

SEEKER

The Quarterly Magazine
of the  .org.uk

Issue 58: Autumn 2025

SEEKER NEEDS YOU!

We love receiving our readers' articles, all of which are considered for publication. All submissions, ideas and requests should be submitted to editor@gagb.org.uk.

Any articles used will receive a 10% discount to use in the GAGB shop!

UPCOMING ISSUES

Issue 59 – Out Feb 26 (Content Deadline: 1st December 25)

Issue 60 – Out May 26 (Content Deadline: 1st March 25)

CONTENTS:

- **A Warm Welcome by Chair**
- **Geocaching News and Updates**
- **MEGA Season! (Piratemia, Severn Mega, and more!)**
- **GAGB Outreach: Visiting the Scouts in Gosport**
- **GAGB Annual Autumn Event 2025**
- **GAGB Awards 2025 Winners!**
- **Special Recognition Award: Paul Wilkinson**
- **Competition Answers from Seeker 57**
- **Seeker 58 Competition**
- **Keeping Up with our Friends and Reps**
- **GAGB Roving Event #31: Dowlais, South Wales**
- **Featured Series: Avoncliff to Beathaston**
- **GAGB Committee Reports**



Page 8











Page 21



Page 25

MEET THE COMMITTEE!

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

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

THE GAGB

The 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 access issues out, sell merchandise and introduce the hobby to newcomers plus lots more.

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



This issue of Seeker is edited and published by Joshua McCune (*LinguiJosh*) for the GAGB. No part of this document may be reproduced, distributed or transmitted in any form or method, unless written permission is obtained with the copyright holders. All photographs remain the property of the article owner unless otherwise stated. Care is taken to ensure all content is correct at time of publication but opinions are of individuals only.

A WARM WELCOME

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



I hope this issue of Seeker finds you well!

Autumn is here, with the days rapidly getting shorter and the weather colder and wetter! But it's not all bad - there's less overgrowth, which improves accessibility to some, and more opportunities to go night caching!

Since the release of Issue 57, we have been busy attending and fundraising at various events, including Piratemia, Severn Mega 2025, our Annual Autumn Event, and Cache & Craic in Scotland. We've announced the winners of this year's Geocaching Awards (full results can be found on page 13).

This is the final issue of Seeker from the current committee. It's a good one, packed with some great articles and content. We have pages all about a kayaking series in Bath, different expeditions cachers got up to at Piratemia and the Severn Mega, some of GAGB's recent outreach efforts and our Annual Autumn Event (and of course, the winners of the 2025 GAGB Awards!), as well as two articles from one of our Reps!

The final section is the GAGB's Annual Report, which covers everything we have achieved this year. Our Committee members have taken the care and time to outline and share their experiences from the year, and I would like to thank every member of the Committee for their hard work from the get-go.

Enjoy and happy geocaching!

Geocaching News and Updates

NEW TREASURES!

‘GIFF Gnomes’ and ‘Celebrating GIFF’ were released in September – 2 new sets of Treasures inspired by the ‘Geocaching International Film Festival’ (November 6-16 2025).



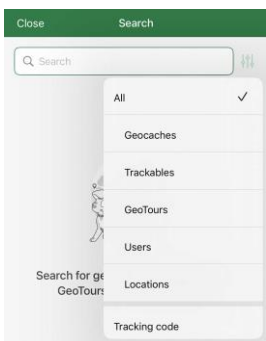
PROJECT-GC: Updating One Site and Saving Another!

‘GeoCheck’ ran into some issues in recent weeks – but not to worry! It’s been saved!



Everyone’s favourite stats haven ‘Project-GC’ has also had “the biggest release in years”! New and more complex filters are just some of the many developments. Take some time to check it all out!

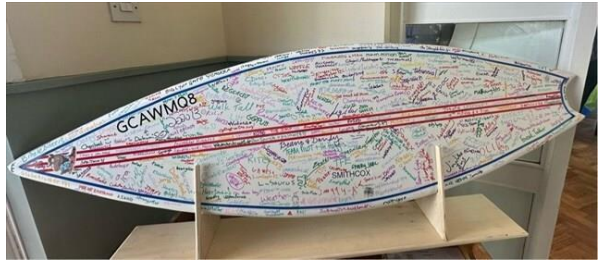
‘Omnisearch’ Function on Apple Devices



iOS users: have you noticed a new way of searching on the official app? This is the ‘omnisearch’ function, an experimental feature where a singular search bar replaces the four individual squares. You can now search for caches and trackables using keywords, GC code or location, other users, and Trackables by both their tracking code *and* the name!

MEGA SEASON!

As is often the case with Geocaching in Great Britain... the summer was a busy one!



Over the next few pages, we will look at the experiences of both of these Megas in depth – from the ‘arr-mazing’ waves made at Piratemania... to the regular trips across the Severn (and, for many, around half of Wales) whilst camping in Gloucestershire!

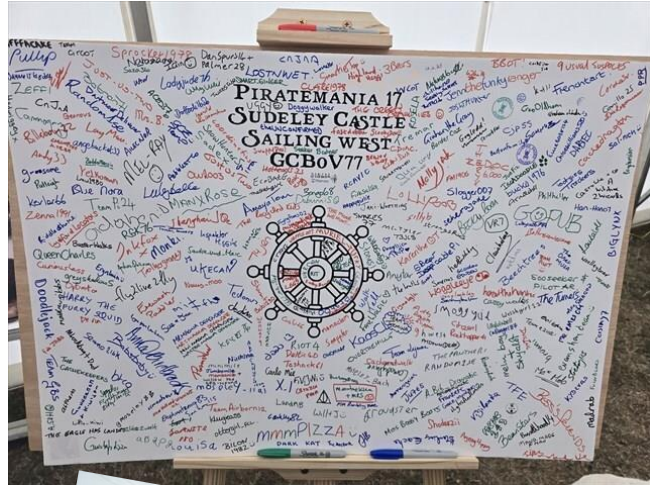
PIRATEMANIA



443

Saturday 26th July at Sudeley Castle

From the Thursday quiz to the Mad Hatters Tea Party, Piratemania was a long weekend full of treasures!



POINTY PIRATES!



“Aaarrrrr! We made our mark so all the other buccaneers be knowin' we was 'ere, looked over the wares fer sale, solved adlabs, then set sail Beneath The Black Flag t' pillage the surroundin' area. After that we headed over the horizon to parley with an old shipmate, afore returnin' fer food an' tales of darin' adventures.

Thank ye fer an enjoyable gatherin'!”

- Mlockbugs_Dad



SEVERN MEGA



Monday 28th July:

Chat and Chill With The Boar

Tuesday 29th July:

Teddy Boars Picnic

Boar's Full House Bingo

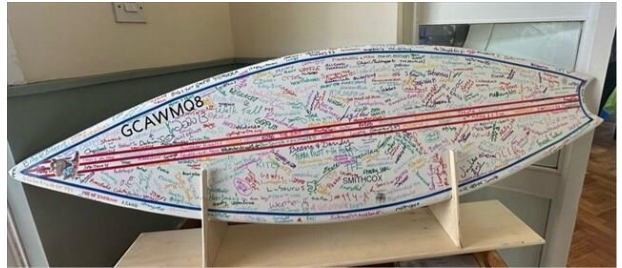


Wednesday 30th July:

Boar Goes to Play in the Bay

A Wave Across the Severn

Boar's Big Brainteasers



Thursday 31st July:

Surfing Flash Mob

Boar Does Recycling CITO

Boogie with the Boar

Friday 1st August:

Sandwiches at Sharpness

Mega Mulching

Fish 'n' Chips by the Firepit



**Over 840
cachers
attended
the Severn
UK Mega!**

Saturday 2nd August:

Treasure Trove Auction Night



Sunday 3rd August:

Boar Says Goodbye; Fox
Says Hello!

GC2BA: The First in Wales

Located near the top of Bloreng, a 561m hill in Monmouthshire, 'The First in Wales' was a must-do cache during the Severn Mega – and a sizeable number of cachers went and did it!



MrPilot_and_theAliG

Hidden: 17th February 2001
630+ Favourite Points
520m altitude
1,450+ Found It logs
Ammo Container!

This beautiful area of the Brecon Beacons is also home to several trads, three earthcaches, Ad Labs (+Bonus) and even a Wherigo!



What a view manxrose had here!

supertrampz



‘County-Grabbing’: An adrenaline-fuelled sprint around South Wales!



For many cachers, the Severn Mega was a perfect opportunity to up their county stats (especially within one day!), with South Wales right on their doorstep!

Project-GC considers there as being 16 counties in South Wales – and a great many of them are very doable within less than a day! You develop a whole set of skills with this type of caching – from tracing specific map borders to identifying useful, efficient routes with ease, and as with all caching: it is a ton of fun! If you’ve tried this speedy form of caching before, or do it regularly, let us know!



Croeso i Gymru!

**SideTracked –
Llanharan: Rhondda
Cynon Taf**



When you’re racing around a whole region, even roadside finds are awesome – such as this Off Yer Trolley in Newport! Caches like this can really help to speed up the process, but are also part of nationwide series!

GAGB Outreach

On 2nd July, Chris Warren (Stoke Bunnies) attended a meeting of the 4th Gosport Scouts at the town's Freedom Church - an opportunity that arose as the Scouts were trying to achieve their Geocaching Badge!

Some mistakenly logged both finds and DNFs on his puzzles without solving them or going to the correct location. The Scout Leaders got in touch to ask for assistance, so Chris went along with a selection of containers, and explained about the different cache types. As the Scouts have to place a cache and get it published, he recommended some examples of good containers -- and of course, a warning against unsuitable containers.



L-R: Scout Leader Vikki Osborn (Skip); Chris Warren; Cub Leader Kelly Haycock (Bagheera)

The Scouts and Cubs were a lively bunch, and while investigating the micro and nano containers he'd brought, started removing the logs... and then struggled to replace them (sound familiar?).

He went through the process of setting their first cache, a Church Micro (Chris had obtained a number from Sadex previous to the meeting). That cache was shortly published afterwards: [Church Micro 15446... Gosport-Freedom \(GCB9E0Q\)](#).

Chris received a nice 'Thank You' card from the Troop at the end, and remembered his Scout salute from erm....quite a few years back!

A parent with his Scout son who wanted to be in the magazine!



GAGB Annual Autumn Event 2025

This year's GAGB Annual Autumn Event, a popular gathering known for its **GAGB Awards Ceremony** took place in Normanton-on-Soar, Nottinghamshire.



GAGB Awards 2025 Winners

Here it is : the official list of the 2025 GAGB Award Winners. Of course, every candidate deserves a worthy applause for their creativity, camaraderie and contributions to the caching community – and thank you to our sponsors for helping make it all happen!

The Project Geocoin Award for Best Physical Cache

M4 Adventure Labs #066 bonus cache (GCAZKBG), a Mystery Cache by The Wombles

The PinPoint Award for Best Non-Physical Cache

Moe's Tavern (GCAKEDN), an EarthCache by MrMagnaDefender

The Jaynie15 Award for Most Promising Newcomer

Clamaty

The Village Hall Series Award for Young Geocacher of the Year

MiniMe from RTM1974

The UK Geocoin Database Award for Geocacher of the Year

ryo62

Special Recognition Award

Paul Wilkinson

poshrule / Church Warden

A very special award – aptly named the **GAGB Special Recognition Award** – was given this year to commemorate the work of Paul Wilkinson, known within the caching community as ‘poshrule’, and under his Reviewer name ‘Church Warden’.



Chris Warren (*Stoke Bunnies*) gave a heartfelt speech, allowing everyone to remember Paul and his contributions to Geocaching. Since beginning in 2009, poshrule was particularly prolific in both finding and hiding, with over 53,500 finds and almost 4,000 hidden caches to his repertoire, he truly had an impact on the community that few could even dream of!



To remember Paul’s immense impact and contributions, we felt it appropriate to reproduce an interview he gave to Seeker Issue 50 in 2023. It’s a wonderfully light-hearted interview, which truly demonstrates Paul’s positive approach – and what makes poshrule truly **poshrule**.

If no-one hid any geocaches, what would happen? I think we all ought to be thankful to poshrule (Paul Wilkinson) for being the leading UK geocache hider with nearly 4000 geocaches hidden at the time of writing.

He was kind enough to agree to this Q&A interview with Chris Warren.

How did you find out about Geocaching?

Through another existing player - a friend - who asked if I fancied a walk to find a geocache.

What was your first find?

First find was a Multi cache on 7th September 2009, Crown Lakes GCRBY3. Probably good to find a multi first as it was a nice walk around the lakes and the tension built to get to the final goal.

What was your first GPSr

A very basic eTrex yellow version with 5 buttons and manual inputting of co-ords.

And what GPSr do you use now?

Garmin Montana 680, which has a nice big screen, and I don't need to put on my glasses to read the information.

Apart from the Montana, what other kit do you take out with you for a day's caching?

Over the years my caching kit has evolved, but currently it is rather simple, Mr Stick, pen, spare pots, spare log sheets and my phone.

Given your number of finds (over 52000 at time of writing), how far do you have to travel now to find a cache?

For a decent haul of caches, about 25 miles.

When you do go out, do you go for finding, or hiding, or both?

It would be either finding or hiding, unless there was a multi or puzzle I would need to identify the final while hiding.

Were you intending to hide that many caches, or did it just happen?

Definitely didn't intend on hiding so many, it became a bit like a drug; once I'd started, difficult to stop, particularly as most locations I have hidden in were a blank canvas, very few other caches and generally a good footpath network or quiet country lanes.

How often do you need to perform maintenance? I know you're happy for others to help

I keep a folder for maintenance as and when they are reported in emails. As I have quite a few hides, I tend to group them into areas so I can tick off when I visit. Would be impossible to go out each time a cache is reported, missing caches are prioritised over damp logs. The help from the caching community is greatly appreciated. I now live in Downham Market, a glance at the Geocaching map will see loads of series in the area. Over time caches in other areas will go as it's tricky to maintain although the caching community are a great help. I try and keep on top of Poshrule's Peloton near Peterborough as it's a well visited series and ideal for bike.

Any estimates of what 4000+ caches have cost you over the course of time?

Absolutely no idea!

What kind of caches do you like to find?

Over time, my likes have changed. I went through a stage of caching at least 4 times if not more a week with the emphasis on finding as many as possible on each trip (number hunting) with trips abroad on power trails. Now I prefer to cache with a

group and it's more about the fun and chat than numbers. I don't really have a favourite: on a nice sunny day on the e-bike or a walk, all types are enjoyable. Fortunately, my partner in crime, Janechick, enjoys puzzle solving so that takes any stress out of solving. I do enjoy Lab caching where you can combine finds with interesting locations, and perhaps coffee and cake on the way round.

I'm been struggling to get out since late November, as I've had some mobility issues with sciatica, almost house-bound, but I hope to be out again finding and hiding during early 2023.

Any caches you're *not* keen on?

Not keen on long winded multis, high terrain caches, or caching in the rain or cold.

How did you get your caching name? Having met you a few times, I know where it comes from, so how long have you been a Peterborough United FC fan?

I started watching Peterborough United (the posh) when work took me to a retail unit (Bejam), which was located next to the ground. I'm really a West Ham supporter but do follow Peterborough closely.

Competition Answers from Issue 57

In the Summer issue, we looked at the Mega season, both here and around the world! Thank you and great effort to anyone who sent in their answers! Here they are...

Maybe The Clash wrote about this regular Event back in 1979? – London, UK
Arguably Europe's prime Geocaching spot... especially icon hunting across Charles Bridge! – Prague, Czech Republic

The Event is not in this river, which sounds like a number! – Severn, UK
Friedman and John Maynard are the two economists whose names create this New Town! – Milton Keynes, UK

Where Arthur likes to sit in Scotland – Edinburgh, UK
Eureka! A time for the Buddies to kayak in this Roman city -- rubber ducks not included! – Bath, UK

So long, farewell, auf wiedersehen, goodbye... after visiting this beautiful Austrian town! – Salzburg, Austria

You might get 'More than a feeling' playing GAMES backwards in this US state! – Massachusetts, USA

This is a Wild, Wild area of the Netherlands... according to the Event's name! – Westland, Netherlands

Home to Monopoly (the original one), and home to the Metrogathering Block Party! - New Jersey, USA

This city in Moselle saw a rather 'growly' celebration take place! – Metz, France
Choo choo! Let's take the train to this Dutch city, home of the National Narrow Gauge Museum! – Valkenburg, Netherlands

A Mega Event in a not-so-Mega country (but its Duchy is Grand!) - Luxembourg
You can 'dance on the volcanoes' in this German brewing town. It could also be a place where men dig! – Mendig, Germany

Spend the afternoon and evening at a 'Science fiction' event in this Czech city - cold? No! – Brno, Czech Republic

GIFF meets a CITO, where you can roam around, past a Colosseum and down some steps. – Rome, Italy

You have to travel quite far upp Sweden to go to the Block Party in this city, just above Stockholm. – Uppsala, Sweden

In this scenic Finnish city, try not to 'tamper' with too many trackables! – Tampere, Finland

You might have been thinking of visiting Australia, but despite its name, this city is actually in Brevard County, Florida! – Melbourne, USA

Visit this US state capital, and you might meet Barack Obama or hear some music by Israel Kamakiwo'ole... or just attend CacheFest Hawaii. – Honolulu, USA

Congratulations to our winner DB3010!

Seeker Issue 58 Competition

If there's one thing that we do fantastically at in these lands, it's looking after, conserving and protecting our natural beauty! So here are some anagrams of locations that have been labelled as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, National Scenic Areas, or other such equivalents.

Remember: All entrants have the possibility of winning a £20 GAGB store credit! To send us your answers, please contact gagbeditor@gmail.com.

Lends Hat

EU Poles Warning

A Church Bistro Here

A Rodent Blows Off

Foils Weight

Cold Swots

Easy Glen

Ban Thunderstorm Cola

His Automatic Rush

Ride Landed

Hid Len's Limp

Bye To Flukes

Ace Scouts Away

Hip Shrill Horses

Shows Next Wonders

Cornea Branches

Enormous Aunt Min

Cardiac Tangos

Vary Tea Mall

A Dry Knot

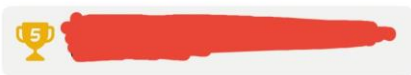
Keeping up with our Friends and Reps: Hospice Fundraising and Halloween Night Caching!

GAGB Friends and Reps are paramount to the GAGB, and we appreciate anything and everything that they do. Whether it's alerting us to potential issues, hosting Events and spreading the word about who we are and what we do... or even just being part of the Association, we always love to hear from our Friends and Reps (*and of course, everyone else!*) about their Geocaching adventures!

Haley Rolph (from *TheRolphsUK*) got in touch to tell us all about her caching adventures!

Trek 84 done 🏆🏆🏆

Distance	Time	Elev Gain	Achievements
87.56 mi	28h 33m	2,009 ft	🏆 1



Page 20:
**'Trek84' –
Camping
and Caching
for Charity!**

Page 21:
**'Deep Dark
Delirium' –
Halloween
Happenings!**



I work at Center Parcs at Elveden Forest, and there was an organised event for 21 members of staff from various departments to embark on a journey: walking 84 miles over 4 days and 3 nights (camping in tents at night)!

Why, you might ask?

Well, this was to raise much needed money for East Anglia's Children's Hospice. They support children and families who are going through the toughest times of their lives. We walked roughly 22 miles per day and some days extra to get to our planned camping site. We walked in extreme heat - some days were 31°!! Add to that severe blisters, sunburn, rough nights with wind, rain and heat... and it became even harder, but we had a great support team of Center Parcs' medics and support crew keeping us hydrated and fixing blisters along the route where needed.

To date, we raised almost £12,000 and donations continue to come in which is amazing and will help the children and their families



We did it! We crossed the finish line, hobbling and limping but we did it and the emotions at the end showed exactly how proud we were of ourselves and each other, tears where shed!

AND, along the route I managed to even grab a few caches and recruit muggles who are now Geocachers - how I did this was funny! I darted into a bush to grab a very close cache and the other 3 on my team turned their backs.

I re-emerged with a small cache and giggled when I saw the team with their backs turned; they thought I was going for a emergency toilet stop! I then had to explain to them what I was doing and why and they were super interested and keen to learn about this hobby. There were then 2 more new cachers who signed up along the way to the next checkpoint! Perfect!

Every blister, every aching muscle was worth it, knowing it will help the children and families!

Deep Dark Delirium – Night Caching for Halloween!



We found that there are a lack of Night caches in the local area so we decided to go ahead and set a few different type of night geocaches: some Horror-themed and some just a stroll through the forest into the darkness, but they all take you into some very interesting areas!

Every spooky season we hold a special event at our most popular Night cache: Deep Dark Delirium ([GC9GZBJ](#)) where we set out some extra spooks, animatronics which are light, sound or movement activated (where some scream, some move and some cry a fearful cry!), a grave scene which has lightning effects and thunder sounds... and much, much more, all of which are handbuilt by ourselves for the joy of our visitors.

We welcome the cachers who've finished the series with a free hot chocolate at the end of their experience and we get to hear their stories from their journey! This year we had over 20 people brave Delirium and it was a joy to meet each and every one of them and every year we will continue to ramp it up while people continue to visit us.

Night caching is brilliant, it's extremely hard work to set up, and took us many many hours to set out this 3 mile trail which has 8 choose your own way turns! We are currently looking into possibly setting another new nightcache in due course so keep your eyes peeled if you are a fan of them!

The GAGB always loves to hear about your adventures – so feel free to [get in touch!](#)

GAGB Roving Event #31 – Dowlais, South Wales (GCBCBPN)



The GAGB Roving Event #31 Dowlais was held at the Railway Café, at the Community Centre in Dowlais, Merthry Tydfil, and was moderately attended.

Patleigh (Patrick and Kayleigh) were a big help in setting this event up. The manager of the centre, Dean, was very helpful, and served tea and cake. Lots of geochat, and attempting to discover the many trackables owned by Patleigh! The GAGB microshop also did well from the attendees.



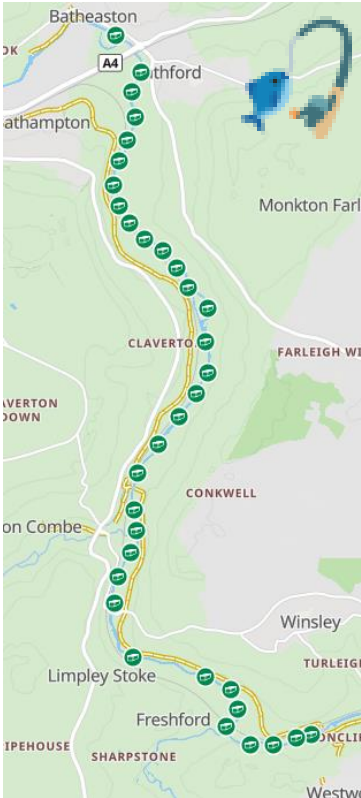
*(L to R– Moley13, ParrySE,
both of Patleigh, and
4Princesses)*

**15th November: GAGB
Roving Event #32 –
Brightside, Haldon
Hill (GCBD6YW)**

***To be featured in the
next Seeker!***



Featured Series: Avoncliff to Batheaston (#1: GCB88XX)



- ✓ **34 geocaches**
- ✓ **A range of D/T ratings**
- ✓ **Favourite Points galore!**
- ✓ **Accessible by kayak**
- ✓ **Some tree climbing**
- ✓ **Endless geocaching excitement!**



"Bathtime Buddies were on home territory today but were joined by one or two friends.

After possibly the most in-depth, multi-site, gear-assisted, river-based tree-fishing debate I've ever attended.

Once fortified with bacon and caffeine we launched into phase two: the moving symposium.

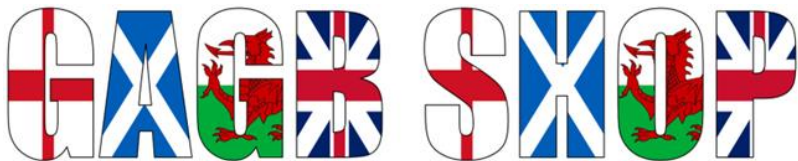
The route was thoughtfully punctuated with natural breaks, scenic overthinking, and at least two moments of unexpected swimming — all in the name of scientific assessment, of course.

Special commendation to the TOTT-sharing initiative. Never has a communal pole been waved around so democratically. We encountered 2 swimming cows, one swimming Orange One and a hell of a lot of numpties at Warleigh Weir!

Thanks to the higster (and Mrs higster) for such a deep dive into the future of caching in the area. I came for the 'chat', stayed for the paddle, and left with damp socks and 34 new ideas. Would attend another academic water-based symposium!"

- *The Orange Ones*

Along the River Avon, just east of Bath, this is the popular 'Avoncliff to Batheaston' series – 34 Traditional caches accessible by kayak with various stops along the way.



Available here...



**NEW
GEOCOINS
NOW
AVAILABLE!**



Clothing	Containers	Labels	Trackables	Miscellaneous
				



GAGB Committee Reports

Here at the GAGB, we all work hard behind the scenes to promote, recognise and celebrate Geocaching across Great Britain. Whether it's answering enquiries from landowners and the general public as part of the *GLAD* work, holding *Roving* Events up and down the country and communicating with our valuable *Friends and Reps*, investing in stock for retail, running our social media and website, and of course, creating this magazine, we all take great pride in our individual roles!

As part of that, and to inform you about what's happened throughout the year, we ask our Committee members to write reports outlining their work, achievements, and their overall thoughts and feelings about what they've brought to the Association throughout the year. On the next few pages, you'll find our individual written reports with a full, expanded and more official document also to be made available soon.



Chair

Arthur Griffiths



This was my tenth year on the GAGB committee. As Chair, I organised and chaired 10 meetings and oversaw all committee members, ensuring consistently smooth and effective operations, supporting everyone with their roles: reviewing material, providing input, and offering assistance when required.

I also took on certain tasks personally, including leading on the GAGB Geocaching Awards, from the initial updating of the categories list, to the nomination and voting forms several months later. Thank you to all who nominated and voted, and congratulations to all the winners.

I assisted with keeping the website's news articles and members' page up to date, and moderated and approved new member requests.

I attended London Calling, Piratemanía 18, and our Annual Autumn Event, at which I manned the stall and represented the GAGB.

Overall, it has been a successful and positive year, and I would like to thank every member of the committee once again for their efforts – we have continued to work well together as a team, with everyone fulfilling their commitments to a high standard.

I have thoroughly enjoyed this two-year term as Chair. During this period, we hit a record high in the number of active GAGB members, saw two year-on-year increases in member registrations, held more GAGB events, including our now annual Autumn Event with its associated Geocaching Awards, grew the GAGB Shop, and enjoyed successful fundraising (allowing us to sponsor three Megs), plus much more. My personal highlight has been the creation and introduction of our mascot, Seeker the Squirrel.

Following three years as Chair (2020-2021 & 2023-2025) and ten as a member of the committee (having first been elected in November 2015), I have made the sad decision to stand down at the end of this term. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time on the committee, and it has been an honour and a privilege to have been part of the team for so long. The new Chair and committee will have my full support – I can't wait to see where the GAGB goes next.

Treasurer

Caz Turver



Gosh, it's hard to believe I have been the GAGB Treasurer for 9 years now, doesn't time fly! So, what have I been up to over the last 12 months?

Of course, as Treasurer I am responsible for controlling and recording details of all of GAGB's financial transactions. This involves keeping the accounts up to date, reporting the state of the finances at the monthly meetings, ensuring all bills are paid and all remittances received in a timely fashion.

As 30th September is the end of our financial year, I am currently working on producing the final year end accounts, which has to be achieved and signed off before the end of October. By the time of the next edition of Seeker, I will have been able to produce the annual Treasurer's report for your perusal, as in previous years.

I attended all of our online Committee meetings save two, where I was unable to join in because, in the first instance, I was away from home and the signal on my phone was too weak and in the second because my home internet connection completely failed and it took EE a couple of days to sort it out. Isn't technology wonderful – when it's working!

In addition to my duties as Treasurer, I have been supportive to other Committee members in their roles and have been in attendance at a number of larger events including Piratemanía, the Severn UK Mega, and of course our annual Awards event, as well as smaller ones closer to home.

Secretary and Seeker Editor

Joshua McCune



Having returned to the UK from abroad last year, it was a delightful surprise to be suggested as a candidate for the 2024/25 Secretary following Lewis Grant's decision to step down from the role. After a short discussion, I soon had the confirmation and instantly endeavoured to settle into the role. It wasn't long before I had completed a handover, developed a consistent monthly Minutes template, got to grips with the forum, and instigated my secretarial duties!

In March, I was unanimously elected to the role of Seeker Editor, which I'd always thoroughly enjoyed reading prior to joining the Committee, so to take some leadership on its process and direction, and the chance to implement my own flair (whilst aiming to keep the consistency and success of the various Editors who'd come before me!) was quite the honour! As with any sizeable and challenging project (and the magazine certainly is one!), a good chunk of work thus far has been about perfecting the balance of 'having as much variety and scope of Great Britain as possible' and 'inviting contributions up and down the country without putting too many of my own ideas into it!'. From the feedback I've been receiving, it seems that balance has worked out very nicely!

Separately from these roles, I have been fortunate to attend and represent the GAGB at the Village Hall Week event in Denmead, every UK Mega and Block Party (except Piratemanía)... and 30 or so other random events besides! It's been a busy year! (An immense personal thank you goes especially to Chris (*Stoke Bunnies*) for having regularly stepped in as my chauffeur up and down the country!)

Thank you of course to the rest of the Committee too, and to everyone who has interacted with GAGB throughout the year – whether it's engaging with customers at the shop, emailing people about Seeker contributions, or just generally enjoying the camaraderie of caching, it's been a very welcoming and enjoyable year on the Committee!

GLAD and Friends and Reps

Chris Warren



GLAD

A year which, unfortunately, due to a large increase in Landowner complaints and queries, was a year of reactive action, rather than any pro-active action. I assisted farmers in Leicestershire, Gloucestershire and North Wales, the Sussex Police Rural Crime Unit, a householder in Devon, and a Scout Leader and Activity Centre Manager after the Severn Mega. Many of these issues were resolved with the assistance of the UK Reviewing Team, to whom the GAGB are very grateful.

GLAD also involved assisting geocachers with permission issues, from Leeds City Council, Dowlais (South Wales), Badminton (Gloucestershire), Runcorn (Cheshire), North Devon while replacing Kevhams' caches, Kilberry (Argyll), Milton Keynes, the Woodland Trust, and South Staffordshire.

By far, most GLAD work and time was with Forestry England South District, who also manage the New Forest National Park. For over 10 years, the GAGB have been assisting FE South by fielding all enquiries about cache placement, checking locations, passing details to them for their wider properties, and managing geocaching in the New Forest on the authority's behalf. This agreement was renewable annually by a simple exchange of emails. In 2024, FE South produced a new permissions application form, and attempted to charge the GAGB £79 per annum to enable geocachers to place containers on all FE South property. This was the start of some protracted discussions about FE South's understanding of Geocaching and ended with the FE South Ecologist demanding that 34 current geocaches must be either 'moved or removed'. The GAGB complied, and a few of the COs involved asked the GAGB where they could move their containers to, which the GAGB passed on to FE South. Their reply was that they didn't know and didn't have the time to work it out. Faced with an 8-12 week reply time for a simple email query, which could easily have been negative, the GAGB have stopped the support we gave FE South, and they are now the recipients of all requests for placing geocaches, both in the New Forest and their wider beat properties.

Retail and Fundraising

Paul Bevan



Firstly I would like to do a few ‘thank you’ remarks to some individuals, **Jaynie15** and **DJMitch25**. Although they are not on the committee, they may as well be. The amount of support they have given us, manning the shop at events, and supporting the shop in the background has been brilliant. Another big thank you goes to our own Joe222s. She has been beavering away making certain shop items throughout the year at home.

Secondly, I would like to say a big thank you, to all the event organisers (small local events up to the mega committees) that have allowed the GAGB shop to attend the events and sell our products.

Lastly to all of you, our GAGB members and customers without you, we as an organization could not function. We have very few overheads, but overheads we do have. All of the money that we raise via the shop (excluding the overheads) does get put back into the Geocaching community.

This year we have seen various new merchandise being launched, such as our ‘Seeker the squirrel’ fridge magnets, and our version of a sneaky cache (a cover plate). We have had cachers recently asking if we sold nanos or camo bags. At the time we did not, but we have listened.

We started selling nanos at Great British Geocaching Party, and the camo bags at the GAGB annual awards. We have also launched our own Boar coin. We still have a few left, if you are looking to complete your collection. We have also released the new National Park geocoin, Pembroke coast. For those who like to play our map game when it is taken to events, has anyone noticed, that the pins are all arranged in an event inspired design? This is all down to Jaynie15.

It has been joked throughout this last committee year, that Jaynie15 is in fact, the shop manager and I... am her lackey.

Social Media

Joanne Mitchell



I joined the Geocaching Association of Great Britain (GAGB) committee in late 2023, having become a member earlier that year. My initial involvement began by volunteering to help at the GAGB stand during London Calling, where I met several committee members and was inspired by their dedication. When I was later invited to join the committee, I was delighted to accept.

Now in my second year on the committee, I've continued to play an active role — helping out at a wide range of events, including Piratemia, the UK Megs, and other community gatherings. I've also been responsible for running the GAGB's social media channels over the past two years, working to keep our community engaged and informed while raising awareness of the association's activities.

My geocaching journey began through a friend, and since then I've been a little obsessed by the hobby. With around 8,500 finds and 100 hidden caches, I bring both experience and enthusiasm to the committee, using my background as a geocacher to help guide our decisions and initiatives.

I remain passionate about supporting the GAGB and ensuring it continues to be relevant, approachable, and useful to geocachers across the UK. Whether re-elected or taking on a different role, I'll continue to be a dedicated, friendly, and constructive member of the committee — always working towards the shared goal of shaping a positive future for the GAGB and the wider geocaching community.

Friends and Reps – Chris Warren

We have had an increase in GAGB Friends over the course of the year. Sadly, Marion Earp, a Rep, passed away in September. We have had 2 successful GAGB Roving Events this year, in Devon and Norfolk, with one more on hold in Somerset, and 2 more before the end of the year, in South Wales and Devon again. It's been good to see Reps and Friends at the Summer Megas. The Reps and Friends FB Group is kept up to date with all the GAGB Social Media posts.



[GAGB Friends >](#)

Duke of Edinburgh – Paul Bevan

We have seen rapid uptake over the last couple of years, of young people deciding to do geocaching as part of the Duke of Edinburgh program. DofE allowed geocaching to be used as a physical activity a few years ago. In the beginning the GAGB had a few enquiries a year, and now we constantly see a minimum of 25 young people being helped on their journey by us. We do see trends with the DofE, such as a bigger uptake at the start of each academic year, with smaller ones at the start of the other academic terms.

As part of this service, we ask for feedback from the young people when they complete their journey with us. This helps us to adapt our service going forward.



GAGB Member Discounts

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

		
<p>Geocaching Scouts</p>	<p>GAGB Shop</p>	<p>All Cached Up</p>
	 <p>EXCLUSIVE MEMBER DISCOUNTS!</p>	
<p>Base of Tree</p>		<p>Cicerone</p>
		
<p>Outdoor GPS Shop</p>		<p>SideTracked Shop</p>
		<p>GAGB Members get discounts at every one of these providers! If you haven't become a member yet... why not?</p>
<p>NE Geocaching</p>	<p>Mountain Warehouse</p>	

Click [here](#) for the codes for these **exclusive** member discounts!