




# SEEKER



The Quarterly Magazine of the   
*ISSUE: 56*      *Winter 2025*

# MEET THE COMMITTEE!

	<b>Arthur Griffiths</b> (Griff Grof) Chair		<b>Joshua McCune</b> (LinguiJosh) Secretary
	<b>Caz Turver</b> (border Caz) Treasurer		<b>Paul Bevan</b> (big eddie) Retail, Fundraising and DofE
	<b>Chris Warren</b> (Stoke Bunnies) GLAD and Friends & Reps		<b>Stuart Howe</b> (stuarthowe11) Webmaster
	<b>Joanne Mitchell</b> (joe222s) Social Media		<b>Anna Fergusson</b> (proudlioness) Outreach and Events

**IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT MORE  
ABOUT THE COMMITTEE CLICK HERE!**

## THE GAGB

GAGB started in 2003 to provide a connection between the wider geocaching community and landowners, media and others. We provide a database of landowner agreements, sort issues out with access, sell merchandise and introduce the hobby to newcomers plus lots more...

Find out more by visiting our website [here](#)...



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Cover: "Top of The Wrekin (Virtual Reward 3.0)" ([GC9P8P3](#)) By Anon

# SEEKER NEEDS YOU!

We love receiving our readers articles, adverts and pictures and every one is considered for publication. All submissions should be submitted to [editor@gagb.org.uk](mailto:editor@gagb.org.uk) Or if you have a suggestion for a future issue please email us too...



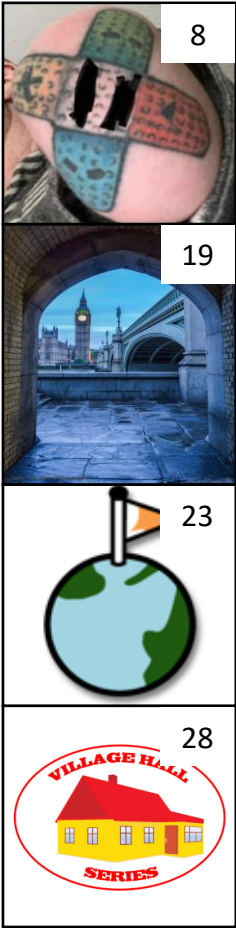
## UPCOMING ISSUES

**Issue 57 – Out May 25** (Content Deadline: 1<sup>st</sup> Apr 25)

**Issue 58 – Out Aug 25** (Content Deadline: 1<sup>st</sup> Jul 25)

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# A WARM WELCOME

*by Arthur Griffiths (Griff Grof), GAGB Chair*

Hello! I hope this issue of Seeker finds you and your family well. Welcome to 2025, which will be a big and exciting year for geocaching, with 25th anniversary celebrations, Block Parties, the return of the GPS Maze at London Calling, and LOTS more.

The GAGB have plenty in the pipeline for 2025. We've welcomed two new committee members, Joshua McCune ('LinguiJosh') and Anna Fergusson ('proudlioness') and you can find out more about them and the rest of the committee over the next couple of pages. Plus if you would like to help us out as a GAGB Regional Rep or Friend, please don't hesitate to get in touch!

Already, we are pleased to confirm the return of SWAG Weekend and two CITO Weeks (in the spring and autumn), as well as our third annual Geocaching Awards, to celebrate the best of British geocaching in 2024. We are busy planning our Autumn Event, which will be held in the East Midlands. Watch this space for more news and updates on events and further announcements as the year progresses!

This is a bumper edition of Seeker, put together by Lewis ('NevilleDog-n\_Humans'), who has kindly offered to continue to serve as Editor, despite having sadly chosen to step down as a full committee member. Hopefully, he will be back to join us at some point in the future...

Read about walking up the Wrekin in the snow, urban caching, exploring the Lake District, geocaching tattoos, the story of the Aylesbury CITOs, the village hall series, an interview with mmmPIZZA, helping with the GAGB Shop and lots more.

We look forward to seeing you all in 2025 and hope that you get involved with us in whichever way you choose...

Happy caching and all the best for 2025!

## **Committee Position:**

Chair



**Name:** Arthur Griffiths

**Caching Name:** Griff Grof

**Terms on the GAGB Committee:** 10  
**Different Positions Held:** 7

**Started Geocaching:** March 2010

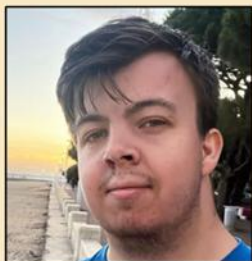
**No. of Finds:** 4,325

**No. of Hides:** 109

**Favourite Type:** Traditional

**Why Geocache?** I Geocache because I love discovering new places and going to places off the normal tourist routes!

**Committee Position:**  
Secretary



**Name:** Joshua McCune  
**Caching Name:** LinguiJosh

**Terms on the GAGB Committee:** 1  
**Different Positions Held:** 1

**Started Geocaching:** July 2015  
**No. of Finds:** 3,704  
**No. of Hides:** 5  
**Favourite Type:** Multi

**Why Geocache?** I Geocache because I love exploring everywhere I can, and always having new stories and adventures!

**Committee Position:**  
Treasurer



**Name:** Caz Turver  
**Caching Name:** Border Caz

**Terms on the GAGB Committee:** 9  
**Different Positions Held:** 1

**Started Geocaching:** December 2007  
**No. of Finds:** 14,514  
**No. of Hides:** 127  
**Favourite Type:** Multis

**Why Geocache?** I geocache because to get me out in the fresh air with friends and to visit interesting places.

**Committee Position:**  
GLAD Officer and Friends & Reps



**Name:** Chris Warren  
**Caching Name:** Stoke Bunnies

**Terms on the GAGB Committee:** 3  
**Different Positions Held:** 3

**Started Geocaching:** May 2009  
**No. of Finds:** 5,041  
**No. of Hides:** 406  
**Favourite Type:** Mystery

**Why Geocache?** I geocache because I like countryside walks and finding good sized geocaches.

**Committee Position:**  
Fundraising and D of E Lead



**Name:** Paul Bevan  
**Caching Name:** big eddie

**Terms on the GAGB Committee:** 3  
**Different Positions Held:** 1

**Started Geocaching:** April 2010  
**No. of Finds:** 18,533  
**No. of Hides:** 157  
**Favourite Type:** Mystery (Challenge)

**Why Geocache?** I geocache because I can escape from the monotony of life & focus on something fun and interesting!



**Committee Position:**  
Social Media Officer



**Name:** Joanne Mitchell  
**Caching Name:** joe222s

**Terms on the GAGB Committee:** 2  
**Different Positions Held:** 1

**Started Geocaching:** December 2018

**No. of Finds:** 5,395

**No. of Hides:** 99

**Favourite Type:** Traditional

**Why Geocache?** I geocache because I love getting outside walking and geocaching gives me a purpose to do the walk.

**Committee Position:**  
Outreach and Events



**Name:** Stuart Howe  
**Caching Name:** stuarthowe11

**Terms on the GAGB Committee:** 2  
**Different Positions Held:** 2

**Started Geocaching:** September 2011

**No. of Finds:** 18,607

**No. of Hides:** 450

**Favourite Type:** Virtual

**Why Geocache?** I geocache because I like getting outside and going for a walk and geocaching gives me a purpose.

**Committee Position:**  
Outreach and Events



**Name:** Anna Fergusson  
**Caching Name:** proudlioness

**Terms on the GAGB Committee:** 1  
**Different Positions Held:** 1

**Started Geocaching:** February 2012

**No. of Finds:** 1,916

**No. of Hides:** 95

**Favourite Type:** Traditional

**Why Geocache?** I have a strong sense of curiosity, like to keep fit and learn and explore new things.

**Committee Position:**  
GAGB Mascot



**Name:** Seeker  
**Caching Name:** Seeker the Squirrel

**Terms on the GAGB Committee:** 2  
**Different Positions Held:** 1

**Started Geocaching:** July 2024

**No. of Finds:** n/a

**No. of Hides:** n/a

**Favourite Type:** Events

**Why Geocache?** I love to meet new and long term geocachers alike whilst spreading awareness of the GAGB.

# UP THE WREKIN IN THE SNOW

## *Walking the Wrekin in the snow...*

The Wrekin is one of Shropshire's most iconic hills and historically hosted a 20 acre Iron Age hill fort once home to the Cornovii Tribe. This ancient stronghold, built around 400BC, crowned the summit of The Wrekin. On a clear day you can see 17 counties from The Wrekin's 407 meter summit, and other hill forts, on the Malvern Hills and in West Wales would have been visible too! Today the hill is well known locally and walked regularly by locals and tourists alike. The walk takes 2.5 hours to complete the 3.8 mile circular walk to reach the summit and get back down. However, our most recent visit to the summit took considerably longer...



View from the top of The Wrekin

We set off from the car park at the foot of The Wrekin after getting ourselves and the dogs kitted out for our very cold and snowy hike. The conditions when setting out were snow and ice but with good visibility but was prepared for this to change. After reaching the half way mark the conditions and visibility quickly changed and we were ready to turn around if we needed too. Living locally we have climbed the hill a few times and knew the route well otherwise we would have probably turned around and tried again a different day. However, today we kept on climbing up and soon reached the summit. At the summit there are two geocaches "Top of The Wrekin (Virtual Reward 3.0)" ([GC9P8P3](#)) and "The Wrekin" ([GCTQ7Z](#)), as well as several in close proximity we managed to take a few pictures (including the one on the front cover) but didn't spend too long before walking back the way we came. Once arriving back at the car we set off home to warm up...



At the top of The Wrekin

# HELPING WITH THE GAGB SHOP

*By Jayne Guppy (Jaynie15), GAGB Rep*

This event has been on the calendar for a year, annual leave booked, accommodation sorted, and goods packed up.

big eddie and I arranged to meet Stoke Bunnies early, firstly for us to successfully find the geocache that was nearby, but also to help set up the village hall.

Once set up was complete, I then had to set my Adventure Lab answers up.

I was given another set by HQ, and decided to donate them to the GAGB (under my name of course). That took 20mins or so and it was fun watching the logs come in later.

Now it was time for me to set the shop stall up. The GAGB shop is available online, or at events with the committee having prior notice. 'big eddie' is the Shop Manager, and I am his 'helper' if you like. He often asks me to look at things to double check it's correct.. like a second pair of eyes.

Anyway, I have a retail background of 25+ years, and can usually see what looks good, what will sell well, and offer advice where necessary.

The first time we ever set up the shop stall, was at London Calling 2023 I believe, and I thoroughly enjoyed it. Since then, we have set up at Caledonian Cachefest in Moffatt, Scotland, and Mini



Jayne Guppy (Jaynie15) with the GAGB Stall



Geocoin Fair in Milton Keynes to name but a few.

'big eddie' is usually in charge of the Geocoin side of things, and I like to look after the other stock.. Bisons, Fake Rocks, Ammo Cans, Pens etc.

You may have seen me/bought from me before, I am usually wearing my green GAGB top, and will always try to make time to chat to everyone.

I am a volunteer for the GAGB stall, and I do not get paid. To be honest with you,

it's very enjoyable, and I enjoy meeting new people, catching up with people I know already, and generally helping out when I can.

I feedback customers ideas to 'big eddie' and 'Griff Groff' (the GAGB chair), and some have come to fruition.

Its also great fun to help other traders where possible, whether that's lending them Sellotape/blu-tac, changing cash, or taking that all important photograph. I like to think we all work alongside each other nicely.



# GAGB SWAG DATES 2025

*Find out more about our SWAG Weekend...*



Our first SWAG Weekend was in December 2014, and we have held one every spring in recent years. You will have four full days to stock geocaches you find with some good quality SWAG (an acronym for Stuff We All Get) and clear out the tat!

This year the SWAG Weekend will be held over Easter Weekend starting on the 18<sup>th</sup> April and running till the 21<sup>st</sup> April inclusive. Over this period, we encourage that when you find a geocache lacking in SWAG you take the opportunity to increase it and give the geocache a new lease of life!

Everyone who gets involved will earn a special profile badge! All you will need to do is prove that you took part by sending us a photo of a geocache you added SWAG to (we'd especially love to see before and after shots!). Photos will be shared on our Social Media channels! [More information can be found here!](#)



A before and after picture of a geocache on a past SWAG Weekend

# GEOCACHING TATTOOS

*Everything can be made trackable even you!*

Geocachers like to make anything and everything trackable and I am sure we have all seen some unique trackables. However, for some geocachers their love for geocaching and trackables has gone to a more permanent and personal level, tattoos!

There are several reasons why a geocacher may decide to brand themselves. Maybe its because they want every geocacher they encounter to remember them or maybe its an artistic way for a geocacher to express their love of the game and everything trackable! Either way at least your trackable will be safe!

Regardless of the theme, tattoos allow individuals to have freedom to decorate their body in various colours in a permanent way. Thus, giving individuals the opportunity to express their creative flair in a unique way.

Over the next couple of pages, we show you some unique designs to hopefully give you the inspiration to get either your first tattoo or your next...

(Also, whilst researching for this article we came across the Travel Bug Tattooed Geocachers Facebook Group which is just for geocachers with tattoos so be sure to check that out! We would also like to give thanks to all those geocachers which helped us with this article.)

## **Go catch (stumpy) (TB4CG6N)**

This tattoo was the most interesting we came across and belongs to geocacher 'Go catch'. On talking with the geocacher it was clear the tattoo and design reflected their sense of humour with the tattoo being on the end of their amputated arm. The design shows two crossed plasters in the geocaching colours and logo symbols and at the centre the trackable code.



Getting the Go catch (stumpy) tattoo



Go catch (stumpy) tattoo



### Go catch (wristy) (TB57QJB)

This tattoo also belongs to 'Go catch'. This design shows the trackable scarab beetle and mountains below, the caption "Not All Who Wonder Are Lost" arcs above and is trackable.



Go catch (wristy) tattoo

### Salz69 (TB6WZF2)

This tattoo belongs to 'salz69'. The design shows the trackable scarab beetle with trackable code below.



Salz69 Tattoo

### Geopathic\* (TB72Z29)

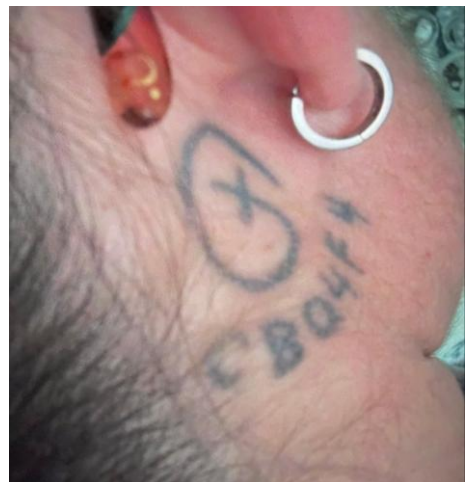
This tattoo belongs to 'Geopathic\*'. The tattoo represents a friendship between geocachers and shows the geocaching logo with code below.



Geopathic\* Tattoo

### Travel Bug Tattoo (TB7DKVX)

This tattoo belongs to geocacher 'lil miz'. The design shows the geocaching logo with trackable code below.



Travel Bug Tattoo

### Flutey! (TB2JJ6B)

This tattoo belongs to 'FluteFace'. The design shows a colourful Signal (the geocaching mascot) with stars and trackable logo.



Flutey! Tattoo

### Teamadventure4 Tattoo 1

This tattoo belongs to the mother in geocaching team 'TeamAdventure4'. The very colourful design is of the geocaching logo and not trackable.



Teamadventure4 Tattoo 1 Tattoo

### hawwtboi69 Tattoo

This tattoo belongs to 'hawwtboi69'. The jet-black design shows a bold geocaching logo and is not trackable.



hawwtboi69 Tattoo

### Teamadventure4 Tattoo 2

This tattoo belongs to the daughter in team 'TeamAdventure4'. The design shows the geocaching logo in the geocaching colours and not trackable.



Teamadventure4 Tattoo 2



# EXPLORING THE LAKE DISTRICT

## *A Whistle Stop Tour of the Lake District...*

The Lake District National Park all Cumbria, Northern England and is the largest National Park in England. The National Park is well known for its picturesque villages, sheep, dramatic landscapes and rich cultural heritage. The Lake District covers 912 square miles, with steep ridges and smooth U-shaped valleys as well as many lakes. The National Park also is home to England's highest mountain Scafell Pike at 978 meters tall and deepest lake Wast Water at 74 meters!



Back in 2024 we spent a week in the Lake District continue reading to find out what we got up too!

On the way up to our campsite we stopped at Lake Windermere for a walk around the town and brief look at the England's biggest lake.

Although we didn't have time to go for them on this visit there are three boat

geocaches including "Windermere Islands 1" ([GC8RVVX](#)) which are located on smaller islands in Lake Windermere.

The first full day in the National Park saw us head to a very rare webcam geocache one of only a handful left in the UK, the "South Lakes Webcam Coniston (Cumbria)" ([GCQ5WB](#)) geocache. The location of the webcam is in Coniston, near to Coniston Water and to log a find a screenshot of yourself on the live webcam feed needs to be included with your log and due to the rarity of this type it is certainly one to tick off!

Later in the day we headed to "LQ:Cumbria - Old Man's Bell" ([GC170HY](#)). This is part of a larger national series of geocaches which are placed in every county of England. In each there are part coordinates to note down and once every feeder geocache is found the final coordinates are then revealed. A very detailed write up of the geocache is available on the geocache page – however, we were unable to see this as it was a very misty day with poor visibility even on this small summit.

The second day of the holiday the weather had improved, so we headed for Scafell Pike the highest point in England. At the summit there are two geocaches a virtual ("Scafell Pike – a cache to peak them all." ([GCG3A7](#))) and an EarthCache ("YOSM #0566 Scafell Pike" ([GCB0BC7](#))). However, as a little



Sheep at the foot of Scafell Pike

warning this was a full day walking and not for the faint hearted! We took our time and stopped for lunch at the summit which allowed us time to complete the two geocaches here.

The third day in the area we had a more relaxed morning and ventured across to the deepest lake in England, Wast Water. Luckily the geocaches are not at the deepest point of the lake but there are a few located around the edge.

The fourth day of our break was another damp day, so we headed to nearby Keswick. Keswick is located to the north of Derwent Water and the major centre for tourism in the area with lots of history and little shops to explore. There are also Adventure Labs and a geocache

at the “Cumberland Pencil Museum” ([GC1QYV7](#)). Keswick is home to the first pencil produced in 1832 with the Cumberland Pencil Company forming in 1916 where they produced pencils for 175 years before moving out of the town to a purpose built factory in 2008. Now the Derwent Pencil Museum starts with a replica graphite mine and then shows the importance of pencils within the area. The museum is entered through a replica graphite mine the original source of the pencil industry. The museum then explains the pencil production process, through the ages.

On the last day we were staying close to Aira Force so went for a little walk to this hidden gem. Aira Force is one of the most famous waterfalls in the Lake

District. The waterfall is around 20 meters in height. A small arched stone bridge spanning the top of the stream just as the beck goes over the falls gives a fantastic view. The “Little Bridges # 1687 Aira Force-Virtual Reward 2.0” ([GC89270](#)) geocache requires a photograph of the stunning view.

Then on the way home we stopped off at “Cathedral Cavern Cache” ([GC2CQB7](#)) is placed at a disused slate quarry which has created a beautiful cavern the size of a Cathedral! It has a spectacular pillar and window out to the sky above and can be reached by a circular walk of

around 3 miles. Although you can venture deeper into the caves we had a long journey ahead - so couldn't explore!

In 2025 we hope to return to the Lake District for more adventures including a new geocache which was placed after our visit at Warnscale Bothy. Bothies have been vital to shepherds in the mountainous areas of the UK since the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the Lake District has these dotted around the landscape. These buildings are now disused and allow a free place to stay overnight for those looking to hike to them. The “Warnscale Bothy - The Room with a



Aira Force Waterfall



View" ([GCAJG8V](#)) is just one of these still in good and usable condition. The Warnscale Bothy is located amongst slate and stone rubble in a stunning location, near the top of Warnscale Head. From the Bothy there are stunning views of Buttermere and Crummock Water and surrounding fells including Fleetwith Pike and High Stile. I'm sure you will agree its something to visit when next in the area!



The view from Warnscale Bothy

Overall, the Lake District has lots to offer, and we will be back!

**KEEP IN TOUCH WITH  
US BY CLICKING ON  
THE SOCIAL MEDIA  
LOGOS HERE!**



# A PASSION FOR THE PLANET!

## *The story of Aylesbury CITO...*

Daniel Meakin (Danbuses) dedication to improving the environment began in early 2020, just before the COVID-19 pandemic. Recognizing the negative impact of litter on the environment and the unsightly effect it has on communities, Dan decided to take action by starting his own litter-picking efforts.

By 2021, his solo efforts had grown into something larger. Dan began organizing group litter-picking events that brought together residents and members of the community. These gatherings were supported by a dedicated Facebook page where events were listed, making it easy for participants to join in and stay connected.

As Dan became more involved in geocaching in 2022, he saw an opportunity to combine his love for caching with his commitment to a cleaner environment. He began hosting Cache In Trash Out® (CITO) events alongside the community litter picks, uniting geocachers and residents for a common cause. These combined events encouraged even more participation, helping both geocachers and non-geocachers contribute to environmental stewardship.

The introduction of a CITO event series was a way to track and celebrate the progress made by the community over time. Participants could follow along as each event brought tangible

improvements to the local area, strengthening their sense of accomplishment and pride in their work.

By late 2023 and into 2024, Dan's efforts ramped up even further. CITO became a weekly occurrence, giving participants regular opportunities to make a difference. For Dan, hosting these events was a productive and fulfilling way to spend his Sundays, while inspiring others to get involved.

If you're looking to give back to the environment, connect with a passionate community, and even boost your CITO stats, why not join Aylesbury CITO? It's a great way to clean up, make an impact, and have fun along the way.



Aylesbury CITO



# GAGB CITO DATES 2025

*Find out more about our CITO Weeks...*



For over ten years, we have encouraged the organisation of CITO events, initially as part of an annual weekend and, since 2019, full CITO Weeks. Now, for the second consecutive year, we are promoting two CITO Weeks in 2025 – one in the spring, and another in the autumn.

This year we are holding two CITO weeks the first running from Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May and the second running from the 25<sup>th</sup> October through to 31<sup>st</sup> October. Over this period we encourage you to be involved with CITO events and give something back to the environment in which we spend so much of our time enjoying our hobby geocaching.

Plus all hosts will earn a special profile badge, and another profile badge will be available for everyone who attends a GAGB CITO. In addition, as both CITO Weeks fall within Geocaching.com's CITO seasons, you may also earn an extra special official Groundspeak souvenir by attending a GAGB CITO! Start thinking about organising your CITO today! Together, we can really make a difference and give something back. [Check out our website for more information!](#)



A picture of a kayaking CITO event held for a previous GAGB CITO Week

# COMPETITION TIME

*A chance to win £15 GAGB store credit...*

**The UK is made up of many islands but how well do you know them?! Below are 20 UK islands can you identify them all...**

1. Where to find undrinkable fresh water, unthreadable needles and unmilkable cows?
2. Favoured by misogynists?
3. We hear West London Octet appears annually on TV with Oxbridge Blues?
4. Morse's Sidekick?
5. Watched over by the Old Man?
6. Where you can act the fool, in Tesco, right?
7. Where to see a Womble produce Christmas wine?
8. Shout out to business directory?
9. A pastry cook in the harbour?
10. Set a beard alight?
11. Overpriced place?
12. Finer island, probably?
13. Well-known chef lives here?
14. Heard it isn't in Liverpool?
15. Fodder and Fish?
16. Sounds like you own a barrier?
17. Offensive headland?
18. Oceanic bronze?
19. Like a stallion, perhaps?
20. Where you might go?



The closing date of the competition is the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2024 with all correct entries received before this date being entered into a random draw. To enter the competition, send an email with your answers, name, geocaching name and postal address to [editor@gagb.org.uk](mailto:editor@gagb.org.uk)

The full list of answers and winner will be announced in the next edition!

# COMPETITION ANSWERS

## *Find out the competition answers from Issue 55*

Congratulations to all those which took part and entered the competition!

There was no winners unfortunately – maybe it was a bit too tough!

To solve the competition inside Seeker Issue 55 you needed to work out the code and email it to the editor. However, to get the code required the previous Puzzle Corners to be solved and the enigma to be decoded.

The answers from Puzzle Corner in Issue 52 provided the plugboard letters through the atomic element codes from the pictures:

- Top Left: Mercury (Hg)
- Top Right: Platinum (Pt)
- Middle Left: Silicon (Si)
- Middle Right: Copper (Cu)
- Bottom Left: Aluminium (Al)
- Bottom Right: Neon (Ne)

The answers from Puzzle Corner in Issue 53 provided left to right the rotor, position and ring through the UK Mega events order i.e. “The UK's First Mega Event” (GC17W59) was 1, “The UK's Second Mega Event” (GC1GFT9) was 2 etc:

- GC53P8F = 8; GC1XDQ0 = 3; GC800TQ = 13
- GC2921G = 4; GC9V5J3 = 16; GC6JZNY = 10
- GC4HBG4 = 7; GC3V2NV = 6; GCAAB24 = 17

The answers from Puzzle Corner in Issue 54 provided the cipher message by using the unused letters within the wordsearch. This gave the letters:

- bhjri mqayo fujlk mjrcf gmaug frwhz hryzf segzi eqppi shsjo aeqok mtnvl mqpbv exued jraxb yjbge kigs

When put into the decoder on Cryptii.com it gave the final decrypted message:

- You have solved all three puzzles and now all that is left to do is send the key mjfdertlps to the editor

This was then emailed through to the editor to enter the competition.

A massive congratulations and well done to all those which managed to either work it out or follow this through!

# URBAN GEOCACHING

*By Joshua McCune (LinguJosh), GAGB Secretary*

When we talk about geocaching, we often do so in a rural sense. “Exploring a forest or climbing up a tree...” or “somewhere behind a pile of logs” will likely come into the conversation – so what about all those geocaches located in urban town and city environments? Sure, you might not be a huge fan of nanos behind road signs or Virtuals amongst tall buildings, but take it from me that urban caching can be a fun, rewarding and exciting experience! I’ve also provided plenty of locations to consider visiting this year for you to try out whilst geocaching.



Bridging the Tay in Perth at “Bridging the Tay - Sandstone style.” ([GCSHZJP](#))

## Tons of Types!

When it comes to seeking a variation in geocache types, then cities are the way forward. Whether you want statues ([GCAATV4](#)), historical buildings ([GCYTMG](#)), bridges ([GC9P5GE](#)), public transport ([GC6DBR8](#)) or even walls ([GC4RFQA](#)), there are thousands of amazingly inspired different geocaches, and when it comes to varying your day out, a city full of Traditional, Multis, Virtuals, Wherigos and EarthCaches is a great way to go! Most cities have a bunch of geocaches for tourists’, which are always rewarding to seek out as part of your urban adventure!

**For more cities with plenty of different geocache types, I recommend Stirling, Portsmouth, Bristol, Truro, Perth, Norwich and Milton Keynes — but every city has at least a few types!**

## Events Everywhere!

On more than one occasion, whilst planning a day out or even on my way to a city for some caching, I’ve discovered an event the very same day. Excellent! An unexpected chance to interact with some geocachers - perhaps for a spot of lunch in a park, or if you’re really lucky, perhaps even a CITO! There have even been times a geocacher has offered me a place for the night to join them on a caching trip the day after! Attending events in a city is a great way to meet local geocachers, split up your day for a short time, and learn about the area’s must-do hides!

**I’ve often found London and Edinburgh particularly excellent for meeting tourists passing through. Aylesbury and Gloucester have regular CITO’s too!**

## Speed, Stealth and Slickness!

Some of the greatest practice in our geocaching skill set develops from necessity, and when it comes to populated places, they can range from the tried-and-tested shoelace trick that we all know and love, to instantly spotting a bison from the other side of a road. Even if we aren't intending to build up our skill set, there's never any harm in adding to it – and urban environments are a great place to do that, particularly in the busy city centres where you will probably blend in more than you think or in situations where acting fast is essential!

**Some great places to practice your stealth and speed skills: Newcastle, Glasgow, Brighton, Bath and London.**

## Accessibility and Adventure!

Something we think about now more than ever is how accessible Geocaching can be, and a well-designed city can



A virtual ("The First King of England (Bath)" ([GCBAB&A](#))) during lunch break from work

offer exactly that! Making for an inclusive experience can only be positive, which urban environments can accommodate for very well! With public transport, more 'quick and easy' finds, a higher likelihood of D1/1.5 geocaches, and great access to regular amenities, caching in a city can be great for a simpler day of caching.

**Glasgow, Belfast, Plymouth, Liverpool and Edinburgh, are all worth checking out for getting around the city easily!**



London Underground Train



## Delightful Distractions!

Picture the scene: it's a lovely sunny day. You're working your way around a 5-stage multi, you hear some music, smell some paella, and you discover you're right at the entrance to a market! Sure, you might be enroute to get your 10<sup>th</sup> geocache in three hours... but this is a perfect chance to have a little stroll for a few moments away from the caching. Maybe you've been so engrossed in your GPS device that you find yourself outside of a free museum. Why not head on in? It might even help you out with a different geocache! (Such situations have happened to me a few times!). It's always nice to take a short break when

something pops up, even for the most constant, adventurous geocachers!

**Cardiff, Birmingham, Winchester, York, Oxford and Cambridge are just some of the many ideal cities for taking in the sights and sounds!**

## Wonderful Wandering - Woohoo!

There are plenty of possibilities when it comes to urban caching, and some of the most creative and exciting geocaches can be found slap bang in the middle of a central plaza, so why not take the chance to explore a few cities this year? You might be surprised!



The view from "Dean Bridge" ([GC76AE](#)), in Dean Village in Edinburgh

# WHERE IS SEEKER?

*Our mascot has been out on a geocaching trip but where too?*

Seeker the GAGB Mascot has been out and about with one of our committee members but where has he been? Send your guesses by email to [editor@gagb.org.uk](mailto:editor@gagb.org.uk)





# NEW LOCATIONLESS GEOCACHE

*Find out about the new Groundspeak Locationless geocache...*

# 25 YEARS OF GEOCACHING

Groundspeak have announced another fun way to celebrate 25 years of geocaching in 2025 with the publication of “Where’s 25? – Locationless Cache” ([GCA2025](#)). The aim of the geocache is to showcase already-existing “25” in the real-world with the reward for finders being a rare Locationless Geocache icon find!

This Locationless geocache is now available to log until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025.

The logging requirements are:

- Include one photo of yourself or a personal item next to an already-existing “25”. (Ideally, the “25” should be something that others may visit if they know the location coordinates).
- The “25” can stand on its own or not. It can be either numeral or spelled out. It can be in any language or ancient numbering systems so get creative!
- In the spirit of the original Locationless Geocaches, you are encouraged to include the coordinates where you found the “25” in your online log.

We look forward to sharing some of the committee “25” logs later in the year...



# CACHER CHATS...

## *With mmmPIZZA a Well Travelled Geocacher*

In this instalment of Cacher Chats we chatted with 'mmmPIZZA' (Alex Buswell) about his geocaching adventures from around the globe.

### **Q1: Firstly, how did you get into your geocaching journey?**

I first discovered Geocaching in March 2012 whilst with the Scouts. We later discovered the official website the same night and the rest is history.

### **Q2: What is it your favourite aspect of geocaching?**

My favourite aspect of geocaching is the fact that it's allowed me to see so many new countries and places that you'd have never of expected to see as a casual tourist. So many different sights and places off the beaten track. It's also allowed me to meet so many great people over the last thirteen years as well both in the UK and whilst travelling.

### **Q3: You mentioned that you have been to lots of new countries but how many countries have you found a geocache in currently?**

As of the end of 2024, I've Geocached in a total of 54 countries (and expect this to continue to grow).

### **Q4: You have been to lots of different countries what are some of the best places you have been too?**

One of the best countries I've found Geocaches in was New Zealand and also Oregon, USA. Both of these locations

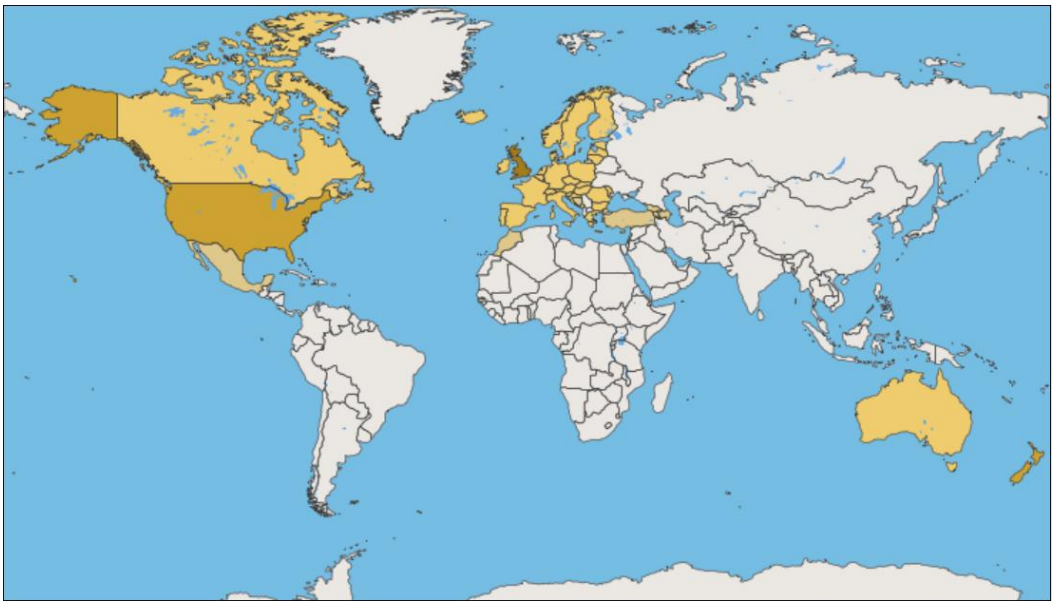


mmmPIZZA next to a geocache memorial plaque

offered views of spectacular mountains and locations whilst in these parts of the world. These include "Geocache (GCD)" ([GCD](#)) which was published in June 2000 and in Kittitas County, Washington, America and "Geocache 7/21/00" ([GC17](#)) which was published in July 2000 in Clackamas County, Oregon, America. With creative geocaches hidden within these areas to encourage more hiking through these regions too.

### **Q5: You have told us of the best places but what about some of the not so good places?**

For me, whilst not bad, it would be places like Bulgaria, Armenia, etc. This is



The countries in yellow show the countries 'mmmPIZZA' has geocached in

mainly due to a small lack of geocaches and also lack of maintenance on these geocaches too. But thankfully, you do usually get one CO in these smaller nations where geocaching isn't as popular who does their best to keep the upkeep of these geocaches going. A prime example is Moldova, where Geocaching has improved over the last year due to a local CO who lives there and plays the game regularly.

**Q6: What is it about geocaching in different countries which you enjoy the most to keep you doing it?**

For me, I'm a stats man and I've also been obsessed with travelling from a young age. So this combined, fuels the ambition to keep travelling to new places. Maybe visit a new county within a country I've already been to, etc. Also hosting events and meeting Geocachers from different countries too is also good to find out about others' adventures.

**Q7: How does geocaching in different countries vary from the UK?**

I'd personally argue that after visiting lots of countries whilst Geocaching, the experience varies based on the CO in that area. You can get a lot of creative geocaches anywhere in the world but it's all down to the CO of a geocache their commitment and maintenance. I've found great geocaches in many places and also not so great ones in the same areas too – just like in the UK!

**Q8: Lastly, you mentioned that you are a "Stats Man" – is there any specific stats you have achieved from travelling so far or hope to complete?**

Although I haven't yet managed to achieve it I have managed to fill in the majority of my finds by hidden month calendar with only 4 gaps left to complete (at time of writing) and I hope to add to this in the coming year! Another personal challenge I have set



myself is to complete my D/T Grid (Difficulty/Terrain Grid) for this first time in 2025!

**Q9: Mega Events in the UK are different to those in Europe and America - what do you prefer and why?**

I found the GIGAs and MEGAs I've attended outside of the UK to be a different to than ones at home. But that is mainly because I'm not a camper and camping at the UK Mega isn't my cup of tea. That said, I've seen committees, for example, the WM22 committee, put together a week long event first hand and I respect the amount of effort put

into making these great events.

Personally, I'm a one day event person. And I've noticed the ones in Europe to be a lot more busier than the UK events. But still equally enjoyable across the board.

**Q10: What plans do you have in 2025 to continue your geocaching adventures?**

For me, in January, I'll be visiting Berlin purely to explore the city and Geocache so that should be fun! Then in February my next new country should hopefully be Albania and followed in March to some new Caribbean nations!



The view from near Geocache (GCD)

# GAGB AWARDS 2025

*Announcement of the GAGB Geocaching Awards 2025...*



The GAGB are proud to announce that we will be hosting the Geocaching Awards again in 2025 with the following categories:

1. Best Physical Geocache
2. Best Non-Physical Geocache
3. Most Promising Newcomer
4. Geocacher of the Year
5. Young Geocacher of the Year
6. Special Recognition

(The categories 1 to 5 will undertake the normal voting process which will be announced in due course and Special Recognition won't be voted on).

Below are some details of the categories we are hosting this year:

## **Best Physical Geocache**

This category includes all physical geocache types published in 2024 and live as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

## **Best Non-Physical Geocache**

This category includes all non-physical geocache types published in 2024 and live as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

## **Most Promising Newcomer**

This award is for all new geocachers, which have started their geocaching journey in 2024.

## **Geocacher of the Year**

This is for the geocacher which goes above and beyond in 2024.

## **Young Geocacher of the Year**

A junior geocacher (under 18 at some point in 2024) who's added something to the hobby.

All results to be announced in September at our annual autumn event (details to follow in due course).

# VILLAGE HALL SERIES

## *National Themed Geocaching Series Part One*



The Village Hall Series is a series of geocaches which are placed at or nearby village halls or community centres.

The series was started by 'GeoJaxx' in February 2013 when the first geocache "Village Hall Series #001 - Denmead Memorial Hall" ([GC466G6](#)) was placed at Denmead, Hampshire. The geocache is a Multi which involves visiting the hall to gather the required information to find the final coordinates for the geocache. At time of writing it has 234 finds and 36 favourite points! Since this first geocache the series has spread and grown to

include geocaches in England, Scotland, Wales, Channel Islands and Isle of Man, with at time of writing 1,692 geocaches!

Statistics for geocaching finds and hides are available on the series website (<https://villagehallseries.wixsite.com/geocaching>) and a recent update is that automatic find count can be added to geocaching profile pages for both finders and hiders. The Village Hall Series is the first to offer these badges for geocache owners. The badges move you through a variety of village hall buildings starting with a mud hut and progressing through other buildings materials including sticks, bricks, glass to precious metals. (The following page shows the available badges for both geocache owners and finders.)

The series also has its own online shop available here which sells geocoins, keyrings and 3D printed containers in the shape of a village hall!



Denmead Village Hall





# VILLAGE HALL SERIES AWARD BADGES

**What is your village hall made from?**

**5 FINDS**



**LEVEL 1 - MUD**

**10 FINDS**



**LEVEL 2 - STRAW**

**25 FINDS**



**LEVEL 3 - STICKS**

**50 FINDS**



**LEVEL 4 - TIN**

**100 FINDS**



**LEVEL 5 - STONE**

**250 FINDS**



**LEVEL 6 - LOGS**

**500 FINDS**



**LEVEL 7 - CONCRETE**

**750 FINDS**



**LEVEL 8 - TIMBER**

**1000 FINDS**



**LEVEL 9 - GLASS**

**1500 FINDS**



**LEVEL 10 - BRICK**

**2000 FINDS**



**LEVEL 11 - JADE**

**2500 FINDS**



**LEVEL 12 - BRONZE**

**3000 FINDS**



**LEVEL 13 - CRYSTAL**

**3500 FINDS**



**LEVEL 14 - AMETHYST**

**4000 FINDS**



**LEVEL 15 - SILVER**



# VILLAGE HALL SERIES CACHE OWNER AWARD

**What is your hall made from?**

**1 PLACED**



**LEVEL 1 - MUD**

**5 PLACED**



**LEVEL 2 - STRAW**

**10 PLACED**



**LEVEL 3 - STICKS**

**20 PLACED**



**LEVEL 4 - TIN**

**30 PLACED**



**LEVEL 5 - STONE**

**40 PLACED**



**LEVEL 6 - LOGS**

**50 PLACED**



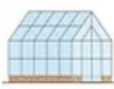
**LEVEL 7 - CONCRETE**

**75 PLACED**



**LEVEL 8 - TIMBER**

**100 PLACED**



**LEVEL 9 - GLASS**

**150 PLACED**



**LEVEL 10 - BRICK**

**200 PLACED**



**LEVEL 11 - JADE**

**250 PLACED**



**LEVEL 12 - BRONZE**

**300 PLACED**



**LEVEL 13 - CRYSTAL**

**350 PLACED**



**LEVEL 14 - AMETHYST**

**400 PLACED**



**LEVEL 15 - SILVER**



## Village Hall Week 2025



**17<sup>th</sup> March – 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025**

Village Hall Week differs from celebration days or weeks in other geocaching series, as it is not the anniversary of the first geocache placed in the series, it is in fact supporting the annual dates of the national celebration of village halls and community buildings, organised by ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) to thank the volunteers who are working at these halls which are the hubs at the heart of so many rural communities.

The Village Hall Series has supported ACRE since the first year of the national event with geocaching challenges, profile badges, and geocaching meetings held at village halls around the countries and with the sale of geocoins and during lockdown with a selfie challenge at village halls.

Village Hall Week started in 2018 and

has continued to grow each year. Now in 2025 it will be the 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that the series has celebrated National Village Hall Week and it is hoped there will be even more events held, geocaches placed and profile badges earned than ever before!

The annual week was originally organised in the month of January which resulted in some chilly outdoor events. It was welcome news when in 2024 when ACRE changed the month to March and this resulted in 59 events and 2 CITO's being hosted around the UK that year. The geocaching events are either inside or outside a hall or as a meeting place for a CITO. But all this success relies on volunteers (continue reading to find out how you can get involved)...

In 2025 the week will take place between the 17<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> March and with

the allocation of community events it is expected there will be many longer 'coffee and cake' type events inside the halls, making use of the facilities provided within the buildings and guaranteeing shelter from the weather conditions.

A good example of an event is "Village Hall Week 2025 - Denmead Tea Party (CCE)" ([GCAXGBX](#)), which is a community celebration event. The event will take place at the same location of the first geocache in the series. The event will be held for a couple of hours on the afternoon of the 23<sup>rd</sup> March and will have stalls for the Severn Mega and the GAGB. We hope to see you there! Plus by attending you can gain your attendee badge!

As in previous years, 2025 will give geocachers the opportunity to earn profile badges by finding or attending a village hall geocache or event and a special badge just for geocache owners to thank them for hosting an event or publishing a geocache during the National Village Hall Week.

If you would like to get involved as a geocache owner please send an email to [villagehallseries@gmail.com](mailto:villagehallseries@gmail.com) for more information. The series website or Facebook pages also offer additional details about the badges and how to get involved.

The GAGB would like to thank GeoJaxx for all her help on putting this article together and the hard work put in to this series for us all to enjoy.

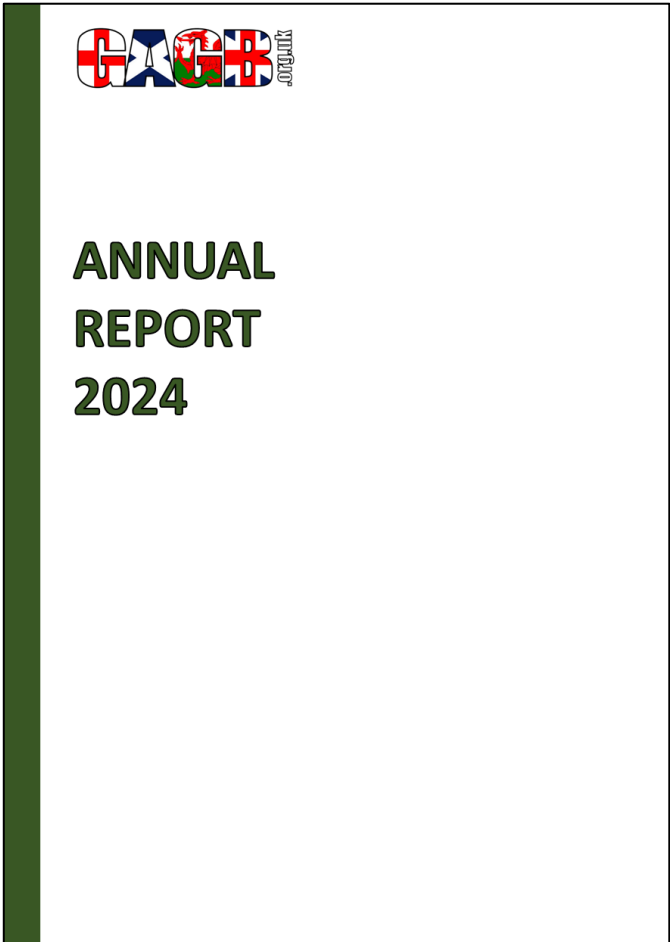
**MISSED AN ISSUE OF  
SEEKER FIND THEM  
ALL ONLINE HERE!**



# UPDATED ANNUAL REPORT

*Find out about the Annual Report 2024...*

The Annual Report 2024 is slightly different to previous years with this being a separate document, traditionally this has been included in the Seeker magazine. However, this year we have decided to produce a separate document. The document will be published on the forum and a [link](#) will be in the monthly newsletter and on the forum. Within the document you will find the individual committee member reviews, secretary report and financial review.



Front cover of the Annual Report 2024

# **LONDON** **CALLING** 2025

**Saturday 3rd May 2025**

**Westminster, London**

**The UK's first Block Party**

# **GCAK7KC**

**Tickets, geocoins and  
supporters packs  
on sale now at**

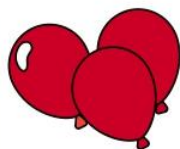
**[www.londoncallingnow.co.uk](http://www.londoncallingnow.co.uk)**



# GREAT BRITISH GEOCACHING PARTY

YOU ARE INVITED TO

CELEBRATE



25 YEARS OF



GEOCACHING

DATE: Saturday 28th June 2025

PLACE: Milton Keynes

INFO: mkgeocaching.co.uk

**Log your Will Attend**

# GCAWA2F

# *Piratemania 17*

## *Sailing west!*

**DARE YOU SAIL WITH US?**

**MAIN MEGA DAY**

**SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2025**

**CACHES GO LIVE AT 10AM**

**TEAM GAMES**

**PIRATE GEO STALLS  
ENTERTAINMENT**

**GO PIRATES DISCO**

**PIRATES BAR & CATERING**

**CAMPING FROM THURSDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2025**

SIGNED IN BLOOD BY



**AARRGGHH!**





# SEVERN UK MEGA 2025

Woodhouse Park Activity Centre  
Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4LX



100 Club  
Supporters Packs  
Race the River Challenge  
Camping & EHU Now Available!



# GAGB MEMBER DISCOUNTS

*Please don't share the codes with non-members!*

		
GAGB Shop	Base of Tree	NE Geocaching
		
All Cached Up	Mountain Warehouse	Cocerone
		
Geocaching Scouts	Outdoor GPS Shop	SideTracked Shop

**CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE  
GAGB MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNTS!**