

Geograph Newsletter 19

January 2023



Welcome to the latest Newsletter

The Board held its bi-monthly meeting earlier in the month, and this latest edition of the Newsletter is to keep Geograph members up to date with what is going on. Please note the contact details at the end of the bulletin inviting your feedback – it is always welcomed, and we are grateful for the positive feedback we have had about this regular offering of the Newsletter.

Fundraising and Costs

Advertising

Following discussion of the advertising consultation findings at the last Board meeting, Barry had undertaken analysis of the most-used Geograph pages which do not currently carry any advertising, and it was agreed to switch on ads on some of these pages and monitor any increases in income. No changes are currently planned which will affect users who are logged in to the site.

Calendar

Approximately £760 profit was made from the sale of calendars for 2023, which was matched by an anonymous donor, to whom we extend our grateful thanks. Thanks are also due to the “calendar team” of Alan Murray-Rust and Phil Halling, for the many hours of work they put in to this project. I (Ruth) intend to launch a survey very soon, from which we can take forward learning points and tips for any future similar projects. So please look out for this forthcoming survey if you purchased calendars, and your responses will be much appreciated.

Appeal

We discussed ways of making the ongoing general invitations to donate (outside the specific “appeals”) more effective, and you will see small changes to these over coming weeks.

Finances

Michael, our Treasurer, stated that draft accounts for the 2022 year have been circulated to the board and a summary posted onto the forum. Final accounts will be presented to the board for approval at the March meeting and circulated to members thereafter.

Education

David reported that following his constructive discussions with the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) and Ordnance Survey in the autumn, he has now offered a Continuing Professional Development session for geography teachers, as part of a regular series of online education events hosted by the RGS. The session "Finding and using educational images from the Geograph Project" will take place on 15 March 2023 and will include an opportunity for David to talk with geography teachers about features which would be most useful to support their work in any future redevelopment of the Geograph schools site. The intention is both to raise teachers' awareness of the Geograph image archive and how to use it, and to gather information to inform our own thinking about the future development of the Geograph schools site. David has asked Trustees for their top tips for geography teachers and top questions they would like to ask teachers, which he will incorporate as far as possible into the presentation.

Operational issues

Barry has worked hard on redesigning the site, and making it more tablet and mobile friendly. He reported that mobile use has increased by 30 percent. A few people have complained that things have been moved around, but otherwise the changes have been received favourably. The help Barry has had from Geograph member David Pugh has been of great value and made a huge difference, and the whole Board expressed grateful thanks to him.

Policies

The Board identified that a number of Geograph's policies needed to be updated, and that a safeguarding policy was required. The risk register was reviewed and renewed.

Promotional Video

Stephen is close to completing his video promoting Geograph, even though he would still like a contribution from someone currently involved in Education who uses the site. Please contact Stephen as soon as you can if you can help.

Notifying the death of a Geograph Member

After having received some training, I (Ruth) am now the person to whom any

notification of a Member's death should be reported. You can contact me on the Trustees' email address below, or through my own profile – I am the only Ruth Sharville on the site!

AGM 2023

The AGM for 2023 is confirmed for 29 June at the Mountbatten Centre in Plymouth, Devon.

Contact us

As ever we value comments and suggestions, whether on the “Trustees” section of the Forum, or direct to us by email to trustees@geograph.org.uk

Image credit

Face in the wall - on Brough Lane

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