



## **Geograph Newsletter 25**

**March 2024**

### **Welcome to the latest Newsletter**

It gives me great pleasure to edit another edition of our Newsletter, I hope you appreciate the tweaks. We do our best to circulate these as soon as possible after the trustees have met.

Near the end of our meeting I joked that each trustee should contribute a joke for the newsletter. My colleagues are fantastic; they have gone and done so! Whilst I accept no responsibility for the jokes I accept all editorial responsibility for going ahead and publishing them. Enjoy and please continue to feed back to us, it is great to hear from all contributors on all topics and issues. It gives the trustees that warm fuzzy feeling like achieving a 'First'. Remember those days?

### **Trustees – news from the Chair, Christine Johnstone**

As was mentioned in the last newsletter, and thanks to the generosity of one of our members, Geograph has recently received a bequest of £10,000. The board now have to decide how best to use this money and would welcome your suggestions.

At the moment, all the money we raise through donations, advertising and the calendar is used to meet our running costs which are around £25,000 a year. We also have reserves of around £35,000 which are kept to meet unexpected or unplanned running costs. We could just use the bequest to increase our reserves, but we could instead spend some or all of it over the next few years, if the existing sources of income hold up.

It may be many years before we get another generous gift like this, so if we do spend some of it, we have to spend it wisely and effectively. We are an educational charity, so perhaps it could be used to part-fund an educational project, in partnership with another organisation? Perhaps something with a nationwide relevance, and not purely local?

We are in no rush at all to spend the bequest, but it would be helpful to have members' views on how to use it before our next board meeting, which is in early May. So, if you have any views on what this money should be spent on, please email them to me, Christine Johnstone, at [projects@geograph.org.uk](mailto:projects@geograph.org.uk) by **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April.**

*How did the elephant hide in the tree?*



*By painting its toenails pink!*



### **From our Treasurer – Michael Dibb**

The Annual Report and Accounts showing an excess of expenditure over income of £3,197 had been circulated prior to the meeting and were approved.

### **Mark Anderson - Trustee**

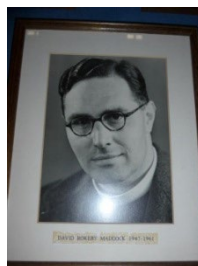
I am pleased to report that all submissions up to 21 February 2024 have been archived at the "Wayback Machine".

### **Moderators – Stephen Craven (Railbuff)**

Three new moderators (David Medcalf, Dave Thompson and Malcolm Neal) have received initial training and started their tasks. If you wish to comment on a moderator's decision please bear this in mind when raising a suggestion.

There have been several new contributors recently, some of them showcasing niche areas of photography such as drone images and bus stop adverts. I love seeing the variety of subjects that attracts the notice of our contributors. My favourite at present is "Mr. Red" who specialises in the stiles of Gloucestershire.

*A vicar came to say evensong at a country church*



*Only one local sheep farmer turned up. "As there's only you, I won't bother preaching a sermon" said the vicar.*



*"Vicar," came the reply, "if I go to feed my sheep and only one turns up, she'll get fed."*



*"Fine", said the vicar, and proceeded to preach for half an hour. "Vicar", said the farmer as he left, "If only one sheep turns up, she doesn't get the whole bale of hay!"*



### **A joke from Richard Rogerson**

*Donald Trump is swept down a flooding river...*



*You stand on the riverbank with a camera in one hand and a lifebuoy in the other.*



*Now you have to make a choice....  
Do you take a picture in colour or in black and white?*

### **David Martin – Trustee**

Members may be interested to know that we periodically receive enquiries from students and researchers wishing to make use of Geograph images in their dissertations and projects - something that is very much in keeping with Geograph's educational objectives. Since autumn 2023 we have been in contact with researchers at the European Space Agency who have been interested to make use of Geograph images in a project aimed at improving image interpretation techniques.

Barry and I recently met with them via Zoom and they demonstrated some impressive prototype photo search and mapping software based just on image content rather than titles and descriptions. Their work is ongoing but may in future generate tools that are useful to Geograph too. Be assured that whenever the Trustees are asked to support educational use we invite financial contributions, and remind users of the need to properly credit photographers.

*Some tomatoes  
a cabbage and  
a mushroom*



*were all sitting in a bar but  
there was a big crowd  
gathered around the  
mushroom.*



*"Why are you so popular?"  
The others asked?*

*"It's because I'm such a  
fun guy to be with" replied  
the mushroom!*



## **Education - Sebastian Ballard (Geogfanatic)**

A reminder, a new email address has been created to help focus our education initiative, this is [education@geograph.org.uk](mailto:education@geograph.org.uk) Mail sent to this address will automatically be forwarded to Sebastian.

Since the last newsletter I've been in touch with those who initially expressed an interest in helping out, apologies for the slow progress here. If you are thinking of putting your name forward it is never too late. The plan is to set up a Google Group where we can share ideas and questions which will hopefully avoid the 'Fred drift' that can happen in the forums.

I am currently editing a few documents to guide contributors as to what we are looking for; optimal size for new images; suggested tags to help teachers; and some exemplars with comments as to how they might be used in the classroom.

We will learn the best route forward by focusing on physical features linked to either rivers and/or the coastal environment. Why you ask? Well many students in our schools have never visited the coast in England or had the pleasure of walking along a river in the countryside. Features such as meanders, pebble beaches and sand dunes are not familiar to them. High quality images of such features that a teacher can build a lesson around are invaluable.

*"Poor old fool," thought the well-dressed gentleman as he watched an old man fish in a puddle outside a pub. So he invited the old man inside for a drink.*



*As they sipped their whiskys, the gentleman thought he'd humour the old man and asked, "So how many have you caught today?"*



*The old man replied, "You're the eighth."*



## 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](mailto:trustees@geograph.org.uk)



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## Image credits:

### **Swaffham Bulbeck: only one hand on the bat**

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### **Asian Elephant at Chester Zoo**

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### **Cherry blossom, Churchfields Road, Brighthouse**

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### **Lady St. Mary Church, Wareham: portrait of a future bishop**

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### **All Saints, Farnley - north side**

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### **Flock of sheep being directed into South View Farm**

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### **Feeding the sheep in Burterset**

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### **Road from Capuchin Friary - Sheep near mound**

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### **Pasture, East Dean**

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### **Advertising hoarding, Wootton Bassett Road, Swindon**

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### **River Darent in flood: Eynsford Bridge**

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### **A replacement speed camera on the A68**

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### **Lifebuoy, Waterloo Lake, Roundhay Park, Leeds**

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### **You get tomatoes**

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### **A crop of cabbages**

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### **Mushroom below the A379**

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### **Slug and Lettuce, West Street, Sheffield**

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### **Fantastic fungi**

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### **Steam Punks - Claymills Victorian Pumping Station**

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### **An angler plays a fish by the hut at Dellagyle**

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### **The Old Nag's Head: Island Bar**

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### **A bridge too far...**

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### **Thorpeness Golf Club - the 8th tee**

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