow (or rain, or wind, or whatever life throws at us!) to come along. We're looking forward to meeting you.

### SWAG Weekend



# Will You or Won't You?

*"Will attend" logs for events have become more rare than they used to be. I'd like to encourage their use, so let's look at why they are useful, and also how event organisers can help themselves here.*

## What does a "Will Attend" mean?

Despite the official description, it is more than a simple "RSVP". It helps others, and here's why.

**Firstly**, it helps the organiser plan - if very few people or far too many people say they'll come, the organiser may need to rethink the event. For example, if it's at a pub they may need to warn the kitchen staff, or if it's out in the open they may start to get worried about crowd control. Let's help the event organiser.

**Secondly**, it helps others who may consider going. If someone is new to geocaching and sees familiar names (from logs, perhaps, or maybe names of cache owners) it can encourage them to 'take the plunge' and decide to go. Conversely if there are very few "Will Attend" logs, some people may be too shy to be one of very few people there. That'd be sad if, in fact, loads of people turn up but had forgotten to tell us!

**Finally**, it sometimes helps other event organisers who might be thinking of hosting an event. Imagine this—they see a 3-person event on a Tuesday, so they feel OK with organising their own event nearby in the same week (thinking no-one will be bothered about having two events so close). But if they see 60 "Will Attend" logs on that Tuesday event maybe that'd make them change their plans.

## What if I am not sure I'm going?

If you think you probably will go but aren't sure, go ahead and log a "Will Attend" but say you aren't sure in the text. You could also post a note instead, if you really are less than halfway sure but still interested. This benefits us all in three ways:

**Most importantly** you get sent any 'event announcements' about changes in event details, which can be quite important if the venue, time, date, or some other important detail changes.

**In any case**, the organiser can count you as a 'maybe', which helps a bit. At the least they can upgrade that 3-person table by the fire to be a 4-person booth?

**It can also help you out.** Depending on why you may not be coming, you might get offers of help or encouragements from geocaching buddies. Events are sociable, after all, so being part of that, even as a 'maybe', is still part of it!

## As the organiser, what can I do to get more "Will Attend" logs?

The most effective thing you can do is to **publish your event well ahead of time**. Normal events can be published three months ahead, and these show up on maps, local searches, and GAGB's events calendar <http://www.gagb.org.uk/events-calendar.php>

for people to see. If you publish right against the deadline (and I've done this myself - literally the last couple of hours before the two-week deadline), then you can expect that very few people know about it, see it, and log a "Will Attend" for it.

**The event description is also important.** Make the event sound warm and welcoming - provide a bit of detail like whether food is available, or link to menus. If you'd like to encourage 'newbies' and beginners, say so - or if you know you'll all be discussing some deep and arcane geocaching topic, say that too ("This event is for all enthusiasts of underground scuba field puzzle caches" would help me decide not to go, for example!)

**The event time and location** are big factors in attendance, of course. If you want a high attendance then think about who might be attracted - would families not really bother with an event in a bar by the station...? Would workers break away from work to go there at the right time? Would retired folk not get to the 8:30am flash mob because the bus pass doesn't start working until 9:30? These people won't log a "Will Attend", and then also probably won't turn up. Again, knowing you can rely on those "Will Attend" logs is important.

## In Summary, JDI!

My final piece of advice is to promote your event on social media. Find your local Facebook group, for example, and post the GC link to get people to start talking about it, and log that "Will Attend" for you!

# Roving Event Report

*On July 14, 2018, we faced several competitors for your time - England were playing for 3rd place in the World Cup, the French had a Mega event that drew a lot of English folks, the weather was just so good... but we held our tenth Roving event and this time made it a Makers Workshop.*

Everything at a makers' madness event is free - just join in. All we ask is that if you make a cache, make two and give us one for our Map Game, to raise funds. If you saw our stall at Piratemanía or the Yorkshire Mega events, you'll have seen some of what was made in Yarnfield. Some of the cache creations were really creative, and some were just plain unique!



## What is a Makers' Workshop?

Sometimes the caches we find are a little bit... less than interesting... film pots, clip lock box from a pound shop, or a tube that was designed to hold some kind of medical sample... Here at GAGB we love and promote interesting geocaching experiences - so we thought we should show people how to make their own - and give you all a workshop!

We brought along electric drills, hot glue guns, saws, all sorts of tools, along with raw materials like artificial grass, ready-chopped wood logs, and even some sheep's wool! We set up several tables and showed the event folk how to make stuff.

Yes we brought power tools! As well as a variety of glues, water-tight cache containers, fake grass, and even googly eyes for painted rocks.



As you can see they got 'stuck in' and formed a factory production line - learning how to do it, giving us ideas on better ways of doing things - and having lots of fun.

Interested? Then watch out for a GAGB Roving Workshop near you.

Our next is [GC7X2V9](#) in **Keyworth, Nottinghamshire**, on **January 12th, 2019**.

You can also invite us along to your area - all we need is a hall to rent that allows craft and use of the kitchen (we needed lots of tea and coffee!). You also get to meet a few GAGB Committee members and the GAGB Friends of Geocaching - we're always ready for a chat about all geocaching topics!



# GAGB CITO Weekend

## Cutting, Clearing & Cleaning

*In September every year the GAGB holds a special weekend event to encourage as many CITO's as possible. The record high was in 2016. How well did we do this year?*

### Let's look at some stats about our #GAGB2018 Annual CITO Weekend:

166 attended logs across 10 events – we estimate that about 250 individual people came along. The events were each bigger than in previous years but there were far fewer events this year—it would be interesting to discuss and understand why. Still, this year we had our second-highest attendance ever, so there is enthusiasm to 'give back' to the community and still have fun doing it!

Event tasks were diverse, ranging from litter picks, to path clearance and heathland management. Thanks especially to all of you for organising, as well as attending and supporting - you did a great job at each event.

Remember—all of you are welcome to organise one and we at GAGB will give you help, advice, and publicity too!

Photo by Flookfinders



Photo by Redroaming



Photo by Moira Crackers



Photo by Tentmantent

**GAGB 2018: Wombling in Monkton Park, Chippenham**  
by The Wombles

**GAGB 2018: Hogmoor Inclosure CITO** by WhatRobot

**GAGB 2018: Owlbeech Woods CITO VIII** by Flookfinders

**GAGB 2018 : Robourgh Down CITO** by GeoOldham

**GAGB 2018: Bags and Cans - How many can you find?**  
by sillence

**GAGB 2018:CITO! at Wheathill, East Budleigh Common**  
by Redroaming

**GAGB 2018: Craig Dunain CITO**  
by Mousekiller

**GAGB 2018: Liquorice Park CITO** by Tentmantent

**GAGB CITO Ashby Canal**  
by Moira Crackers

**GAGB 2018: LITTERPICK Isabel Trail** by Sharant



Photo by WhatRobot



**Isabel Trail ([GC7X17W](#))** *By Sharant*

Wow we left this one late to organise. For a few years now we'd been helping our local Wildlife Trust on some heaths and commons, but this year they had much more serious problems needing their attention—after all that dry weather they cancelled us and needed to look after the Roaches in the Staffordshire Peaks. With just two days left to the Groundspeak limit, Ant emailed the local borough council who jumped at the chance and agreed to a litter pick in Stafford! It's a good tip for others—you get in touch with your local Streetscene team they'll often respond really fast!

We placed a new series along the trail and spread out to bag up about a dozen or more litter bags, and we dug up lots of strange items from street lamps, to doors and fences, most of a garden fork, and a pair of camo underpants (size extra large!). The council were ecstatic that we could dig up so much, and the trail was ready for the 10k run that went down the line just a few days later.

# Geocaching for Youngsters

## Some Tips on starting out

Girl Guides, Scouts, and school children in Key Stage 2 all have an opportunity to earn a badge or school credit for geocaching.

"Getting Started" can be difficult if you are in this age range, so here's some advice for you and also for leaders & teachers trying to help you!

The Girl Guiding badge for Geocaching relates to 10-14 year olds. The Scouts' badge is for the same age range, while in Key Stage 2 geocaching mainly helps in the earlier years (aged 10-11, English school years 5 & 6). This fun activity is sort of geography, sort of physical education, and sort of design & materials, but it can also be many things, like history, technology, or internet coding. If this sounds like you, let's get going!

### What is "Geocaching"?

"geo-kash-ing" is when we find a "cache" (that's a word normally used for a store of stuff, or pile of useful things) using "geography" - so we get "geocache". It's not new - people on Dartmoor have been doing something similar since the 1800s - but in the year 2000 a technology called "GPS" was opened up to everyone to use, and it became simple for us all to use this technology to help us find things or give us directions.

- ❖ Idea: why not look up what "GPS" means and how it works (technology)
- ❖ Idea: why not look up "Letterboxing" on Dartmoor, and where Dartmoor is (history, geography)

### What is "GPS"?

GPS is a technology that tells you where you are, and where other things are, using "coordinates". The whole world is divided into four - Everywhere is either 'North' or 'South' of the equator, and also 'East' or 'West' of a certain park in the town of Greenwich, which is in London. Using GPS we can say where everything is on the planet! In geocaching we leave a geocache hidden somewhere and note down these "coordinates", and we give those to someone else, who uses them to find the geocache. A special GPS device, or many types of smartphones with a map app, will then tell you where you are and where the geocache is, so you can get there and find it.

- ❖ Lots of things use GPS - how many can you list?

### What are "Coordinates"?

Every geocache has a set of coordinates telling you where it is. Most geocaches in the world are listed on geocaching.com, but this isn't your only option. You can share coordinates with friends, via social media, or however you like.

Coordinates can be confusing - just like with languages, there is more than one way to write coordinates. Most geocachers use the "decimal minutes" method, and the "WGS84" system. You can often also use the 'British Grid' system that OS maps use, or other systems, but make sure you tell people which system you are using, or they'll get lost!

- ❖ Idea: Look up more about degrees, minutes, and seconds. Why does GPS need to use such a complicated system? Which mathematician first described the geometry of a sphere? (History/ Maths)

- ❖ Further research: What is WGS84? How much more accurate is it than the previous system? Why not check out the zero degree line in Greenwich - what do you notice about where it runs (hint - it isn't exactly where it should be!)?

The three most common formats are:

- ❖ Most countries use "decimal degrees", such as **N51°30.842', W000°05.902'**
- ❖ On a British OS map this would be **"TQ 32052 81170"**
- ❖ Some apps and websites use "decimal degrees", such as **51.514048, -0.098368**
- ❖ All three of these methods work, and all three would take you to the same place. Can you work out which famous building is there?

## Getting Set up before you Start

Has someone given you the coordinates for a geocache? Here's what you do.

**Let's get practical.** If you have a GPS unit, make sure it is fully charged and turn it on. If you have a smartphone, download an app that allows you to enter coordinates and navigate to them (for example Groundspeak, Cachly, c:geo, Locus Maps, each of which also give you free access to walking maps). If you don't have a good mobile data package then it's best to download your local map before you head out - see if you can work out how to do that in your app.

**Looking for a geocache.** Open up the app (or GPS device) and add a new 'waypoint', 'point', or 'POI' (point of interest) - depending on your software. This might be a 'go to' button, a '+' button, it might be hidden in a menu called "points" or similar - see what you can find.

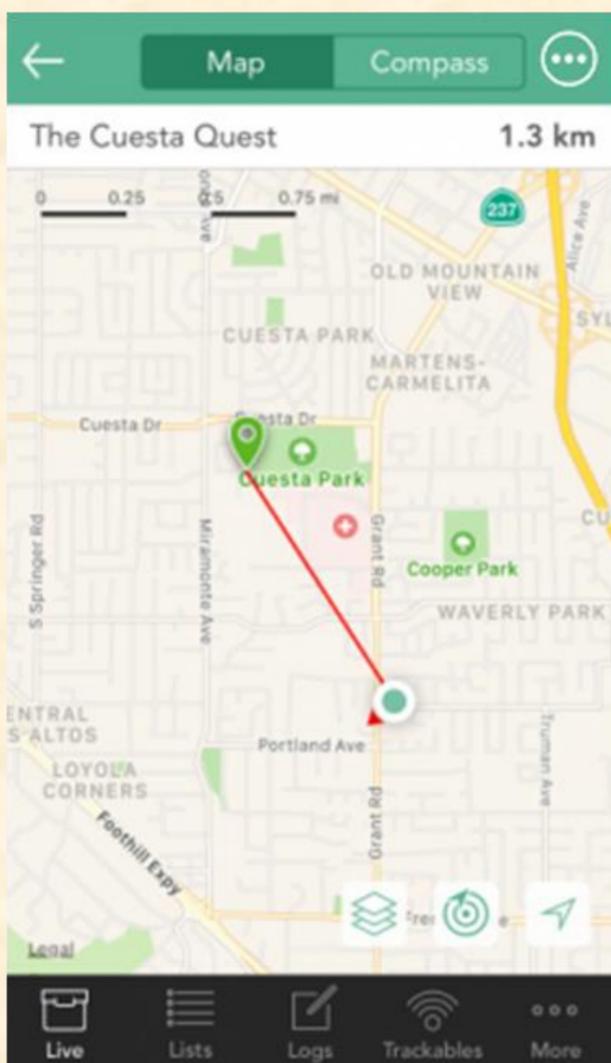
Type in the coordinates for the geocache, and save the point. Can you see it on the map? Can you also see where you are on the map? Can you touch or select your new point and get the software to 'navigate to' or 'guide to' the geocache?

The first time you do this will be a bit confusing, like everything that is new, but try a few things and see if you can work it out. Most apps also have help tips somewhere, so see if that helps.

- ❖ Sometimes the device or app may want you to enter coordinates in the 'wrong' format. You can usually change the format by pressing on an option right by where you enter coordinates, or looking in the settings menu.

When you have done it right, you hopefully will have something similar to one of the images below.

There will probably be a straight line on your map leading to a marker, as well as a circle showing where you are now - but unless you are in a very large field or in a boat on a lake, a straight line is probably not the best way to get to the

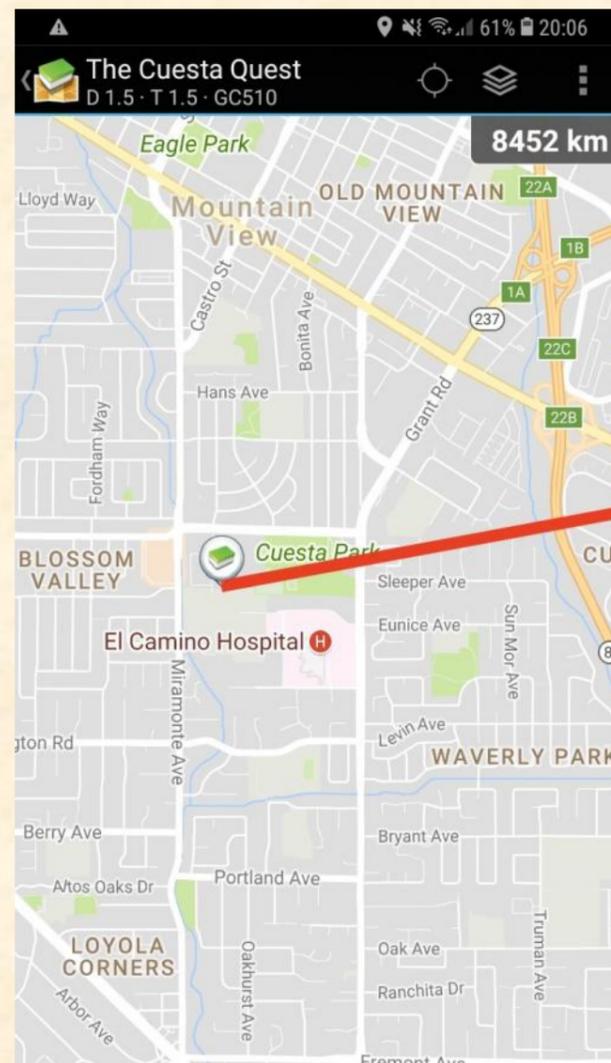


geocache! You need to 'read the map' and see if you can find a path or other way to get there - this is where the fun gets physical!

## Get Walking!

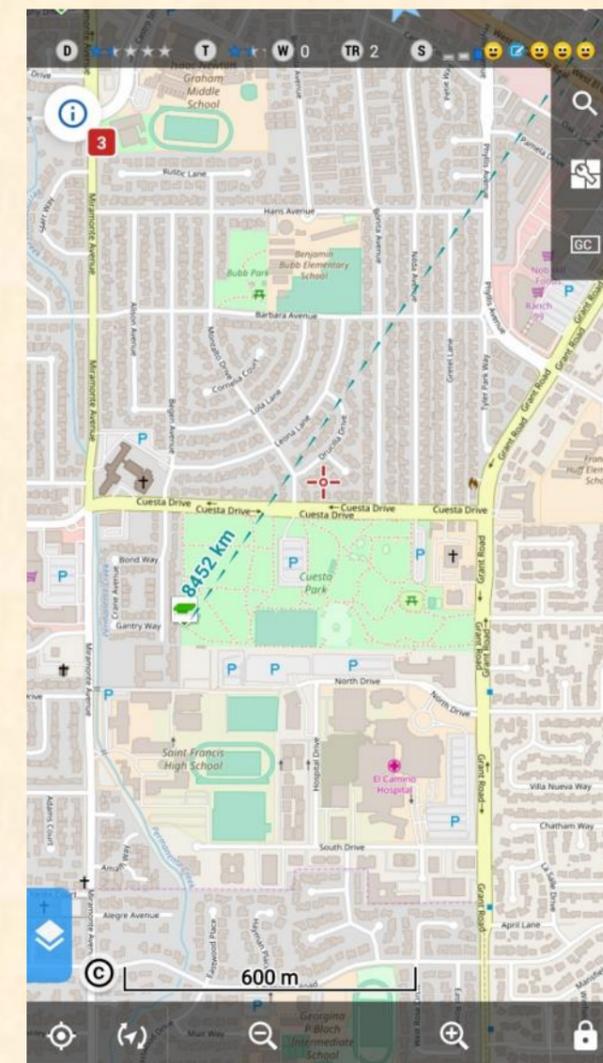
**Safety first** - don't fix your eyes on your map - keep your eyes all around you, and use the map to check where you are. If you are in a group, remember to share the device with everyone - take turns - and be careful not to drop it!

**Look for the most likely path** to the geocache, and get going. As you move, your device will show you moving on the map - usually a blue or green circle,



but if you walk faster you may become an 'arrow', showing you the direction you are going. See if there are any numbers on the screen - which numbers are your own coordinates? Which one is the distance to the geocache? See how these numbers change as you move. Don't forget to look up, though, or you may walk into a tree or lamppost!

**When you get near** - within about five to ten metres of the geocache - you definitely need to start using your eyes. Can you see the geocache? Were you given a hint or clue? Do you know anything about the size of the



geocache? I wonder how long it will take you to spot your first geocache! They can be cleverly camouflaged, look for obvious places such as piles of sticks or stones, or a hollow tree. They are hidden in plain sight and never buried.

**Found it! Well done!** Open it up and see what is inside. You should find a log book - a sheet of paper or a booklet where finders write their geocaching tags (the login ID - not your real name, of course) and the date they found the geocache. You often find other things in the geocache too - which can be either "SWAG" or "trackables".

- ❖ *Swag* is for swapping - if you take something you like, do leave something else just as good for others to find.
- ❖ *Trackables* are special - they move from geocache to geocache and get tracked online. Don't keep trackables - log them on the website and then move them to a new geocache as soon as you can.

Sometimes a geocache will have an ink stamp - never take these, as "Letterboxing" geocachers will use the stamp like a passport, and keep a record of where they have been in their own book.

Leave the geocache exactly as you found it (hidden of course).

**Didn't find it? Never mind** - we can't win them all. Maybe it's very tricky to find - maybe it is disguised in some way - maybe it's in a cave under your feet or at the top of a large tree? Maybe it's gone missing and just isn't there to be found any more. You can log your so-called "DNF" (which stands for "did not find") online and just go looking for another geocache - with over three million out there, not finding one is not a problem!

### Taking a Friend Along

If you introduce someone else to geocaching, allow them to use the device and help them to understand what they are seeing. When you get near to the cache let them share the fun of the hunt - if you spot it first maybe give them hints like "warmer, colder"?

Once you have found a few geocaches, maybe you can create your own geocache or even a trail of mini geocaches (we call that a 'multi-cache'). See if your friends can find your geocaches without your help - maybe put in a 'trackable' that they have to bring back to you? Be sure to double-check your coordinates are right before you give them to your friend.

### Finding Publicly-listed Geocaches

All the apps mentioned earlier can also find publicly-listed geocaches from geocaching.com or other sites, but there is also a simpler app you can use for the public (published) caches listed on the web - the 'geocaching' app (made by Groundspeak) will only find their own public geocaches, but it's easy to use and makes logging your finds online very easy, too. In the free version you can only see easy-to-find geocaches, though that is probably a good thing at first, right?

With public geocaches, take extra care of the geocache that you find. Someone else placed it here, so be extra careful to look after their game and put it back exactly how you found it, in case a badger or some mice find it and decide to play their own games with it!

### Make and Place your own

**Choose a location.** What makes a good location? Somewhere easy to hide a geocache, and where it will stay hidden whatever the season. Also somewhere that the weather or wildlife won't disturb the geocache. Also somewhere that 'normal' people wouldn't worry if they saw people looking for it.

**Ask for permission.** Don't go putting strange boxes in some farmer's field without her say-so, or cows might come and eat it (and hurt themselves!) or people might get worried. Ask the land owner - if you are polite, they are usually friendly back to you!

**Make it water-tight** and weather-proof. Nobody likes a soggy geocache, and the same goes for what you put inside the geocache - nothing dangerous, it should be safe and family friendly. No food that will go icky after a while, please.

**Place it and hide it** - write down the coordinates and double-check them (walk away and back again to check). Be sure you know which 'format' the coordinates are.

**Share the coordinates** - you don't have to publish them online, you can share them on a piece of paper, or in a text message, or however you wish.

**Look after your geocache.** If you lose interest, remember to go collect it or it becomes litter. If it gets damaged, consider replacing it or just collect it and try again somewhere else.

### Publishing your Geocache Publicly

If you do want to list your geocache online, what are the rules? Take a look at the website and follow their rules. I think you should ask your leader (or teacher) for help with this, as your group will likely have your own rules about internet safety that you should follow.

# GAGB's Beginners' Basics

Looking for hidden, secret caches in the countryside can be quite exciting - but keeping things secret can also be hard. There are a lot of different and complicated rules and guidelines but we can simplify these to four basic things to remember.

**Stay safe.** If geocaching takes you somewhere you've never been before, use your eyes and look around for dangers, and keep your friends safe too.

- ❖ Why not list some of the dangers you might face when looking for a geocache? How many of them are likely, and are any what you'd call a 'big' danger? What's the chance of you running into a wild hippopotamus, for example? But how about a wild bull, or a slippery canal path?



- ❖ Your list might include things from nature, like plants or insects, the land around you, or knowing where you are and what you might encounter. What could you do if you encountered these things?



**Obey laws and rules.** If geocaching takes you past places you shouldn't be, remember to go around them, not through them. It might be a longer walk, but that's just good exercise! Obey all posted signs.

**Be nice to others and the land.** Take time to think about other people and the environment. Don't break trees or fences, do not bury, do label your own geocache as 'harmless', and don't alarm other people who don't know what you are doing.



**Look after the game.** Re-hide a geocache the way that you found it. If you take 'swag', put in 'swag' as well, and if you take a 'trackable' then remember to move it on and put it somewhere else - don't keep it.



## Kenny code

Encode and decode the words of the character Kenny from Southpark. It is a simple substitution cipher using the language of Kenny McCormick, and it's a lot of fun to try to say out loud as well!

fpf ppmmmmpffpmpfmm fmpmfpmpp fmpfmpffmp

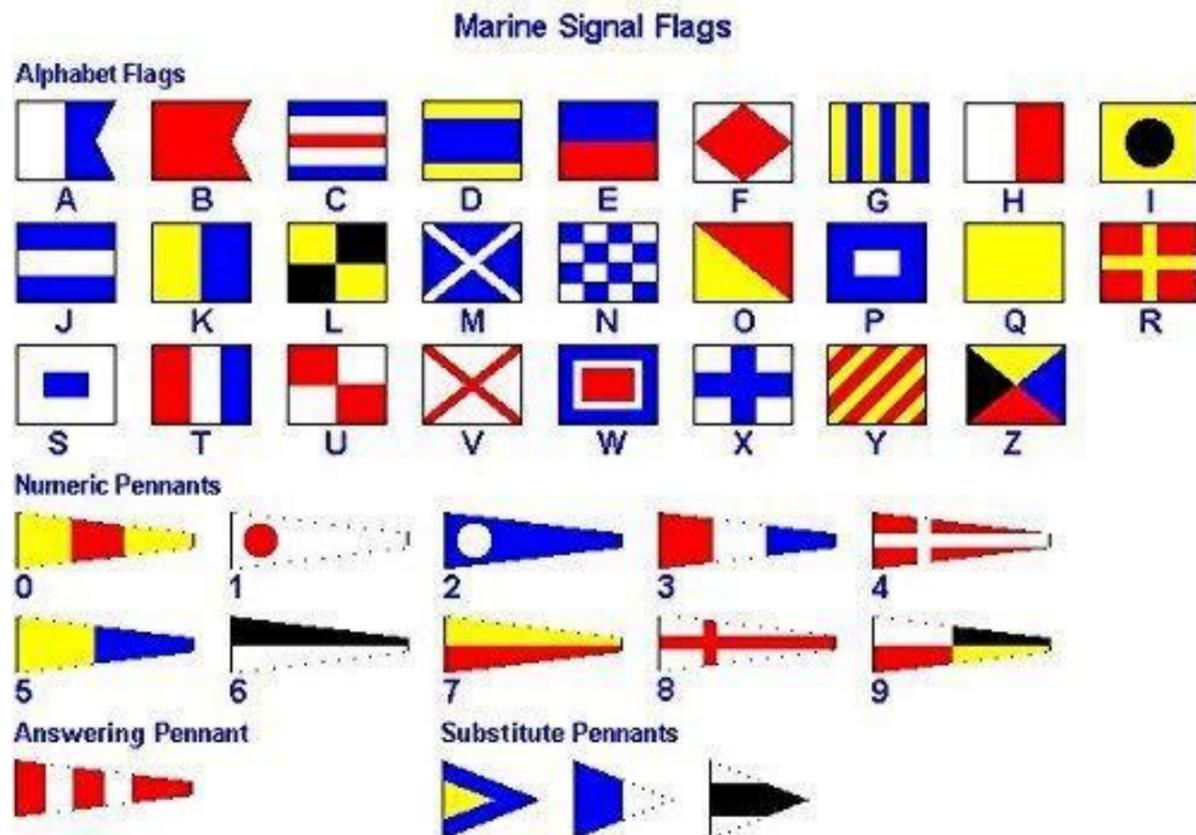
is

x marks the spot

How to spot when it's being used? Just look for lots of m, p and fs in the code and it's a good chance it could be this one.

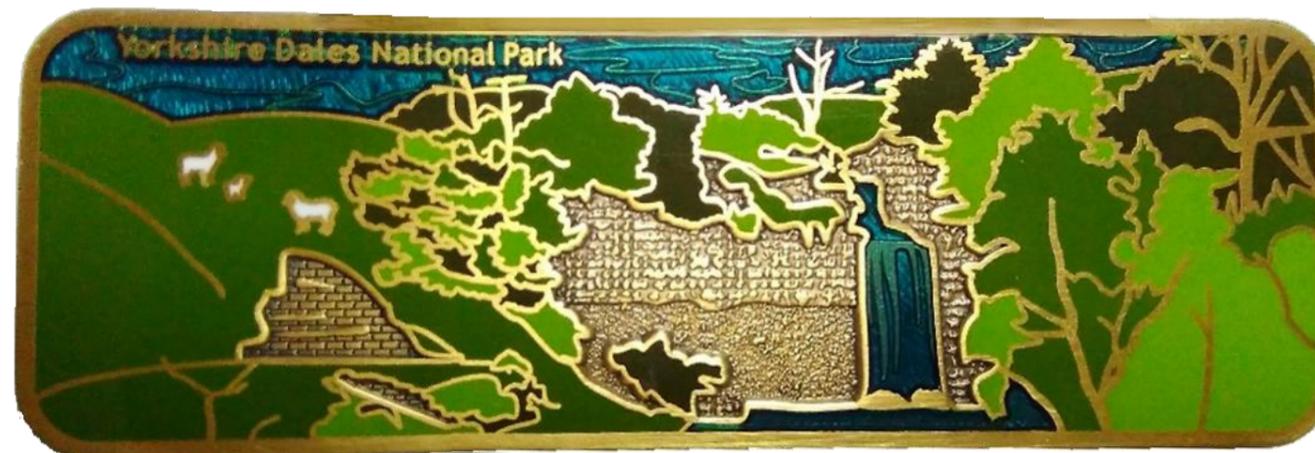
## Signal flags

International maritime signal flags refers to various flags used to communicate with ships. The principal system of flags and associated codes is the International Code of Signals. So you might see a puzzle cache page with a series of flags on. There are some variations of this relating to specific countries and their navies.

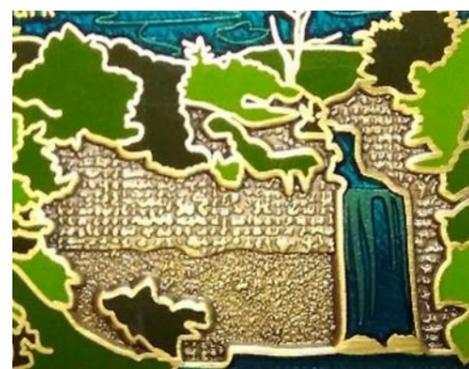


Do you have any ciphers that we haven't covered in our two articles? Met any you don't recognise? Let us know—on social media, via email, or in our forums.

# Ingleton Falls - the Yorkshire GAGB National Park Geocoin



Our geocoin series celebrates the National Parks of Great Britain, and this time we celebrate one of Yorkshire's National Parks with an image inspired by the fabulous **Ingleton Falls**. We love the uppermost of many falls in the series, Thornton Force - a spectacular waterfall at N 54° 10.370' W 002° 28.172' (or if you prefer, [GC1H8A6](#)).



These waterfalls are truly amazing, and Thornton (which we're celebrating) is arguably the best! .

This coin joins three others in our National Parks series, each chosen from parks near to Mega Events to celebrate the area. Next year we're off to

Scotland—so stay tuned for

news on the fabulous 2019 geocoin!

The Yorkshire Dales geocoin is available in antique gold, as well as antique silver. See how the rock changes in different conditions. There are very few silver coins left—look on our online shop to see how many and for purchasing options. You can also pick up some of the prior coins from the other National Parks.



# The Guidelines of the GAGB

Here at GAGB we promote our own detailed guidelines on how to go about geocaching, and we try to keep them useful and relevant to the UK. Here's what we're looking at changing this year. We'd love your thoughts on this and we're open to suggestions from you all through to the end of October.

## What are the guidelines?

The [old guidelines can be viewed here](#) on our website, and the [draft new guidelines are here](#). The debate is on [our forum here](#), and anyone with advice or suggestions, we are listening. You can use any of our social media channels, comment directly in our forums, or email us at [contact@gagb.org.uk](mailto:contact@gagb.org.uk).

## Changing the order

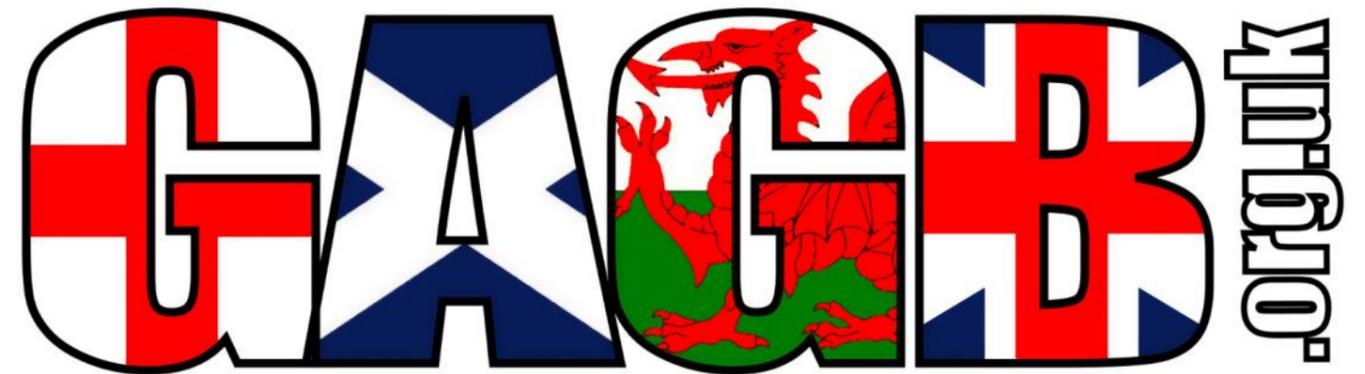
Our old guidelines start off with a list of "What makes a good geocache". We'd prefer to start the list with our advice about locations - the listing sites and special places to be careful of. We've moved the list to be last, like a summary of things to do to be a good geocacher.

## Minor tweaks

We've slightly cleaned up the wording in the 'safety around water' bit, and moved some sections around to keep similar bits together. We've also removed the separate section called "Do not harm the environment", since it is covered in our Advice list (#6).

## Advice List

We've added 3 new items to our list (9,10,11). This is because we find that new geocachers, looking for geocaches, often don't understand or follow these, especially around private land and if confronted by someone in authority (which could be a security guard or land owner, not just a Police Officer!). Have we forgotten some advice you would give to geocachers?



## The Geocaching Association of Great Britain

### Why do we have our own guidelines?

Various sites have their own set of guidelines, and those 'rules' can be quite different. The key difference is that the GAGB's guidelines seek to help geocachers learn what good quality caching is—location, material,

and the behaviour of the finder, too. The GAGB's approach is to give positive advice, specific to GB, not rules for refusing publishing. So, if you don't follow the GAGB guidelines, you may still get a cache published. But follow the GAGB advice and your caching experience will be better.

That's our goal, anyway!



**Bison revenge? No3**

# Notice of Elections to the GAGB Committee

All GAGB members are eligible, and encouraged, to participate (stand, nominate or vote). As long as you are an 'active' member (interacted with us at some point in the last three years) you will receive a ballot to your registered email. Inactive members can request one even after that. More details & rules are on the forum.

There are two elections, first for the Chair and then for the eight Committee Member posts. Each candidate needs to be over 18 and receive two nominations from active members and in the proper GAGB forum to be valid, and the nominee must 'accept' the nomination by the due date.

Where candidates exceed vacancies, we'll have an election.

## Chair Elections (for a two-year term )

Nominations open: start of day Thu Nov 1

Nominations close: end of day Sun Nov 4 (four days)

Acceptance & Manifesto in forum by end of Nov 5

*Q&A runs all day Nov 6 –10 (four days)*

Voting starts: start of day Sun Nov 11,

Voting ends: end of day Weds Nov 14 (four days)

## Committee Elections (8 vacancies, 1-year term )

Nominations open: start of day Thu Nov 15

Nominations close: end of day Sun Nov 18 (four days)

Acceptance & Manifesto in forum by end of day Nov 21

*Q&A runs all day Nov 22-25 (four days)*

Voting starts: start of day Mon Nov 26,

Voting ends: end of day Fri Nov 30 (five days)

SurveyMonkey.com is used to generate the ballot. This streamlines ballot counting and adds a layer of confidentiality between the IRO and those who vote.

**Please make sure your e-mail address on [the GAGB forum](#) is current.**

The IRO will make an announcement in the GAGB forums after the e-mails have gone out so you can check your spam filter, etc., in case you don't receive the link to the ballot. The IRO may also send reminder and announcement emails. Please also visit the GAGB forums to keep up to date with all the election news and follow us on our Facebook Page and Twitter for updates and announcements.

## Secretary Report

**Prepared by Graham Haddock (Secretary)**

### Membership numbers (For Oct 2017-Sep 2018):

- Membership +224 new members
- Total Membership: 2,378 active members.

### Digital Statistics

- ♦ Facebook Followers 1,701
- ♦ Facebook Likes 1,719
- ♦ Facebook group chat 2,180 members
- ♦ Instagram 198 followers
- ♦ Twitter 2,821 Followers 3,121 Tweets

The website had, on average:

- ♦ 8,813 unique visits per month
- ♦ 179,465 page hits per month

At the time of writing, there have been ten committee meetings held in the 2016/17 term of office, all online: Dec, Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Sep and Oct.

This year's meetings have been mostly practical topics (getting rotas organised for events, getting and approving coin designs, and suchlike) with a minority of GAGB matters (Constitution change, Friends, Guidelines).

The committee members with attendance of meetings:

- ♦ Sharon Reid (Sharant) - Chair (10)
- ♦ Graham Haddock (Grahamthegray) (Secretary) (10)
- ♦ Caz Turver (Border Caz) (Treasurer) (10)
- ♦ Ant Reid (Sharant) (10)
- ♦ Dominic Murray (geocaching womble) (10)
- ♦ Arthur Griffiths (Griff Grof) (7)
- ♦ Kim Leonard (Leonards193) (3)
- ♦ Adam Redshaw (ukcachemag) (4) (resigned in April)
- ♦ Paul Standen (Dr Evil) (1) (resigned in January)

Between meetings, we have discussions in the GAGB Committee Forum and any decisions made there are then recorded in the minutes of the next online meeting.

### Contact with the public:

The GAGB have a telephone number & an email address where anyone can contact us. These statistics apply from 1st December 2017 to the time of writing (Sep 30):

- ♦ Telephone enquiries: 13 (down from 17)
- ♦ Email enquiries :100 (up from 95)

Of these, they have been categorised as:

- ♦ Landowner Complaints 18
- ♦ Landowner requests for help: 9
- ♦ New or renewal of agreements: 12
- ♦ Media enquiries: None this year
- ♦ General enquiry: Existing geocacher 4
- ♦ General enquiry: New geocacher 10
- ♦ Public: Found 'stray' geocache 4
- ♦ Public: School / Business enquiry 4
- ♦ Membership: 12
- ♦ Website or Seeker content: 6
- ♦ Shop: 3
- ♦ Events: 6
- ♦ Cache placement or series advice: 7
- ♦ Commercial proposals: 7
- ♦ Time wasters/spam: 14

# GAGB Needs your Help

GAGB is only ever what we make of it – and we can do so much more if we want to – GAGB needs our help – so please take a look through these potential jobs and if you fancy any of them. Please let us know, and please consider standing.

## Committee Roles

There are two main roles on the committee: **Treasurer** and **Secretary**. They have definite job tasks, like keeping the accounts in order and making sure that meetings, decisions, and promised actions are documented (circulating minutes, chasing actions, finding out who is having trouble). Besides these two roles, we currently like to have the following 'fun' jobs – they seem to us to be important, and the 2019 committee can change or evolve them however is wanted:

## Public-Facing Roles

**GLAD Enquiries** – respond to enquiries from our voicemail and email systems from people who have found a cache on their land, and help to resolve the dispute. This is perhaps the most rewarding of our jobs, as by having GAGB deal with the issue, we avoid the landowner involving the police, the newspapers, or taking things into their own hands. It's an important and varied role and you get to talk to all sorts of people.

**General Enquiries** – Our front-line communication with the public, your role would be to listen to voicemails or read and respond to queries that are not land-owners. This could be a cache that had been found by a dog, or a new geocacher confused about what to do, or the media (where we find someone to put them in touch with). For example last year Countryfile, Radio 2, Border TV, and others have asked for contacts and we've put them in touch with geocachers in the right area. It can be an exciting role for a friendly communicator.

**Social Media** – a role for a good communicator, using twitter, facebook, instagram and our website to talk to – interact with – our members on a regular basis.

**Seeker Editor & Publisher** – two roles, firstly the editor, who gathers and cajoles people to write articles for Seeker that our members find useful, interesting, and entertaining, and secondly the publisher, who prefers to work in MS Publisher to get the layout right, manipulate images, and make everything presentable. These could be the same person or different people.

**Friends Coordinator** – a new role in 2018, this is someone who makes best use of the skills, eagerness, and helpfulness of our new scheme—the GAGB *Friends of Geocaching*. This person makes sure Friends' voices are heard on the committee, and involves the Friends in the GAGB campaigns, activities, events, and whatever is useful to geocachers.

## Back-Office Roles

**GLAD Database Manager** – review the database of landowner agreements, spot problems, create digital maps, and document any new agreements or changes that come in. It also involves coordinating with the Groundspeak wiki and reviewers, too – some simple html skills are needed to edit and create the agreements but in the main it's a job for someone who is organised and likes things to be ordered, sorted, and clear.

**Webmaster** – If you know PHP, HTML5, Mailchimp or vBulletin (or are eager to learn), this is the job for you. Someone else can write the actual words, but the webmaster's job is to make sure they display properly, fix any technical issues, and continually tweak the site to make it ever better. Don't worry if you don't know the languages or products - there will be someone who does.

**Shop Manager** – managing stock, sending out orders, and leading the effort to make sure we get new stock on time, this is our key fund-raising role. While no money is involved in managing the shop, it is important to get the orders correct and promptly sent out. It's not a big job, rest assured – with between 3-7 orders a month this won't be sweeping you off your feet!

**New Members Admin** – a shared role that is usually held by several people, this is where we catch spammers and fakes! Both Facebook and the website have new member

requests and responding to them promptly is important. It's a nice & simple daily 'add-on' role to have. **Sponsorship** – We also reach out to external companies to get discounts for our members, freebies to help fund-raising, and sell advertising spots on our website or in Seeker. If you have a good head for talking to big organisations, come join us and help out with that!

## Other things we like to do

**Roving Events** are well-liked, talking to and listening to cachers all over the country is important to us - what do we do, what do we need to do, what do cachers want us to do - there's a role there for a good communicator to chat to cachers and report back to the committee. You can also sell some of our merchandise.

**Fundraising** happens at larger events, and it's good to have a presence there to run our map game, sell some of our merchandise, and explain what we do. We can discuss new ideas and see how well they go down, and support the events themselves with extra publicity and any organisational support they need.

## In Summary

You'll notice that we have more roles than the eight places on the committee! Our Friends and our Chair will pick up tasks that none of the committee can handle. Also, with some jobs we double-up or share roles (e.g. we have two webmasters, two GLAD Managers, and the editor is also handling General Enquiries).

Besides which, we make the GAGB what we want to make it – within the purpose of the association. We'll invent new roles and combine roles however the new committee wants! We have online meetings, usually one per month, and communicate between meetings using the forum and messenger.

If you'd like to help then please get in touch, if you'd like to take on a role please do stand, and if you think this is all the wrong thing to do then also please stand for election and help us to get it right!

# Annual Reports

## Chair's Report

Sharon Reid

This was my third year as GAGB Chair, my fifth on the committee. My main aims this year were around properly engaging with and helping our members. The new "GAGB Friends of Geocaching" programme is a key part of this and I hope it continues to grow and that our Friends find ways to be useful, recognised, and happy with the various roles they offer to take on. Another part of this was to extend our range of shop items, as our stall in the 2017 Devon Mega was a bit bare! While avoiding competing with 'proper' geocaching shops, I think we've managed to extend our online range with unique items such as the GAGB logo clothing, and at events we have a great range of creative, custom-made cache containers incorporating natural materials.

We've continued to reach out to members through events too—we've tried a new type of events this year, with two hugely successful 'Makers Workshops' in the West Midlands—why not come to our third in Nottinghamshire on January 12th? Or why not invite us to your region too?

My thanks go to Adam and Kim, who hosted GAGB roving events, as well as all the committee members, Friends, and members who came and helped us at the various events this year.

Our website has had a lot of 'invisible' overhauls, mainly around software systems, search engine, data compliance, and device independence—we now have a site that works reasonably on most types of device. We upgraded our forum software as well, adding layers of security to future proof things.

The constitution has been revamped—GAGB can now do all sorts of things. There's now little excuse for a future committee to not do a variety of things for our members and for geocachers in general.

A big focus for me this year was reaching out to the Mega event organisers and attendees—I've personally run stalls at the Gnome Games in Cheshire, Piratemanía, and the Yorkshire Mega, and thanks also go to all the people who helped with that—both committee and Friends—as most of our fund raising happens at stalls, and most of the advice and awareness happens when chatting to people at these events.

*It's that time of year again, where the committee report back on what they've done over the past year.*

This year we lost access to someone with the skills to lay out Seeker magazine—all our 'usual' friends became far too busy to help, so I volunteered to become 'publisher' - laying out Seeker, cropping, adjusting, aligning, and generally making the words and images stand out. It'd be great to find someone out there who can share this task.

I enjoyed watching the photo competition progress—what amazing photos we saw! We also learned lots about how to run such competitions, with automatic notifications of entries, how to run a blind photo judging online. It was a fun competition and I'm glad Arthur organised it so well.

I'm impressed with the committee and how they came together after the two resignations. We didn't need to co-opt anyone into the group, and we relied on the Friends and each other to get everything done, although I do wish we had got some Travel Bugs out there. That's a task that remains for the future—make them fun, make a game out of them, and bring some enjoyment as well as helping GAGB.

## Graham Haddock (Secretary)

Well it's been another busy year on the GAGB. The introduction of the GDPR legislation taking a great portion of our time, trying to get our heads around how it affects us and what we needed to change on the website. There have also been changes to our email set-up, monitoring web security and the setting up of new users. This year we have received 134 new user requests. We added a page in the GAGB friends, and a number of other changes across the site.

Taking on the role of secretary as well this year, I have been writing the minutes from the meetings, which often deviate off the agenda. We have successfully used a new online meeting tool which stores the conversation removing the need to copy and paste every few minutes during the meeting to make sure we have a record.

I have been involved in writing a number of articles for Seeker and introduced *The Caches Cartoon*. You might have bumped into me at a number of the events the GAGB have been at this year, Gnome Games, Makers Madness at Yarnfield (where I was sporting a power tool), Piratemanía and the Yorkshire Mega on the day and side events throughout the week.

# Annual Reports — continued

## Caz Turver (Treasurer)

Firstly, I would like to thank everybody who voted for me at last Autumn's elections, enabling me to remain on the committee and continue in my role of Treasurer as well as taking on other tasks, when needed, as the committee shrank from nine members to seven due to resignations.

I have attended a number of events including the GAGB On Tour 8 & 9 in Coventry and Staffordshire, and the two summer Mega events of Piratemanía in Dalby Forest and the Yorkshire 2018 UK Mega at Newby Hall. As usual, these are the events at which we raise most funds from shop sales and our ever popular Map treasure hunt game.

This year, thanks to our shop manager, Kim, we have added a clothing range to the online shop which includes hoodies, fleeces, polo shirts & T shirts. These are produced to order so sadly we cannot sell them at events, but you can see them being modelled by Committee members. Other sizes, colours, items etc are available so if you don't see what you want then please ask.

Our Yorkshire geocoins proved popular, as did the other items that we added to our stall at events, such as the fake grass, sticks and sheep cache containers.

This year we have updated the Constitution and one of the main changes is to bring the accounts in line with the elections – so our next financial year end is 30th September 2018, instead of March 2019. This means that I have to prepare two “end of year” accounts this year! Due to this it is difficult to compare, but I would say that our finances are healthier than they have ever been and, with the changes made to the Constitution which give us more scope, we will be able to get GAGB out there at grass roots level, talking to more cachers than ever before.

## Ant Reid

For 2018, I said my three most useful contributions would be to see Roving Events continue and get even better, to make sure that Seeker was still successful, and that the constitution needed a revamp. Here's how I have delivered on these:

**Roving Events:** Kim and Adam hosted Roving Events in Jan and Feb, but after that these dried up, so I arranged for a geocache-making workshop roving event in July, relying on the other half of Sharant (my ever-practical wife) and other friends to make it a success with me! This was well received by the local geocachers, and we all had lots of fun. I wish there were more roving events, and so I

have arranged for the next one to be outside my own region - reaching out to East Midlands to get help finding a location and then we can head over there and meet new folk as well as old friends - now we're roving!

**Seeker:** No-one else was willing to be Editor, and so I kept my role. I do hope someone else can get involved in 2019 - I love writing, but my design skills (page layout especially) are somewhat lacking, and I think Seeker needs a fresh set of eyes. However, focusing on what I have achieved, I've got us back to 4 editions a year (one per season), I've broadly kept to the publishing dates, and I've filled the pages with interesting and useful articles (I hope!). Without contributors, this would not have happened - but at least I've managed to get the magazine filled and made the words flow.

**Constitution:** I tackled this head on from January to July - I identified areas we needed to change, areas we could change, and areas that just needed a tidy up. I actively consulted with the rest of the committee, with 'Friends' of the Association, and with former committee members too. I also made sure I presented arguments for, and the arguments against, certain changes so we had the widest possible understanding of what we were doing. With 93% approval, I think that's “job done” - and the new constitution does allow us to do

things we need to be doing, so it was worth the effort.

## Other things!

I've helped out at the major events of the year, helping on the stalls and raising funds. I've been a secondary source of social media postings and interactions. I've been the primary responder to emails and voicemails, and I've helped Dominic with GLAD, making some of the edits and talking to some of the organisations where I'd be useful. I also managed the procurement process to get the coins priced, made, and delivered on time - 2018 was the first time we had our NP coins available at the start of the related region's Mega season!

## Dominic Murray

In my first year on the Committee I acted as Geocaching Land Agreement Database (GLAD) Manager. This year I have formally helped increase the GLAD agreement for National Trust land in Kent. I contacted Sunderland Council about a potential agreement however I did not get an answer as they never formally replied back to my request. I also contacted Herefordshire County Council about a potential geocaching agreement. However no response was given to my enquiry. I have responded to a large number of GLAD related emails this year. Additionally I also reviewed and revised the GAGB Geocaching Guidelines in order to

# Annual Reports — continued

bring them up to date.

I also acted as the team leader for the GAGB Friends initiative. In doing this I began a successful trial period for several months during which I asked and encouraged the new GAGB friends to help create a framework and ethos for the new tier of membership. This went well, which leads me onto my next point I worked incredibly hard on the revisions to the GAGB constitution in order to give the GAGB friends usable powers to assist the GAGB within the constitution.

After the formal launch of this at the Yorkshire Mega I'm proud to say the project has so far been an overwhelming success..

In doing so I've increased the effectiveness of the GAGB as an organisation significantly so a much larger percentage of GAGB members now feel heard and supported. I have held regular forums at events to positively engage more members. Also I have reached out to local caching groups to have discussions and regularly engage them on a more regular basis.

I have also worked on the GAGB geocoin group in order to help design and plan the Yorkshire National Park Geocoin. I have interacted as part of the Social media team and given support to geocachers in my local

area as well as nationally.

Behind the scenes I moved our online meetings from an outdated technology to use Discord instead - this has made GAGB committee meetings far more efficient and the minutes are now easier to prepare and verify.

## Arthur Griffiths

I have enjoyed the past year on the committee. Again, I served as social media lead and joint webmaster.

For the first part of the year, I was responsible for overseeing the GAGB Photo Competition. I had devised this idea at the end of the last committee year, developing a theme and guidelines. From December, I heavily promoted this on our social media channels. I was very pleased that we received 57 valid entries. In April, I chaired a meeting in which the committee spent over three hours judging the photos and debating the winners. Congratulations to those who were successful. The standard of entries was extremely high, and the intention is to share every single submitted photo on Instagram over time. Thank you to everyone who took part.

More recently, I have brought several new ideas to the table. These are still in development. First, I proposed a GAGB TB race to link in with the

launch of our new trackable tags. As a committee, we are still discussing finer details, such as the rules and the format, but I look forward to this launching soon. Second, I have suggested that we start a regular news round-up email (a brief snippet of what's going on). This would only be sent to people who opt-in. My thinking behind this is simple – not everyone uses social media, GAGB's key method of communication. Even if you do, it is very easy to miss posts, as indicated by our varying 'post reach'. Details of how to opt-in should be announced soon.

A key aim of mine has been to post more engaging content on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. The survey we ran at the start of the year highlighted that some people are not sure what the GAGB does. I responded by designing and sharing some infographics explaining what we do. More photos have been shared this year, and our new 'Featured Geocache Series' posts have received a positive response. I was also pleased by the response we received to our SWAG and CITO weekends.

As joint-webmaster, I have been working with Graham and Sharon to develop a new homepage. As I write this, it is almost finished, and features some exciting new changes – including a 'GAGB Hub'. Launching this formed part of my manifesto and I am glad that we are almost there.

I was also on the constitution group,

helping to develop and refine it. Overall, there has been a positive energy on the committee this year. Thank you to my fellow committee members, and to everyone who has continued to support the GAGB.

## Kim Leonard

This year, up until Yorkshire Mega, I enjoyed running the online shop for the GAGB, getting feedback from cachers at events regarding which items we should stock (metal water bottles, trackable tags, dog collars and leads for example) not all these items have made it to the shop, but I hope one day to see them there. ID Styles from South Gloucestershire have been established for branded clothing and any other items, a small, friendly efficient business near Bristol. I hope that further committees continue to use them too.

This year, it was a blow to lose Adam Redshaw (UKCachemag) from the committee, his ideas and enthusiasm will be missed.

I have enjoyed representing the GAGB for the last 4 years, I thank those who supported me and voted for me too. Looking forwards, I wish the future committee all the best and look forward to seeing the stall at events.

## Former Committee Members

During the 2017/18 term of office, the following committee members resigned:

**Paul Standen** resigned on Jan 17  
**Adam Redshaw** resigned on April 3

# GAGB Friends

To apply to be a GAGB Friend, please contact [friends@gagb.org.uk](mailto:friends@gagb.org.uk)

*Are you a friendly sort of person? Like to help others out, or get stuff done to make life easier for everyone? In geocaching, maybe you are first with hints & tips, advice, and support? Or you spot something slightly wrong and like to help to get it right - a website that you can help with, or a place that doesn't have geocaches and you can help get permission? Maybe you are technical, and prefer fiddling with GSAK and HTML, or maybe you are more of a people-person, and like to get involved in events?*

If this sounds like you, then the *GAGB Friends* group is aiming to be full of people just like you - folk who want to help make geocaching better, but who don't want to be a full-blown Groundspeak Reviewer, GAGB Executive Member, or Facebook group admin. See if **any, some, or all of these** sound like you, or contact us with your own idea of what you would love to do as a GAGB Friend.

**Local Point of Contact:** you could act as a local point of contact for cachers, not only attending events on behalf of the GAGB but also liaising with cachers at other times and providing feedback to the Committee when needed. 'Eyes and Ears'...

**Specialist Techy:** If you have a special skillset maybe offer to help either GAGB or other geocachers with their websites, databases, HTML code, using apps, launching or running trackable races, or anything like that. It's a rare skill that you have - let's use it to have some fun.

**Eventer:** If your 'thing' is meeting people and making them welcome, why not organise some GAGB Roving Events, or help out at our larger events or stands at the Megas. New cachers in particular love to talk and find out more - can you help?

**Designer:** Do you have a creative skill? Can you draw? Get involved in geocoin or travelbug design? Come up with interesting geocaches? Create artwork for the magazine? Do you know how to use Publisher and lay out pages? Can you write articles or interview notable geocachers for us?

## Talker to Strangers:

GAGB often help non-geocachers, such as organisations that want to do some geocaching, or people who need to be convinced to host geocaches. This could be councils to reassure them about what we do and explain CITO's, or wildlife trusts, charities. If you are an organised sort of person, and have a good record of being trusted and convincing, being involved in GAGB Friends might well help you to achieve more - armed with business cards and leaflets, and backed by us, just think of the places we could get geocaches placed.

## GAGB Friends Guidelines

- ◇ All Friends are most welcome to host Roving Events but do let the national committee know so we can promote the event - and we'll try to have a committee member attend if at all possible. Try to publish these events 12 weeks in advance - we want them to have 'status'.
- ◇ Stay up-to-date on what GAGB is doing generally - so that you can field any questions. We've got a Facebook group and a forum to help with that.
- ◇ Why not attend other events "on behalf of" the GAGB? Take a few leaflets and so on in case people are interested.
- ◇ There is an informal Facebook chat channel in addition to the group, in order to share ideas or get help quickly.
- ◇ You are always welcome to suggest new ways of GAGB being useful, and we are always open to you trying out innovative things, as long as we can all talk it through first. All reasonable ideas and solid plans will be considered by the committee.