



***Hello** from Open Spaces Society - it's business as (un)usual for the team - we are getting used to working remotely, arranging staff meetings via video, liaising with Natural England regularly and attending virtual court hearings.*

*We should love to hear how you are coping with social distancing and limiting your time for exercise outdoors - we share some of our absorbing and inspiring online places that can still be reached wherever you can access the internet.*

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## Our Campaigning Works!

We congratulate Blackburn group members for gaining Asset of Community Value (ACV) listing for their community green space, ahead of a local plan consultation. The society's case officer, Nicola Hodgson, recommended that the group prepare the ACV bid in addition to, and in support of, a Local Green Space designation application for which the group continues to gather evidence of community use (Covid-19 restrictions permitting) to strengthen its case.

[Find out more here.](#)



As a case officer, and as a voluntary researcher into historical rights of way in East Kent, I want to find out what places look like without having to travel to see them — especially now, while we're all confined to home. **Google Streetview** is immensely useful, but the Streetview drivers are a timorous bunch, seldom penetrating gated or unsealed public roads nor travelling rights of way. Whereas [Geograph.co.uk](http://Geograph.co.uk) has been everywhere, with over six million images for the British Isles — many of them taken along rights of way or on access land far from the gaze of the Streetview car. The photographs are all rigorously located on the Ordnance Survey map, which makes searching straightforward, and they can be reused with attribution under the Creative Commons Licence. You'll even find some of my own submissions in there!



Hugh Craddock

Browse the Geograph website [here](#).

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## Covid-19

We are posting the latest Welsh and English government advice [here](#) on our website. To stay safe, stay legal and stay informed refer to this page regularly as the guidance changes frequently.

Stay [informed](#) about the outdoors.



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Nichola Finan our digital marketing and content manager has been enjoying the walks that James Bishop has been filming in **Roundhay Park**, Leeds.

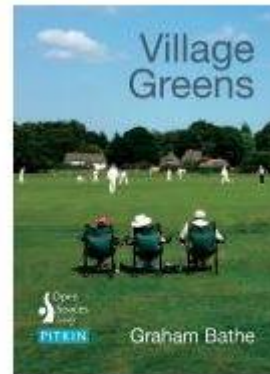
Watch his walks [here](#).

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Public Paths

Price: £5.00



Village Greens

Price: £5.00

## Great reads...

Whilst conventional shopping is restricted and you may have more reading time than usual on you hands, have a browse in our [online shop](#).

It is a year this week since we re-launched the society's website and there are hundreds of pages of news articles, opinion and information about commons, paths and open spaces. There is an [information hub](#) where you can search for a topic of interest and our [news articles](#) can be filtered by location and type of open space or activity.

One of our most popular articles provides instruction on how to use the [Natural England MAGIC tool](#) to calculate how far you may have walked or ridden, what the area of a plot of land might be.

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## Our Campaigning Works!

Persistence pays off as a Cheshire path is to be fully restored following a long running campaign alongside Cheshire East Ramblers. The footpath in the Todd Valley, famed for its large herds of red deer, forms an integral link in the local path network.

Says the society's local correspondent, Chris Meewezen: 'We are delighted that this long-running saga is now drawing to a close, and we look forward to the council returning this route to public use, by removing the obstructions and replacing the footbridge.'

Find out more [here](#).

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## Supporting the work of the Open Spaces Society

We couldn't keep fighting to protect commons, greens, open spaces and public paths without our members. We rely on member subscriptions to fund our work and provide a mandate for action. Many thanks for your continuing support if you are already one of our valued members. If you are not already a member of the society, please consider joining to support our work.

[Tell me more about membership](#)

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*P.S. While our office remains closed and our staff are working remotely, if you need to contact any member of the team please email using the form on our website [here](#).*

[What do we fight for?](#) | [Can we help you?](#) | [What can you do?](#) | [Need to know more?](#)

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