



Welcome to the latest Newsletter

This is the final edition of the newsletter that I shall be editing; it is a pleasure to report that Ruth is back from her travels and will be resuming responsibility after the AGM in July.

Much of our time and thoughts has been occupied by the sudden loss of Michael; Christine and David have shared their thoughts below. I managed to make my way to the 'celebration of his life' organized by his family, I was also joined there by Neil Owen from Bristol. I was slightly taken aback when Marion asked me to speak about his involvement with Geograph.

Our project had clearly been a significant and enjoyable part of his life in retirement and I was grateful to be able to share with his family and friends how much we as a community appreciated what he had done for Geograph. It brought a big smile to my face and warm feeling inside when I saw his 'hat' sitting on the table with his picture, upturned, just tempting one to make one more contribution. Thank you Michael.

Trustees – news from the Chair, Christine Johnstone

Remembering Michael Dibb

By now, you will all know that Michael Dibb, our esteemed friend and colleague, died suddenly in April. Your tributes and Geograph's condolences have been passed on to his widow, Marion.

Michael has been one of the key figures at Geograph since our very beginnings and he carried out the duties of both Company Secretary and Treasurer for many, many years. Michael was friendly, funny, professional, and efficient. None of us knew just how much work he did for Geograph until he died. His legacy is a volunteer-run organisation that is solvent and meets all the requirements of both company law and charity law.

Michael will be missed by all of us.

Christine Johnstone, on behalf of the Geograph Board

A new Chair

Due to the support I am giving to family members, I can no longer maintain the energy levels and resilience that the role of Chair requires. Fortunately, David Martin is able to pick up this responsibility again and the Board welcomes his return to the role. I intend to stay on the Board for a while longer.

One of our new Trustees, Peter Evans, has found that increasing work and family commitments prevent him joining the Board after all. We thank Peter for offering his services and wish him well in the future.

Llandudno get-together

The arrangements for our meeting in Llandudno are almost complete. The programme has been circulated, it includes an evening meal on 20th June; talks by a local historian and our Patron, Mike Parker, the AGM, a guided walk and an evening meal on 21st June; and another guided walk on 22nd June. There is also a link in the forum posted on the 20th May in the thread titled 2024 AGM. Please let us know whether you intend to come to Llandudno or not, via the events page on the website. This is the only opportunity we have each year to all meet up.

From David Martin – incoming Chair

Many members will recall that Christine Johnstone very graciously took back the Chair when I was suddenly unwell last May. I'm very pleased to report that I'm now in much better health and am particularly grateful to her for steering the board through the last year.

Michael Dibb's death came as a great shock to us and his short illness did not provide any time for a handover of duties. As we have reviewed all that Michael had been doing for us so expertly, it has become very clear that no one Trustee is in a position to take on all his responsibilities and we have therefore needed to share the work between several individuals. I am very pleased to announce that the Trustees have approved Mark Anderson to take on the role of Company Secretary, and a combination of Richard Rogerson and Barry Hunter to act as a Treasury team, with additional support from myself. These changes have necessarily all been made with immediate effect and we will review the treasury arrangements, in particular, in a few months' time.

Geograph is registered as both a Company and Charity and has accounts with numerous financial, support and other organisations and, as our Secretary and Treasurer, Michael was the principal contact for most of these. The trustees have rallied round and done an enormous amount of work in the last month to update all our registrations, as well as reviewing Michael's calendar and processes and acting immediately to ensure that external obligations continue to be met. It will be a while before the team can establish a new 'business as usual' pattern, but I'm additionally grateful to Mark, Richard and Barry due to the very rapid start-up that has been required in these new roles.

Mark Anderson – Company Secretary

I'm just getting to grips with the Company Secretary tasks and can be contacted at secretary@geograph.org for any membership queries or updates. Archiving of the site continues and we are now up to image number 7,753,000 from the third week of April.

Richard Rogerson – Treasury Team

I am going through an extremely steep learning curve, leaning heavily on knowledge of Barry and David at the moment. Payment arrangements for hosting/website/back-up etc. are being updated as are contact details for donation processors and banks. No payments have been missed and accounting records are being updated. However, as David has said, 'business as usual' will take a while!

Moderators – Stephen Craven (*Railbuff*)

The code of practice and other policies are now available on the website. We would encourage members to read the code of practice.

Education - Sebastian Ballard (*Geogfanatic*)

It has recently brought to my attention that the education email link set up earlier this year (education@geograph.org.uk) may not be working. If you have tried to contact me and not heard back could you kindly make contact again via one of my images (*Mr Ignavy*). In the meantime we will try to resolve any issues after the AGM. Many thanks.



Contact us

We always value comments and suggestions, whether on the "Trustees" section of the Forum, or direct to us by email to trustees@geograph.org.uk



Geograph Project Limited is a company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales no.7473967, charity no.1145621, registered office Dept 1706, 43 Owston Road, Carcroft, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, DN6 8DA.

The directors of the company and trustees of the charity are: Mark Anderson (Company Secretary), Sebastian Ballard, Stephen Craven, Bill Harrison, Barry Hunter (Treasury team), Christine Johnstone, David Martin (Chair), Richard Rogerson (Treasury team), and Ruth Sharville.

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Market, Totnes

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Trent Bridge: Stuart Broad about to be stumped

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