

MAPLINES

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CARTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY



WINTER 2024

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BCS AWARDS 2024



CONFERENCE REPORT

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SAVE THE DATE ANNOUNCEMENT

We confirm that the 2025 BCS Conference will be held on the **3rd and 4th of September 2025** at the headquarters of the British Geological Survey in Keyworth, Nottingham!



EDITORIAL TEAM

Alina Vizireanu
Oana Candit
Peter Vujakovic
Cristina Vrînceanu
Jim Goldsmith

We always welcome ideas and submissions from our members. For more information and to submit your articles, email maplines.editors@cartography.org.uk

Deadline for submissions for the Spring 2025 issue: 23rd February 2025.

CONTACTING US:

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FROM THE BCS PRESIDENT



Paul Naylor

Greetings and a very warm welcome to the Winter Edition of Maplines!

I hope you have all had a great year and enjoyed some of the fab content and events shared and hosted by the society this past year.

As 2024 comes to a close, it's a perfect time to reflect on our achievements as a Society but also to look forward and think about our goals for 2025. As President, I'm eager to explore ways to enhance our Society, look at what more we can offer to you our members, and also to look at what we might do to help attract new ones.

I have spent the last few months reflecting on what the Society does well but also starting to think about what we might do better. So, I'd like to share with you some of my early plans for helping shape the society going forward.

Cartography Leaders Summit

We are not alone in the world of cartography and geographic data visualisation. Numerous sister societies across the globe are doing remarkable work. We can learn a lot from them and them from us. To foster this exchange, Alex Kent and I are in the early stages of organising a Cartography Leaders Summit - a one-day event where societies can get together and share best practices. This engagement promises to be rewarding, so stay tuned for more details and outcomes next year.

Education

Education is an area of huge importance and one that I think we can do better in supporting. To help with this I am delighted to welcome Harry Searles to the BCS team. You might remember Harry from our summer edition, where he was featured in the member spotlight. Harry has joined our membership committee and will focus on enhancing our support and engagement with education. Harry and the team already have some exciting ideas, and we hope to share some of these with you later this year.

GeoViz

The GeoViz toolkit is a source of pride for us. It's designed for everyone working with geospatial data, from seasoned professionals to beginners, and has become an essential tool in our members' geospatial arsenal. We plan to continue improving the toolkit and adding new, relevant content. Alongside this, we also aim to expand our offerings under the GeoViz umbrella, with more content planned for 2025 to benefit our valued members.

BCS Awards

2025 sees the BCS Awards celebrate their 50-year anniversary. It's great to see that the passion and enthusiasm for these awards continue to grow and that our sponsors continue to generously support them. This year, the Nottingham City Projection Augmented Relief Model (PARM) was a standout,

winning the Garsdale Design Award for 3D Cartography. The PARM was also recognized as the overall winner across all five award categories, highlighting its innovative approach and exceptional quality. I was recently lucky enough to witness the project first-hand and it is a great example of using innovative cartographic and data visualisation techniques to harbour better engagement on a wide range of topics across multiple sectors. I am hoping that next year we might celebrate 50 years by holding a unique event that captures the essence of what makes these awards so special so please do look out for details of that next year.

Staying current and relevant is essential for maintaining the long-term growth and sustainability of our beloved society. We will continue to explore and adopt new ways to help the Society grow and offer more to our members.

Of course, there is always more we can do, so if you have any ideas on what we might do differently, please do contact me. I would love to hear from you.

Before I sign off we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Liz Bourne, our outgoing Maplines editor, for her dedication and hard work. Liz has been instrumental in shaping the quality and direction of our publication, and her contributions have been invaluable. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

At the same time, we are excited to welcome Alina Vizireanu as our new editor. Alina brings a wealth of experience and fresh perspectives to the role, and we are confident that she will continue to uphold the high standards set by Liz. We look forward to the new ideas and energy Alina will bring to Maplines.

I'd also like to extend our deepest gratitude to Paula Williams for her exemplary service as our Map Curator Group Convener. Her passion and dedication have significantly advanced our mission, leaving a lasting impact on our community. As Paula steps down, we are excited to welcome Martin Davis and Debbie Hall from the Bodleian Library as our new conveners. Their extensive experience and fresh perspectives promise to usher in a new era of innovation and excellence. We look forward to their leadership and the exciting developments ahead for our society.

I hope you enjoy this edition and have a Mappy Christmas.

Here's to a successful 2025!

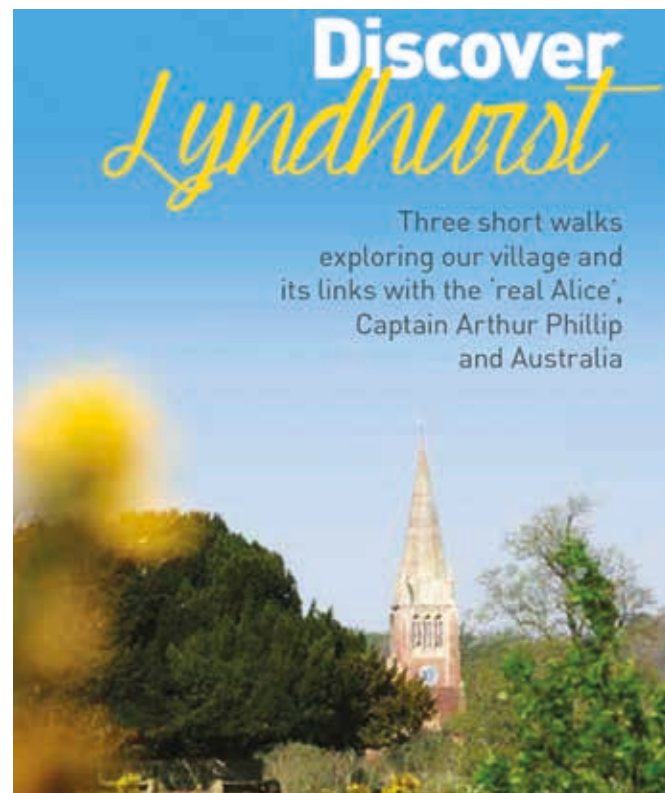
Sincerely,

Paul Naylor
President, British Cartographic Society
paul.naylor@cartography.org.uk

OUR MEMBERSHIP

Our Society takes great pride in its varied membership, welcoming professionals from the sector, students and teachers, as well as anyone with a passion for maps. From those at the beginning of their cartographic journey to those enjoying retirement after a fulfilling career in the field, our members represent a wide range of experiences and expertise.

Each month, we highlight a member who is willing to share their story and showcase their favourite map-related projects.



For this issue, we're delighted to feature **Holly Price**, who has kindly shared their cartographic background with us.



WHAT IS YOUR ROLE AND WHAT ARE YOUR CARTOGRAPHIC QUALIFICATIONS?

I'm Holly, a Cartographic Production Manager at Ordnance Survey (OS). I lead a team of Cartographers who work across multiple flowlines, including 1:50,000/Landranger, 1:250,000, National Air Traffic Services charts, VectorMap Local (VML) and extracts of our mapping required for publications and the media - all in all, it keeps me out of mischief!

I studied GIS at Bath Spa University for my undergraduate degree and went on to study Applied GIS and Remote Sensing for my Masters' at the University of Southampton. I worked as a GIS Support Officer at New Forest District Council for a time, before joining OS in 2017. I began my OS career as a Cartographer before being promoted in 2022 to Production Manager.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO WORK WITH MAPS?

My amazing Mum, Linda, worked as a Cartographic Draughtswoman at the Forestry Commission for almost 40 years, so I was aware of GIS and Cartography from a young age. I occasionally assisted with folding the Forest Design Plans and would pore over the maps she and her colleagues had created with avid interest.

When I spotted a course to study GIS at Bath Spa University at undergraduate level, I knew it was for me!

WHAT IS THE MOST EXCITING MAP-RELATED PROJECT YOU HAVE WORKED ON?

In my previous role as a GIS Support Officer for the New Forest District Council, I was tasked with creating mapping for use in a leaflet depicting walking routes within the local area. I really enjoyed working alongside our in-house Graphic Design team to create the maps using Adobe Illustrator. It was nice to be able to really incorporate my 'arty' side into the maps and I'm really proud of the end result.

You can access this project through the URL or by following the QR code below: https://www.lyndhurst-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/83/2023/02/Discover_Lyndhurst_Version2017.pdf

During my time as a Cartographer at the Ordnance Survey, working within the 1:25,000 Explorer team, one of my highlights was the first sheet map that I put together. This was especially exciting as it covered my local area, OL22 - New Forest. I fondly remember my elation at spotting it displayed in the window of my local bookshop!

Within BCS, I assist Clare Seldon with social media posts, and it's been so rewarding to work alongside a fellow woman in a cartographic/GIS role, as well as delve into some fascinating map facts. I've especially enjoyed creating the #MapMonday posts, and I hope those on social media have enjoyed them too!



By Tania Willis

CELEBRATING HERITAGE

My Hong Kong Tram Map in the NACIS Atlas of Design

As a BCS member, I'm honoured to share that my Hong Kong Heritage Tram Map will be featured in the latest edition of the North American Cartographic Information Society (NACIS) Atlas of Design, Volume 7.

Commissioned by iDiscover and HK Tramways, this illustrated map serves as a guide to the heritage-rich neighbourhoods that line Hong Kong's tram routes for their 'TramOramic' vintage tram tours. The route has remained much the same since the trams started running in 1904 where family-run pawn shops, temples and traditional wet markets co-exist at the feet of shiny new skyscrapers.



In my maps, I aim to evoke a strong sense of place while also providing practical wayfinding. Having lived in Hong Kong for over two decades, I knew the exact feeling I wanted to capture. Pictorial icons play a key role, making navigation intuitive and encouraging exploration. I like my icons to be both recognisable and playful, with the flexibility to stand alone in other contexts, such as the iDiscover tram livery.

Since the map was designed for a concertina pamphlet, it had to fit within a narrow format that did not perfectly match Hong Kong's actual shoreline. This required a creative approach to balance navigational accuracy with artistic reinterpretation. Reference numbers helped streamline the content, ensuring clarity without overwhelming the reader.

Author's Bio

Tania Willis is an illustrator who came to maps a little later in her career. A graduate of the Royal College of Art with an MA in Visual Communications, she spent 25 years in Hong Kong and is now resident in Northumberland. Her favourite map projects involve heritage, culture and regional oenogastronomy.



Read more about Tania's project by following the URL or the QR code below:
<https://www.taniawillis.com/maps/trams>



Access the Atlas of Design by following the URL or the QR code below:
<https://atlasofdesign.org/seven>



MEANDERINGS ... GETS LOST!

The usual premise for 'Meanderings' is that a map guide is reviewed following rigorous field testing. This issue turns this on its head - instead a drive through the byways of the north Kent downs proceeded an examination of old Ordnance Survey (OS) maps as a form of 'landscape biography'.

The fun is in 'getting lost' – letting the twisting lanes lead you on, knowing that you will eventually run across the main roads that run east-west; the A20 shadowing a major prehistoric trackway ('Pilgrim's Way') or the A2 following Roman Watling Street, or north-south routes (A249 and A251) aligned along lines of least topographic resistance. Boxed within this quartet of roads is ancient countryside, half of which is a designated 'National Landscape'.

This is a largely undiscovered countryside devoid of tourists, a place of hamlets and isolated farms, small woodlands and hedged fields. There is rarely an extensive vista, instead new elements are revealed with each twist and turn; a traditional orchard, a woodland of coppiced sweet chestnut, or a flint-built church with a white weather-boarded tower (the bizarrely named 'The Beheading of St John the Baptist', Doddington).

What is fascinating is the relationship between landscape elements encountered and what was (or was not) shown on maps. One fascinating example involves two locations – 'White Post' and 'Black Post' – legendary but lonely spots on the crest of the downs. Each is a guidepost, but rather than the standard white and black painted posts of the region, one, as the name indicates is entirely white, while the other is entirely black! Situated close to the wonderfully named Ringlestone hamlet and inn the Black Post Crossroads was so named because highwaymen were supposedly hanged there. Interestingly the OS name neither site on their six-inch map of 1870, each shown simply as GP (guidepost). 'White Post' appears in 1898 with a nearby wood named 'Black Post Wood', indicating local usage. Only in 1909 are both sites labelled.

Subsequent maps include both names but how long will this remain so? Recently the white post was damaged and removed for renovation by Hollingbourne Parish Council (Minutes of the 8th April 2024). But the fate of 'Black Post' is less certain – "The black sign-post... is looking tired. The Hollingbourne Parish Council has a budget to repair the white post, but not the black post." One must hope that neither will be replaced with the now standard metal post and this quirk of local history deleted.

Maps also reveal the biography of the place that would otherwise be missed. The 1:25,000 'Provisional edition' shows a scatter of 'shafts' between the two guideposts (see extract). These are 'dene holes' – dug through overlying 'clay with flints' to access the chalk. The chalk is then heated in kilns to produce 'quicklime' for 'liming' of fields and preparation of mortar. The OS map as cultural memory - yet even the OS does not show the location of all significant features – alongside the 'shafts' exists a WWII underground 'Zero Station' (c.1942), constructed for the Special Duties branch of the GHQ Auxiliary Units; its role to operate covertly in areas of Britain under German occupation.

Below the crest of the downs and the guideposts the OS maps trace the route of the so-called 'Pilgrims Way'. The name is controversial as this prehistoric route was probably not used by pilgrims to Canterbury, at least east beyond the Medway. The label is seen, even by the OS, as an "enduring archaeological blunder", blamed on the passion for the history of the then Director, General Sir Henry James. What the OS maps do reveal is the later use of the route (and tributary routes – see map extract) as access for a series of chalk pits (and lime kilns). Hilaire Belloc in his book 'The Old Road' (1911) was convinced that this gave the ancient routeway a new lease of life.

Sadly, the maps also demonstrate negative changes in land use, for example, many old biodiversity-rich orchards have been grubbed out since the OS Provision edition was published, along with Kent's iconic hop gardens. Remnant orchards of mature trees encountered are generally in a sorry state, although the veteran trees still provide valuable habitat for key species, for instance, the noble chafer, a rare beetle, the larvae of which live in decaying parts of fruit trees.

Meander map-less!

Then enjoy matching your experience with the maps.

The National Library of Scotland provides a great resource, with the ability to compare old OS maps with air photography and other landscape information such as LiDAR - <https://maps.nls.uk/os/>

Peter Vujakovic
Canterbury Christ Church University

This 'meandering' was prompted by a talk on 'Map as Biography' that Peter gave at the Annual Conference of the Society for Landscape Studies (www.landscapestudies.com), in Kent, Sept. 2024



The 1:2880 Map

In 2013, I delivered a presentation titled “The 1:2880 Map” at the West University of Timișoara. This moment stayed with me and it feels like just yesterday. I remember the excitement in the Geography Faculty hall, filled with young students and professors, a significant audience for me brought together by the geo-spatial.org association. Had I known how many would attend, I might not have been present at that event!

Since 2007, I have followed everything related to the geo-spatial community, as it was the only source of data and GIS software regarding maps in Romania, immensely enriching for a map enthusiast. The initial nerves transformed into valuable insights, and here we are in 2024, still inspired by those pioneers who believed in what seemed impossible - open geodata and the future of the geospatial industry on one side, and treasure historical maps for their storytelling on the other.

I chose to present these historical maps, scaled 1:2880, which are official documents (Property Titles) issued by state institutions post-1991, referencing the topographical numbers at a scale of 1:2880. Their creation began in 1856, followed by several iterations in 1890/1900, 1920/1930, and 1950, with digitisation occurring between 1990 and 2000 in Italy. Unfortunately, I cannot speak for those in Romania. On 22nd April 2010, I attended the Workshop on Landscape History at the University of Vienna, Faculty of Life Sciences, a dream come true for me that year.

A brief explanation of the 1:2880 Scale

The scale of 1:2880 for cadastral maps in the Austrian Empire was derived from the larger military scale of 1:28,800. Here's how this works:

- **The Military Scale (1:28,800)** was the standard mapping scale used in the military. It was created based on a military step measurement system, where one inch on the map represented 1,000 steps (or 400 fathoms) in real life.
- **The Cadastral Scale (1:2880)** for land survey purposes, a higher level of detail was necessary to document property boundaries, buildings, and land ownership accurately. So the then-surveyors used a “tenfold military scale,” which means they made the map ten times more detailed than the 1:28,800 military scale. This results in a scale of 1:2.880, where one unit on the map corresponds to 1/10th of the distance in the military scale, allowing for precise land measurements at the cadastral level.

Therefore, the 1:2880 scale was especially useful for land and property management, as it provided a highly detailed representation of small areas, down to individual plots and buildings. This scale is unique to the cadastral maps of the Austrian Empire, and it reflects the need for precise records of land ownership and boundaries during that time.



A Tribute to Historical Cartography

In the 18th and 19th centuries, land surveys, valuations, and maps were created across the Austro-Hungarian Empire to make property taxation fairer. This was based on accurate measurements of land, crops, and any improvements made. The third major edition of these surveys, known as the Stabile Cadastre, started under Emperor Franz Joseph and lasted from 1817 to 1861. For example, the former Galicia in Eastern Europe (today south-eastern Poland, western Ukraine) was surveyed step by step from west to east, beginning in 1824 and continuing for about 30 years. The same system was employed in Transylvania, Banat and Bukovina, Romania.

Properties in and around towns were measured as part of what was called a “land cadastral community”, showing detailed administrative and territorial divisions based on maps scaled at 1:2880. Usually, the cadastral and political boundaries of a town match up, however, larger towns could be divided into smaller cadastral communities, and nearby smaller towns and villages were sometimes combined into a single cadastral community. The overall imperial survey effort was massive. If I were to rank the maps I've encountered, the old maps at this scale would undoubtedly be my favourites. This preference isn't solely based on their original purpose as cadastral documents, but rather on the stories surrounding them, about the people who created them and the processes they used to elevate these maps to the level of art.

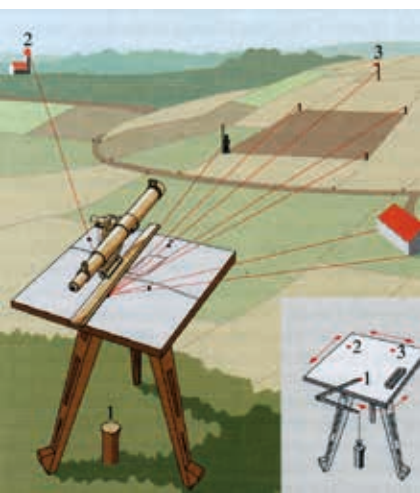
For the cadastral maps of the 19th century, before the introduction of the metric system, the Viennese fathom was used as a unit of length (1 Viennese fathom = 1.89648384 m). In Transylvania, Romania, after 1890, both stereographic projection systems were employed: one tangent to Budapest (centred at Mount Gelir, Budapest) and another tangent to Târgu Mureș, known as the Marosvásárhely system (centred at Dealul Câstei, west of Târgu Mureș). The reference ellipsoid for both systems is Bessei 1841. I am grateful once again to Mr. Walter Iseppi for the materials he provided during the workshop



in 2010, which detail the instruments used by surveyors and the technical standards they followed. Measurements were conducted meticulously, documenting cadastral sectors, benchmarks, and field notebooks.

The existence of a register for topographical numbers allowed for the identification of the corresponding plan, which displayed the graphical representation. It required considerable effort, including calligraphic writing and examinations for employment. Photos of surveyors from that time and their instruments are a testament to their dedication.

Regarding the map sheets, the stationery supplier for the Austro-Hungarian royal household at that time, Van Gelder Zonne, produced an exceptionally durable paper visible when held to the light. These maps remain stunning even today, thanks to their printing processes and machinery. There are



colour versions of these maps, akin to today's GIS, with each colour representing a specific attribute.

Even after 168 years, these maps remain extremely useful to surveyors for locating the position of a topographical number.

Their legacy endures.

Author's Bio:

Dragoș Ciortin is an automation technician, passionate about technology. He started with cards punched with 0 and 1 and ended up collaborating on the creation of software solutions. He is a big fan of spatial data processing software, especially QGIS. From a professional point of view, Dragoș has over 17 years of experience in oil companies, gas station network development, construction projects, and agriculture sectors.

BRITISH CARTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY at the International Astronautical Congress 2024 in Milan

By Alina Vizireanu

In addition to my role as editor of *Maplines*, I also serve as Vice-Chair of the Space Education and Outreach Committee within the International Astronautical Federation (IAF). For the fourth consecutive year, I had the opportunity to attend the IAF's flagship event, the International Astronautical Congress (IAC), which this year was held in Milan, Italy, from 14 to 18 October 2024. The IAC is an annual gathering that brings together over 10,000 space professionals, researchers and enthusiasts from around the world to discuss the latest advancements in space exploration and technology. One of the key highlights of IAC 2024 was a Special Session I co-organised together with Sona Gulyeva, a PhD researcher at Politecnico di Torino, on Geoinformation Technologies for Sustainable Development. Our one-hour session covered a range of important topics, including a presentation of the British Cartographic Society's "Restless Earth" workshop..

Raising Awareness of Geoinformation Technologies in Emergency Response
Our session aimed to raise awareness of the role that geoinformation technologies and cartography play in emergency situations, with a particular focus on the analysis of space data in disaster response. We explored how satellite data can not only support sustainable urban development but also help develop the critical cartographic skills required during times of crisis. The session was structured in two parts, beginning with a panel discussion that brought together both academic and industry perspectives to inform participants about how satellite data can assist emergency planning teams and enhance disaster response efforts.

We welcomed several distinguished speakers to the panel. Prof. Piero Boccardo from the University of Torino introduced the IRIDE project, Copernicus Emergency Management Services (EMS), and the Space It Up! project, highlighting their significant contributions to rapid disaster mapping in Italy. Dr Ozan Kara from the Technology Innovation Institute, UAE, provided valuable insights into satellite-based damage assessments following the Türkiye-Syria earthquake in 2023. Additionally, Dr Najam Abbas discussed the crucial role of GIS education in disaster preparedness, drawing on lessons from Pakistan through the National Centre of GIS and Space Applications.

The "Restless Earth" Workshop
The second part of the session focused on the "Restless Earth" workshop, which I wanted to bring more insights into. The

full workshop is run across the UK by Jennifer Johnston, who works incredibly hard to make this practical session fun and full of new lessons in cartography and geography. My focus of our session, however, was to teach participants of international backgrounds, nationalities and different ages, more about disaster mapping techniques, specifically through the case study of the Sendai Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami. As part of the workshop, I shared insights into the practical applications of disaster mapping and discussed how geospatial data and cartography can be used to understand and measure the impact of natural disasters. Their feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with many expressing interest in learning more about these technologies. They all appreciated the opportunity to learn about the various geospatial data applications available, particularly the use of satellite imagery and open-source resources for real-world natural disaster analysis.

The latter part of the session was dedicated to the "Restless Earth" workshop, which I sought to enrich with further insights. This comprehensive workshop is conducted throughout the UK by Jennifer Johnston, who puts in exceptional effort to ensure the session is both enjoyable and informative, enabling fresh perspectives on cartography and geography.

However, my particular focus for our session was to educate participants from diverse international backgrounds, nationalities, and age groups on disaster mapping techniques, using the Sendai Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami as a case study.

During the presentation, I provided an overview of the practical applications of disaster mapping and explored how geospatial data and cartographic methods can be utilised to comprehend and assess the impact of natural disasters. The feedback was positive, with many attendees expressing a keen interest in researching these technologies. They valued the chance to explore the various applications of geospatial data and learn more about the cartographic process of map-making, especially the use of topographical and cadastral maps, satellite imagery and open-source tools for analysing real-world natural disasters.

Key Takeaways and Future Directions
One of the primary takeaways from the session was the evident need for greater international communication regarding the work of the BCS. There is significant potential to establish exchange programmes with teachers and educational institutions worldwide, particularly in regions prone to natural disasters. As satellite data becomes increasingly vital for emergency response, the demand for map-making and geospatial data analysis skills in the classroom continues to grow.

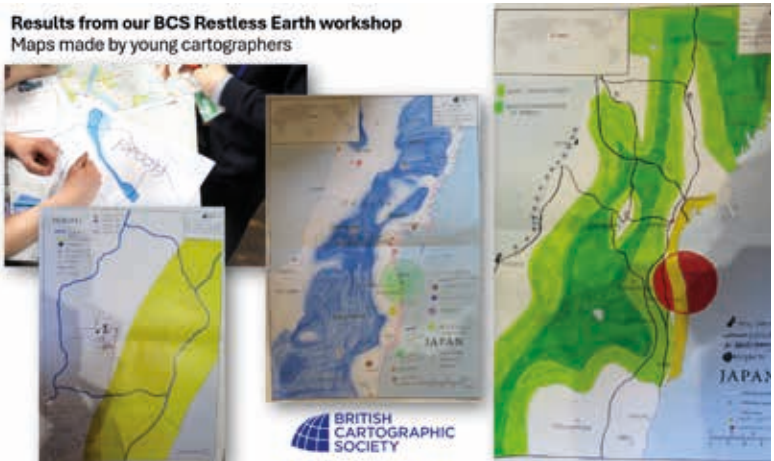
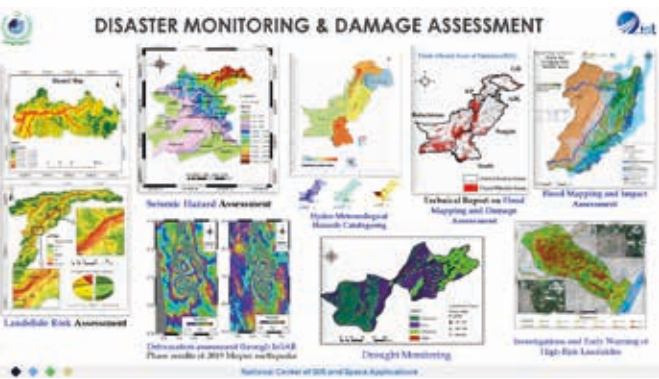
The discussions have also approached the importance of multidisciplinary collaboration and the development of accessible cartographic education to help build resilient

communities. I believe that by equipping young, well-trained cartographers and GIS specialists with knowledge and actionable geo-insights, we could enhance the response times of local emergency teams. My goal was to illustrate how simple practical mapping applications can contribute directly to disaster preparedness and response, aligning with the broader objectives of sustainable urban planning and development.

Next year, the International Astronautical Congress will take place in Sydney, Australia, from 29th September to 3rd October 2025, under the theme "Sustainable Space: Resilient Earth." The call for abstracts is now open, and if there is interest in exploring the intersection of space technologies and their impact on society, economies, and environmental sustainability, I encourage your questions and look forward to seeing you Down Under in less than a year!



Speakers left to right: Dr Najam Abbas (Pakistan), Prof. Piero Boccardo (Italy), Fidan Behbudova (Azercosmos, Azerbaijan, Facilitator), Sona Gulyeva (Italy and Azerbaijan), Alina Vizireanu (UK and Romania), Dr Ozan Kara (UAE and Türkiye)



BCS ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT - 2024

By Bob Owen



After the success in September 2023 of our 60th Anniversary Conference in Cambridge, BCS members and all map lovers were eagerly awaiting the 2024 BCS Conference and it didn't disappoint. It was held at the University College London on the 4th and 5th September 2024 and with the very valuable support of the Department of Geography and the UCL Social Data Institute, it proved to be a winner. It comprised a GeoDataViz Hack Day, a Dinner, and a Networking event at Stanfords on the 4th of September, followed by the main event of a full day's Conference on Thursday the 5th, featuring eleven different speakers plus the display and announcement of the BCS Mapping Awards.

The **GeoData** was designed as a workshop where using and visualising data to solve a problem was the key goal. The participants were given a choice between five scenarios and split into groups to use their range of knowledge and backgrounds to come up with an idea or solution. The scenarios were accompanied by relevant Ordnance Survey (OS) data for the BCS members to explore and use to their advantage across a variety of topics.

Flood Risk – preparing for future flood events in Worcester to help assess the impacts or to improve resilience measures.

Council Funding – identifying a ward within Southampton that would benefit from allocated funding to improve the built/physical environment.

River Routing – designing a map/tool that could be used to plan and navigate a route by the river.



Leaving the Car Behind – designing a map/tool/visualisation that would encourage people to walk, cycle or take public transport instead of using their cars.

OS NGD Data – Design a visual that promotes the benefits of OS NGD data and its attribution in an interesting or innovative way.

After a morning of exploring the data in their groups, the participants started to come up with their ideas, sharing techniques and knowledge. The day ended with the groups sharing their outputs by presenting them and allowing each person to see what others had been working on as well as sharing their own ideas. The workshop was a successful event which produced a really interesting range of outputs from app ideas and web maps to data analysis and hex-bin mapping. Possibly most importantly, it got people engaged with data visualisation and gave them a chance to show off how they would use it to have a meaningful impact.



This was followed by a **Dinner** in Covent Garden at a spacious, vibrant and increasingly busy Mediterranean restaurant (BCS had commandeered a separate dining area so we were well protected from the hustle and bustle of the main restaurant) after which there was a short two-minute walk to Stanfords, the well-known specialist maps and travel bookshop who had kindly sponsored the Networking event. Here for one and half hours, 54 members were able to meet and chat with old and new friends amongst the bookshelves, map stands and displays of enticing merchandise, all to the accompaniment of refreshments and nibbles generously provided by Stanfords and their CEO, Vivien Godfrey. A main feature was a talk by Matthew Teller, journalist, author and traveller who spoke about his recently published and award-winning book, *Nine Quarters of Jerusalem*, where he briefly explained some of the history of the mapping of the city and the British involvement in the 19th and 20th centuries, as well as a reference to current developments in that part of the world.

The main **Conference** was held on Thursday 5th September and approximately a hundred delegates assembled in the Jeffery Hall of the UCL Social Data Institute. The spacious hall was set out in cafe style with 15 to 20 large tables facing the speaker's podium so plenty of room in relaxed surroundings to spread ourselves around, listen to the speakers, view the slides and discuss with fellow delegates issues arising from the presentations. The eleven speakers presented an eclectic range of talks in four sessions. No specific theme had been chosen which allowed a mix of talks which addressed many of the topics which as Cartographers and Geospatial Specialists we come across in our working lives and our daily lives as citizens of the world.

The Summer edition of Maplines provided the complete synopsis of each of the speakers. Suffice in this edition to give a glimpse of the range of talks which included finance and the news media with a speaker from the Financial Times explaining all; the importance of AI in mapping and how the Ordnance Survey is researching new technologies; statistics and the census and how the Office of National Statistics is changing the way we think of their data. Two areas which have a profound effect on our lives are local authority services and education at higher and school levels. Speakers from Geoplace, the central store of information on all UK addresses and streets, and Digimap, from the University of Edinburgh, explained how these two sectors benefit from using maps. An interesting speaker from the University of Reading spoke about mapping the locations of local food whilst the importance of geospatial data and maps in global engineering projects and how they make a difference was the contribution from a speaker from international consultant Mott MacDonald.

Furthermore, the future of Building Information Modelling (BIM), the vital role of maps, and the emergence of digital twins in

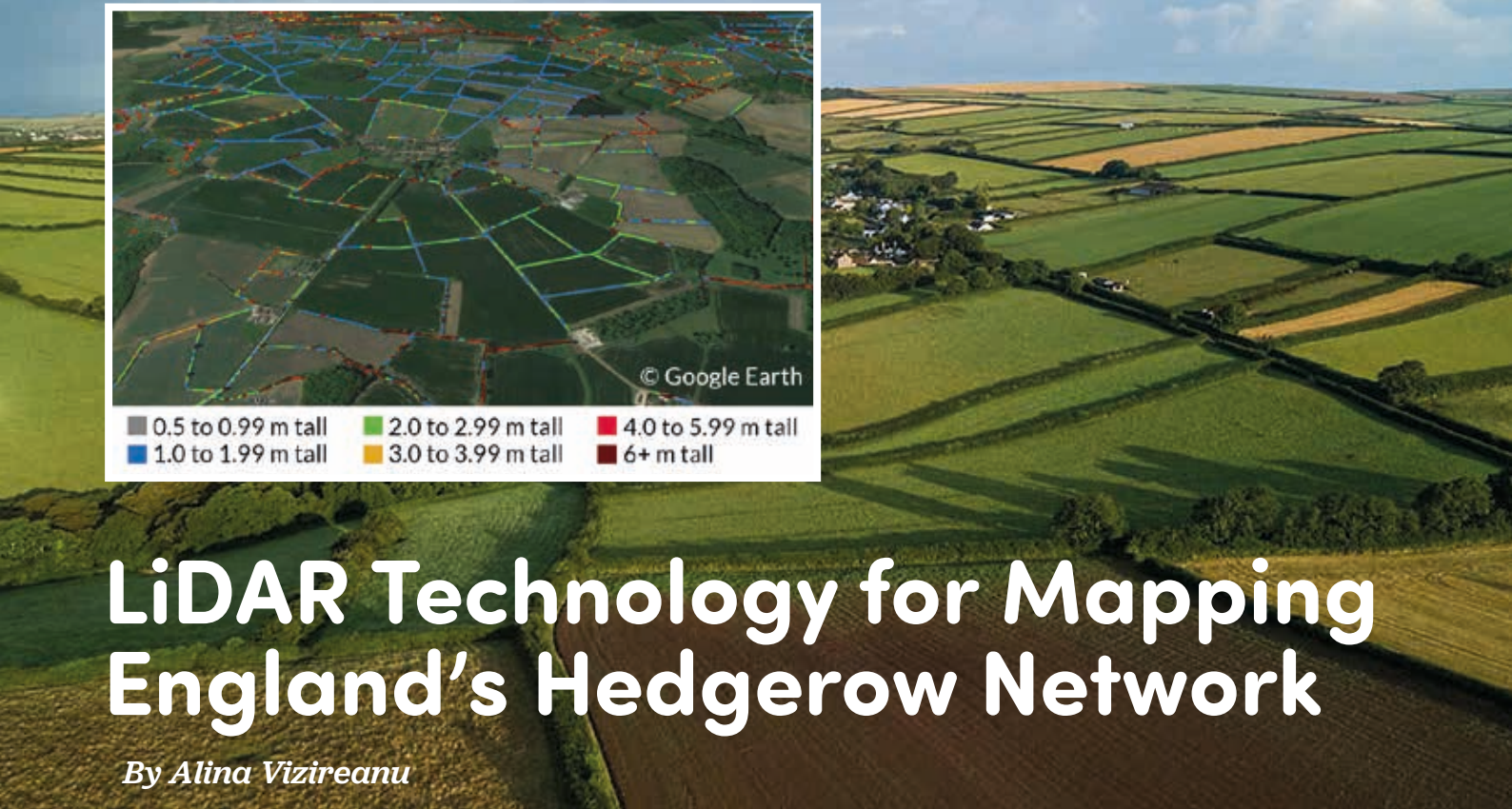
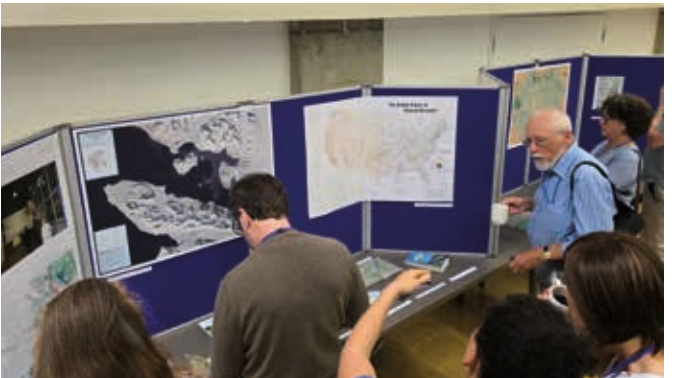
transforming the built environment followed. And lastly two different ideas, one with a speaker from Georama Globes who shared her ideas, source material and inspiration with insights into how she transforms geospatial data into physical artefacts; and a talk from the MustardGEO consultancy on the use of earth observation across a range of map production and update requirements across applications such as climate, insurance, security, risk, asset monitoring, resource management etc. Sadly, our speaker from The Economist was unable to attend and instead, we were treated to an exotic mashup about how the inspiration for maps comes from many disparate sources, especially for one-off maps about thematic detail concerned with one-off events from the news or something that captures the imagination.

But don't take the words of BCS to laud the success of the conference. A post-conference survey came up with much positive feedback from delegates such as:

"The variety of talks"; "Interesting lectures and connecting with others"; "Fresh ideas in various fields"; "Being able to meet up with colleagues"; "Being among Geographers and Cartographers"; "A wide range of experts prompting interesting topics of discussion"; "Excellent range of talks across a range of topics, delivered by engaging speakers at the right level"; "Also, it was a great opportunity to network with other people across the data visualisation and cartographic industries".

Onward to 2025 for a new conference in a new venue!

And, we are delighted to confirm that the 2025 BCS Conference will be held on the **3rd and 4th of September 2025** at the headquarters of the British Geological Survey in Keyworth, Nottingham ... so, **Save the Date!**



LiDAR Technology for Mapping England's Hedgerow Network

By Alina Vizireanu

Recent advancements in mapping technology have revealed an astonishing 390,000 kilometres of hedgerows across England, a distance sufficient to encircle the globe nearly ten times. These vital landscapes, typically 1 to 6 meters tall, are essential for supporting biodiversity and sequestering carbon, making them a key asset in the fight against climate change.

Researchers at the UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (UKCEH) have employed cutting-edge laser scanning technology to produce the most comprehensive map of hedgerows in the country. This initiative aims to guide the restoration and planting of these crucial habitats, which have shaped the English countryside since the Bronze Age. Historically, hedgerows defined boundaries for fields and livestock while providing homes for diverse wildlife, including birds, small mammals, and insects.

Unfortunately, the rich history of hedgerows is marred by significant losses. Approximately half of Britain's hedgerows disappeared between the 1940s and 1990s, primarily due to urban development and agricultural intensification. Today, an emerging threat is the lack of maintenance, resulting in gappy and overgrown hedges. Dr. Richard Broughton, the project lead at UKCEH, emphasises the importance of hedgerows as both a cultural heritage and a resource for addressing biodiversity and climate challenges.

The mapping project has revealed that the South West of England, especially Cornwall, has the highest hedgerow density, averaging 5.1 kilometres per square kilometre. In contrast, areas like Surrey, Hampshire, and Berkshire show significantly lower averages of 1.2 km, 1.5 km, and 1.7 km, respectively. This data is crucial for environmental planning and targeted restoration efforts.

Dr. Broughton notes that the new map allows for precise identification of sparse hedgerow areas, enabling strategic restoration to connect fragmented habitats. This approach is vital as the government aims to support the creation or restoration of 30,000 miles of hedgerows annually by 2037, increasing to 45,000 miles by 2050.

The breakthrough in hedgerow monitoring was made possible by the Environment Agency's release of LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) data, processed with advanced computing resources. This data not only details the extent of hedgerows but also provides essential height measurements, enhancing our understanding of their ecological health.

As we work toward a sustainable future, the mapping and restoration of hedgerows are crucial steps in preserving England's ecological legacy and combating climate change. Read more about the UK-CEH projects at www.ceh.ac.uk.

About the UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology

The UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology is a world-leading centre for excellence in environmental sciences across water, land and air. With a long history of monitoring and modelling environmental change, the UKCEH is identifying key drivers of biodiversity change, developing tools and technologies for monitoring biodiversity, and providing robust socio-economic and environmental solutions for restoring biodiversity.

The UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology is a strategic delivery partner for the Natural Environment Research Council, part of UK Research and Innovation. www.ceh.ac.uk / @UK_CEH / LinkedIn: UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology

BCS AWARDS WINNERS 2024

By Jim Goldsmith, BCS Awards Officer

I was delighted with the number of entries for the 2024 Awards, BCS received a total of 63 across the 5 Main Design Awards, Avenza, The Collins Bartholomew, The Garsdale Design, Ordnance Survey & Stanfords. As the BCS Awards Officer, I'm grateful for the ongoing support from these companies. I work closely with many of them to ensure the rules and entry forms are suitable and support the judging panels. I'd also like to acknowledge the support BCS receives for the Henry Johns Award from Lovell Johns and from the Mumford family for the Ian Mumford Award.

The BCS continues to run the Restless Earth programme this disaster relief mapping workshop at schools, based on natural disasters to geography GCSE students in Years 9 and 10. It can also be adapted for younger students in Years 6, 7 and 8.

BCS also continue to run the Peter Jolly Award (Members Award) as a memorial to Peter.

This year's BCS Awards Ceremony was incorporated into the BCS Conference Agenda, the conference was held on Thursday 5th September at the University College London with the support of the Department of Geography and the UCL Social Data Institute.

I'd like to thank Paul Naylor (BCS President) for helping me transport all the Physical Entries, winning certificates and trophies to UCL on the day before, and all the BCS colleagues and UCL staff who helped move them to the storeroom.

The physical awards were laid out around the edge of Jeffery Hall, which was used for the main Conference, we also set up a television which was used to run a looping presentation showing all the entries. This enabled the delegates to look at them during breaks in the programme.

The Awards Ceremony was videoed and it will be available to view on the BCS YouTube channel.



We started the Ceremony by introducing Jennifer Johnston the BCS Restless Earth coordinator. The awardees for the **BCS Restless Earth National Workshop** are.

Restless Earth National 3rd place went to:
Churcher's College, Petersfield

Restless Earth National 2nd place went to:
City of London School for Girls

The **Restless Earth National Winner for 2024** is:
Hungerhill School, Doncaster

BCS Peter Jolly Award

Presented by Paul Naylor, the BCS Members got to vote for their favourite entry, and the 2024 **Winner** is:
Reservoir Cogs, entered by Hannah Wright



Avenza Awards

I had the honour to present the Avenza Awards for electronic mapping.

Commended was given for the entry:
Transport for the South East Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) Story Map, entered by Steer - <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/e1edbac864a24dbf933a353193c601a8>

Highly Commended was given for the entry:
British Placename Mapper, entered by Robin Wilson - <https://placenames.rtwilson.com/>

The **Winner of the 2024 Avenza Award** is:
London's Low Traffic Neighbourhoods and the Pandemic, entered by Climate Cartographics

Although Climate Cartographics couldn't attend the conference, BCS is committed to presenting the Crystal Award to the winners in person whenever possible. Paul Naylor and I arranged to meet with Ben Pollock and John Cook at the Geovation Hub in London on 11th October to hand over their award. It was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate their achievements.

Collins Bartholomew Awards

Jethro Lennox from Harper Collins presented the awards. Jethro said that the Judging panel were pleased with the number of entries this year and that it was very close between the entries that gained the top two places.

Highly Commended was given for:
The United States of Natural Disasters, entered by Atlas Geo

The **Winner of the 2024 Collins Bartholomew Award** is:
Total Eclipse, entered by Kenneth Field.

For those who attended the conference in person, Ken Field had a few copies that he generously gave away.



Garsdale Design Award for 3D Mapping

Unfortunately, Elliot Hartley couldn't be present; Paul Naylor and I took this responsibility on his behalf and celebrated the incredible work in this category. There were two commended, two highly commended and a Winner.

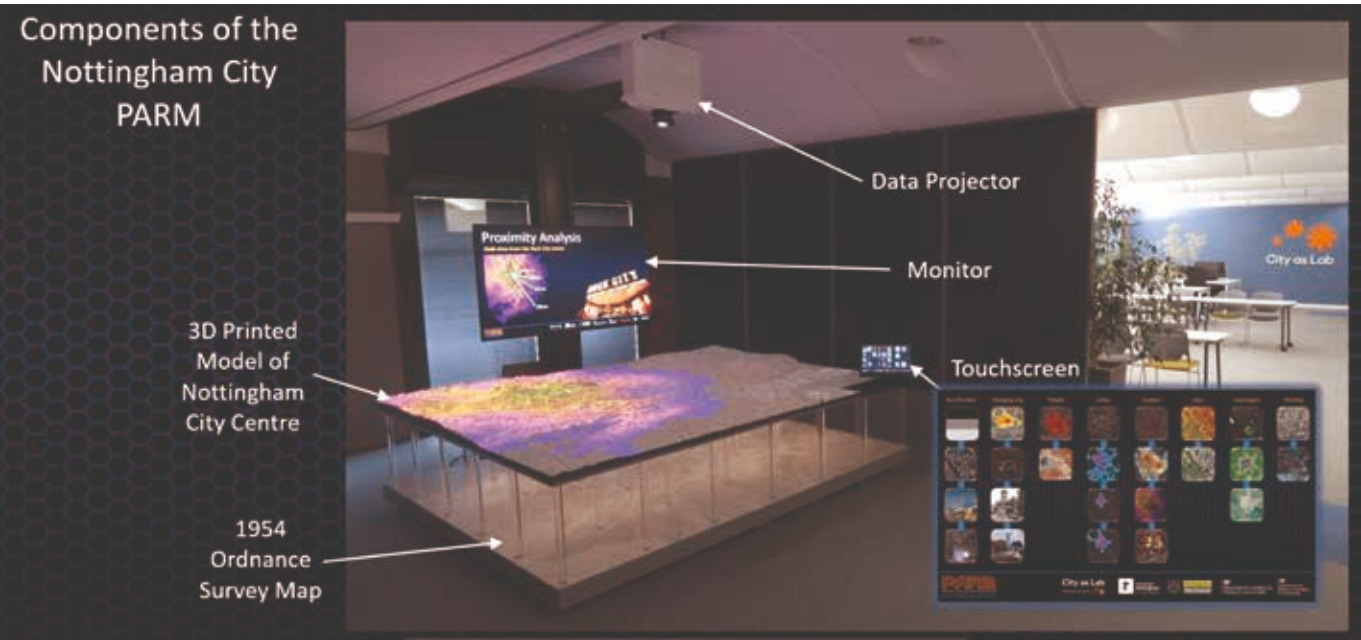
First Commended went to: **Population density of Japan**, entered by Helen McKenzie

Second Commended went to: **LEGO Map of Wisconsin**, entered by Atlas Geo

First Highly Commended went to: **Timeless Beauty: The Suzhou Classical Gardens**, entered by Urban Computing & Visualization Lab at Wuhan University; XIANG Juan, LI Qianqian, LI Zichun, YU Han, KANG, Mengjun, WENG Min, SU Shiliang

Second Highly Commended went to: **Climate Adaptation Interface for Greater London**, entered by Climate Cartographics.

The **Winner of the Garsdale Design Award for 2024** went to: **Nottingham City Projection Augmented Relief Model (PARM)**, entered by Gary Priestnall



Ordnance Survey Awards

Paul Naylor announced the three OS Awards winners.

Commended was awarded for: **North Coast 500 Adventure Series**, entered by Collins Bartholomew

A **Highly Commended** was awarded for: **A Decade of Langdale/Ambleside Mountain Rescue Team Call-outs, Lake District (2013-2023)**, entered by Charlie Hewitt

The **Winner of the OS Award for 2024** is: **British Placename Mapper**, entered by Robin Wilson

Robin Wilson was invited to Visit Ordnance Survey Head Office in Southampton, where he had a meeting with Nick Bolton (OS CEO) and had a photo taken in front of The OS 1801 Map. The judges were very impressed by the web maps' user-friendly interface, which allows for interactive exploration of specific GB place names.



Stanfords Awards for Printed Mapping

These awards were presented by Vivien Godfrey, CEO of Stanfords. There were a total of six entries that the Stanfords judging panel selected for awards.

Commended: Atlas of Wild America, entered by National Geographic Books

Judges' Comments: - Clear and consistent mapping with interesting accompanying text and photos, lovely atlas production that is a pleasure to explore.

Commended: National Trust Grand Adventure Map, entered by Collins

Judges' Comments: - Loved the idea which has been well executed. Great map style which suits the subject. Easy to understand and interpret, appealing to the general public.

Commended: Marylebone Station 125th Anniversary, entered by Climate Cartographics

Judges' Comments: This looks really exciting, but it's hard to judge without seeing it in situ. One of the most interesting entries, but it's hard to interpret what the maps are saying without seeing the installation. The Wow factor is high, adding the augmented reality is very innovative, architectural/street art mural style is very fitting for the topic.

Highly Commended: - LuoJia's Story: Celebrating the 130th anniversary of Wuhan University, entered by Su Shiliang, Zhang Jiangyue, Wang Lingqi, Li Qianqian, Li Zichun, Yu Han, Huang Xuyuan, Zhang Yiqi, Kang Mengjun and Weng Min

Judges' Comments: Stunning and beautifully crafted set of maps. Excellent cartography design throughout with great composition and use of map elements. Interesting approach and packaging, but maybe an atlas would have been better to use.

Highly Commended: - Total Eclipse, entered by Kenneth Field

Judges' Comments: Really eye-catching and such an interesting idea. Love the gold accents and all the design choices, really neat way of showing the path of totality. Another beautiful, innovative map from Kenneth Field. Great design with lovely finishing around the printing. Nice touch with the lyrics around the edge. Stunning.

The **Winner of the 2024 Stanfords Award** is: **Heavens: Majesty of the Night Sky**, entered by Matthew W. Chwastyk, National Geographic

Judges' Comments: - A clever map from NG with a great subject matter which is different and informative. Well-executed style and design with a good choice of colour for the infrared view. Beautiful and fit for purpose. Eye-catching with a good layout and lots of information I loved the portrayal of the Milky Way.



The BCS AWARD
WINNER 2024

The BCS AWARD WINNER This award is selected by the BCS Judging panel from the 5 Winners of the Main Design Awards. A difficult task which I'm glad I only have to facilitate.

Nottingham City Projection
Augmented Relief Model (PARM),
entered by Gary Priestnall

Elaine Watts arranged for a BCS visit to see the PARM installation at the University of Nottingham on the 28th of October when we had the opportunity to meet Gary and see the PARM model running. It was amazing, the photos below can't really give the full effect, but hopefully will indicate how impressive it is.



Two new awards have been announced since the Conference:

Ian Mumford Award for excellence in original cartographic research.

The 2024 WINNER is **Jordan W. Cole, University of Leicester**
Title: "Under the Map: A Geophysical Analysis of Historic Maps in Halifax",
North Carolina

Henry Johns Award for the most outstanding article published in The
Cartographic Journal.

The 2024 WINNER was published in Volume 60 of The Cartographic
Journal.
Title: "Verification of Cartographic Communication Models Using
Detection of Map Reading Strategies Based on Eye Movement Recording"
by Marketa Beitlova, Stanislav Popelka, Martin Konopka and Karel Macku

I highly recommend checking out the BCS 2024 Awards video on the BCS YouTube
channel. At just over 30 minutes, it has some entertaining moments with technology
mishaps that are sure to make you smile (even I can laugh about them now!)

After all, we can't exactly do a dress rehearsal with our Winners! I truly appreciated the
audience participation as well.

I would love to see more entries for the Peter Jolly Award. Just a reminder: only BCS
members are eligible to enter, and entries that have already been submitted to the five
main design awards are not accepted.

Here's to hoping we achieve a record number of entries again for 2025!

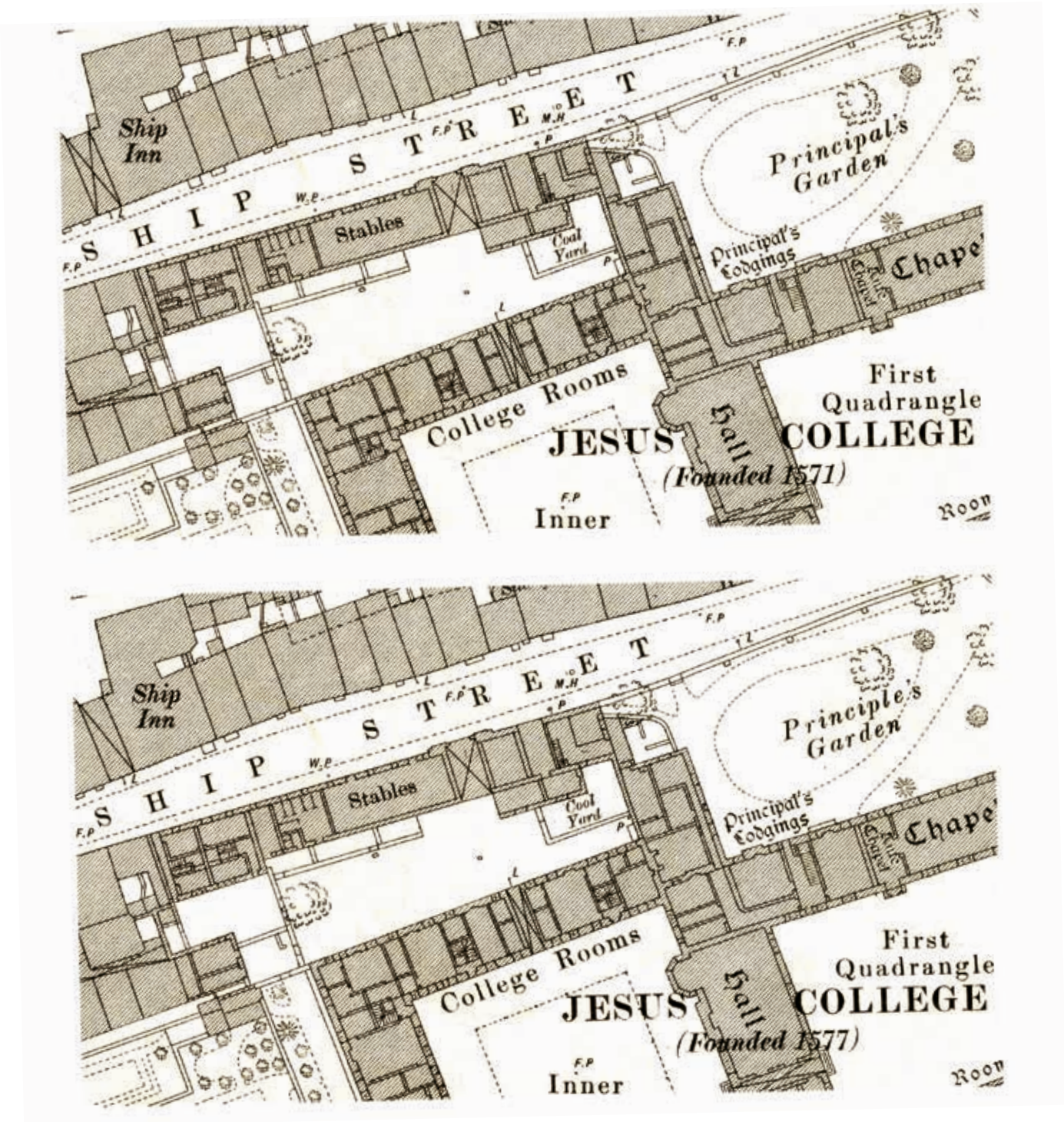
Congratulations once more to everyone!

DASTARDLY PUZZLE

We invite everyone to try the new Dastardly Puzzle by David Sherren, a fun exercise that shows
how easily our eyes can be tricked. The image is taken from the Ordnance Survey's 1:500 sheet
Oxford XXXIII.15.17 (1878).

There are ten differences to spot. Can you find them all?

The solution is provided on the inside back cover, but don't cheat!



EUROCATO 2024:



Relief-Karte des Kantons Glarus, inspiring map created by Backer - displayed in the keynote presentation

Attending it for the first time gave me great pleasure. For those arriving early on the 8th of September, the organisers offered workshops on a variety of topics, including storytelling, atlases, user experiments and conflict visualisation, setting the stage for the conference.

The Festive Opening Ceremony and registration process were seamless, thanks to an interactive venue map and helpful volunteers, which set the tone for the rest of the event. I soon realised that EuroCarto is not only about gaining insights but also about establishing valuable relationships and exchanging ideas.

Keynote and Sessions

The conference opened with a keynote from Prof. Dr. Lorenz Hurni from ETH Zürich, who shared his fascinating work on Swiss cartography and his involvement in Martin Suter's novel "Die Zeit, die Zeit" through mapping and surveying. Following the keynote, the Ice Breaker activity offered a chance to interact with fellow attendees and start building connections.

Sessions, which began on the 9th of September ran in parallel, providing a variety of topics without overwhelming participants. I appreciated the ability to focus on one track at a time, with sessions covering everything from interactive atlases to cartographic design and digital mapping. Coffee breaks provided opportunities for networking with presenters, sponsors, and fellow participants.

Networking and Highlights

A guided tour of Vienna allowed us to explore the city's landmarks while networking. Despite the rain, many of us visited the Globe Museum, a highlight for those interested in cartographic history. The event featured 322 attendees from 48 countries, and attendees could engage with 34 map posters and 187 presentations showcasing a diverse range of cartographic work.

I was particularly impressed by the research from professors and students, which encouraged innovative approaches to mapping. The maps created by children stood out for their creativity and powerful messages, reminding us of the universal appeal of maps.

Looking Ahead

Overall, EuroCarto 2024 was an inspiring experience that deepened my knowledge of cartography while expanding my professional network. If you weren't able to attend this year, I highly recommend joining the next EuroCarto conference in 2026 (<https://icaci.org/icc2025/>). Meanwhile, other exciting events are coming up, including the International Cartographic Conference (ICC) in Vancouver in 2025. For anyone passionate about cartography, EuroCarto is a must-attend event for both learning and connecting with this vibrant community.

If you are planning your 2025 events schedule, check upcoming events at ICA (<https://icaci.org/calendar/>), or IMIA (<https://imiamaps.org/events/>) and watch for updates on our BCS 2025 Annual Conference (<https://www.cartography.org.uk/annual-conference>).

Author's Bio

Oana Candit, PhD researcher at the West University of Timișoara, Romania, is also one of our esteemed BCS Maplines Editors. In her role as a Cartographer at ESRI Romania, Oana combines her passion for art with map-making, focusing on the use of styles and colours to more effectively communicate the message of maps. Her innovative approach to Cartography earned her the BCS Peter Jolly Award in 2023 and more recently, her great work was included in Volume 7 of the Atlas of Design.



Childrens' maps during the presentation of Giedre Beconytė and Kristina Darija Norkevičė



The Mille Miglia blue version map created by Kenneth Field - William Cartwright presentation



Georg Gartner, ICA President, closing the EuroCarto 2024 conference

The EuroCarto Conference is a biennial event that brings together professionals, researchers, educators, and students from the field of cartography and geospatial sciences. Organised by the International Cartographic Association (ICA) between 9 – 11 September in Vienna, the conference enabled attendees to share innovative ideas, explore new technologies and discuss the latest trends in mapmaking and geospatial data visualisation.

TOPOGRAPHIC CLEWS

By Caroline Morris



For some time, I have been using darning, patching and repair as a metaphor for landscape history, or at least my experience of it. A recent project involved producing two fabric maps for an exhibition on archaeological fieldwalking at the Corinium Museum, Cirencester. For this, I began researching the history of the Cotswold landscape around Abbey Home Farm (Cirencester) via mapping. With prehistoric roots the farm is framed by Roman roads, a salt way and a drover's road; it was crossed by a railway and later sliced through by a dual carriageway. I have been drawn to historical maps as an inspiration for some time and traced the past of Abbey Home Farm through one hundred years of Ordnance Survey maps, nineteenth-century tithe apportionment maps and current field maps.

Author's Bio

Caroline Morris has an MA in Time-Based Arts Practices from Dartington College of Arts and a PhD in cultural history from UWE. She has been using walking and place to explore hidden heritage and cultural memory. Recently Caroline has been using fabric and foraged dye stuffs to imbue meaning and document her experience of landscapes and their history. She is currently the Collections & Education Manager at the Corinium Museum, Cirencester.



As with previous projects, my attention focussed on layers of the past and the signs of it in the landscape. This landscape, like many, is a palimpsest of human activity from prehistory to the present day. So many traces, clues, tales, uses and meanings; the past can be read in the landscape if one only looks. Will Chester-Master, the landowner, talks about his fieldwalking, carried out for pleasure rather than as a systematic archaeological exercise. This is 'slow walking', being in the moment, focused through a single sense. This reminded me of a passage in Conan Doyle's *A Study in Scarlet*.

"...he proceeded slowly down the path, or rather down the fringe of grass which flanked the path, keeping his eyes riveted upon the ground."

I overlaid modern maps on tithe maps and researched toponyms, techniques of landscape archaeology, field name studies, and took that understanding on my walks at the farm. The changes across time overlay each other both physically and in the naming of features in the landscape. Field names hint at uses, owners and key topographical features to the extent that one could read the landscape from the map as well as from the ground.

My stitching echoes the lines of footpaths, through layers of fabric, rips and frays. Human interaction and use of the land are etched and worn into our landscape, like the impressions and repairs formed in a well-loved armchair. In an essay, Marx's Coat, Peter Stallybrass wrote that clothes makers and repairers in the nineteenth century would call the wrinkles in the elbows of sleeves, 'memories'; the wrinkles recorded the body that inhabited the garment. In this instance, this referred to the way clothing takes on the form of its wearer. For me, this is analogous to the traces in the landscape made by people;

culture upon nature. There is a linguistic connection between landscape and cloth too. The origin of the word clue comes from clews, or balls of thread, like that given by Ariadne to Theseus. Looking for clues (clews) to the past in fields and hills.

Beginning with sample making, learning, building the layers of understanding of the materials, and how they could be represented, for me, this making also becomes as meditative a practice as the walking itself. Such mindful practices echo the way that Will described his fieldwalking activities.

My patchworking of the modern field system involves muted minimal colours, using a combination of bleached and natural calico. Roads are overlaid; an abandoned railway overlaid then frayed back. The slightly haphazard patching creates shapes echoing the natural undulations in the landscape, returning the idiosyncrasies of older mapping to the modern.

This is the first step for this fragment of land. It will be suffused in the landscape, through foraged dyes from the field margins. It will be extended and grow. It will become worn, and less neat just as nature pulls at the edges of the human-tied landscape.

My patchwork is based on the modern map, which is a landscape well documented, geolocated, measured and in motion. My tithe map is translucent organdie, stitched with the old hedgerows and roads. Its outlines are based on the hand-drawn, the estimated, the ghostly remnants of the past lying beneath. If it is laid over its calico sister, it will sometimes match but other times show change. Its field names enable recognition, identification, and give their location. Fields are named for their daily use or their topography – labels loosely attached are prone to loss as time goes by and ownership priorities shift.

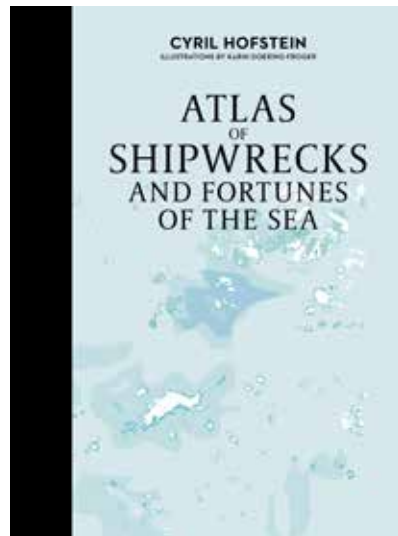


BOOK REVIEWS

Atlas of Shipwrecks and Fortunes of the Sea

Cyril Hofstein, illustrated by Karin Doering-Froger
Schiffer Publishing
\$29.99

Atlas of Shipwrecks and Fortunes of the Sea takes us on an exploration of 37 shipwrecks, discoveries and mysteries from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, through the Baltic Sea, the Caribbean, the Antarctic and the Indian Ocean. Whatever happened to L'Oiseau Blanc, a biplane that mysteriously vanished while attempting to fly from France to New York in 1927? Was it caught in a squall or was it mistaken for a police biplane and shot down by smugglers? And how did Jacques Cousteau mistakenly explore the wreck of a French ship while trying to shoot images of an underwater excavation site, hoping to find a Spanish galleon that was reputed to have gone down with large amounts of gold and silver? Each tale is beautifully illustrated with maps showing the location of the discoveries.

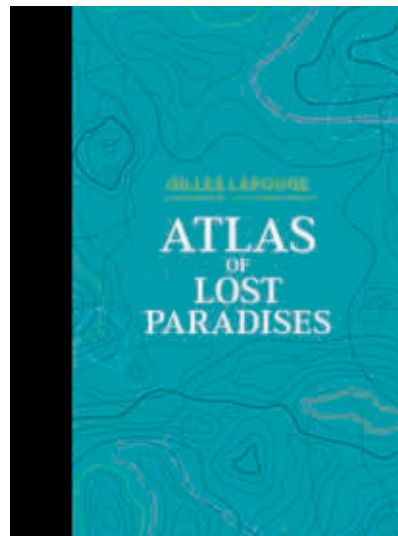


Atlas of Lost Paradises

Gilles Lapouge, illustrated by Karin Doering-Froger
Schiffer Publishing
\$29.99

Atlas of Lost Paradises offers us the opportunity to discover real and fictional civilisations across the world, including Atlantis, Pitcairn Islands and the Land of Nod. Again, beautifully illustrated by Karin Doering-Froger, this atlas discusses a range of 'paradises', such as Inverewe Gardens, 2,100 acres that were transformed from a barren area of grassland with just one tree into a riot of colour populated by trees from across the globe. Read about Walt Disney's Holmby Hills, where he built his own miniature railroad in the garden and compare it with the miniature world created by the 13th-century Chinese emperor Hsien Tung.

These two beautifully presented books encourage us to explore the depths of the seas and civilisations, real and fictional, on Earth.



Slow Ways - Pocket Atlas

Published by UrbanGood
/ ISBN 978-19144-321-63
Softback £12.99

About the Authors

Hannah Engelkamp is a writer and editor with a passion for the connections between walking, people, and the natural world.

Daniel Raven-Ellison is a geographer, National Geographic Explorer, and the visionary behind the London National Park City movement.

Charlie Peel is a mapmaker and designer who founded Urban Good. He is dedicated to creating beautifully crafted, practical maps that inspire exploration.

Fresh from the press and as presented at the iconic Stanfords travel shop, a destination for explorers and map lovers alike!

This colourful and neat little atlas is as much a celebration of a concept as a practical guidebook. The atlas is just one element of the 'Slow Ways' project that has created a network of walking routes connecting cities, towns and villages across Great Britain (www.slowways.org). 'Slow Ways' uses existing rights of way to encourage people to *"walk or wheel between neighbouring settlements"*, or to go further and design long-distance expeditions. Refreshingly, the owners of the atlas are encouraged to colour in the routes that they and their families and friends have walked or wheeled - the maps and atlas become, therefore, a kind of autobiography of space and place.

The atlas' maps at the scale of 1:500 000 have very limited use for detailed planning of trips and need to be used in conjunction with the project website. Users are then encouraged to upload routes to apps such as the OS, Map My Walk, or OutdoorActive. The atlas provides the overview and indicates routes that have been tested - the website then provides levels of accessibility from a description of surface conditions/terrain to the nature of obstacles (stiles, flights of steps) that may create problems for people with limited mobility including wheelchair users. This is a useful approach, as my research in this area has shown that people with mobility issues need the facts, not some notional 'grade'.

The atlas starts with a useful introduction to the concepts behind 'Slow Ways' - a project based on wide public input, described as *"an ambitious citizen-made peer-reviewed ... network"*. The project is not simply about getting people out and about, but rather alerting people (and through them national and local government) to the vital need for access to green space and its social, health and economic benefits. A 'How to' section at the back of the book provides further instructions on using 'Slow Ways' and how to become involved in furthering the project's aims.

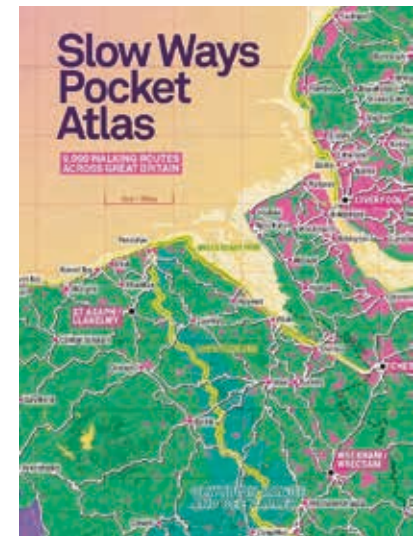
The bulk of the atlas consists of fifty-seven double-page maps. A two-centimetre grid (=10km) provides a sense of the distances involved in each route. The maps are startling - they will probably elicit a 'Marmite' reaction - some people will love them, and others will hate them. The colour scheme is far from conventional. Water from the sea to lakes and lochs is an egg-yoke yellow grading through orange to pink for deeper offshore

waters. For the land there is also no use of subtle 'pastel' shades, all the colours are solid, emphasising the settlements (connected by 'slow ways') and the countryside in contrasting deep magenta and green respectively. National Landscapes and National Scenic Areas (Scotland) are shown in a shade of blue-green that subtly differentiates them from the surrounding countryside, while National Parks deliver a punch in deep purple. The individual 'slow ways' are shown in white with a slight black line to one edge giving an appearance of the routes being raised. National trails and similar are highlighted in bright yellow. This is *"map as spectacle"*!

The atlas will certainly appeal to those who support the idea that access to the countryside is important (and may wish to join in with the project) and to those consumed by wanderlust.

It would surely make a great Christmas present for both armchair explorers and those who really will take to the byways after the long dark months of winter!

Reviewed by **Peter Vujakovic, Canterbury Christ Church University**



SEASON'S GREETINGS!

As we come to the end of another fantastic year, we would like to take a moment to thank you for your continued contributions and support of our publication. Equally important, Thank You to Liz for steering the magazine in a good direction. Your insights, creativity, and dedication have made this year truly special, and we wish you a great new year!

Looking ahead, we encourage everyone to start the year by submitting your latest articles and ideas. The new year is the perfect time to share

fresh perspectives, inspiring stories, and expert knowledge. We're always eager to showcase your work and help it reach a wider audience.

We hope you have a joyful festive season, get some inspiration from our mappy present collection for your friends, and we look forward to working together in 2025. Here's to a new year of creativity, growth, and success!

**Best wishes,
The Maplines Editorial Team**



MAPPY PRESENTS

The British Emporium



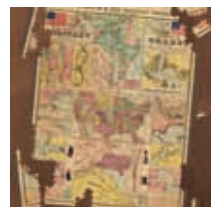
1. English Counties - Framed Art, £125.00
2. Antique Maps cushioned lap tray, £40.00
3. Planet Earth mug and all the different other mugs, £27.99



Geography Gifts on Zazzle UK



4. Travel wood world-map custom luggage tag, £10.12
5. Vintage Civil War Military Strategic Maps, 1861 Jigsaw Puzzle, £43.64
6. Map of World Time Zones Mouse Mat, £9.03



Ordnance Survey UK



7. OS, Atlas of Improbable Places, £8.49
8. Solid Gold Great British Bucket List Map, £11.99
9. OS Maps Premium 12 months Subscription Gift Card, £28.99
10. Pocket Compass, £9.34



The Geographer Store



11. Antique-style globe wooden base, £90.00
12. 'You mean the world to me' greetings card, £1.50



Books will always make an excellent gift, particularly those that encourage analytical thinking, celebrate the diversity and uniqueness of various cultures and ecosystems, or address global issues to have informed views or learn something new.

13. ***A Caribbean Poetics of Spirit***, by Hannah Regis
University of the West Indies Press 2024
Paperback \$35.00 / ebook \$9.99
<https://www.uwipress.com/9789766409456/a-caribbean-poetics-of-spirit/>



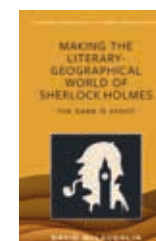
14. ***Defying Displacement***, by Andrew Lee
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15. ***Constructing Worlds Otherwise***, by Raúl Zibechi and George Ygarza Quispe (Translator)
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16. ***Making the Literary-Geographical World of Sherlock Holmes***, by David McLaughlin
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