

GEOGRAPHY GROUP REPORT

Research Groups continued to work wherever possible but with obvious handicaps during the Covid restrictions. The Drove Roads project led by Rose Pude is ready to report but the team have opted to wait for face to face meetings to resume before making their presentation.

Our first Zoom meeting was held successfully on 15th October with Bob Tuddenham kindly mentoring Gerald Blake (Co-ordinator) and our speaker Professor Peter Atkins (Durham University Department of Geography). The meeting ran smoothly and Peter's talk on "The geography of food" created huge interest and many appreciative feedback comments. The topic has been a prime research interest of the speaker for 40 years and he is author of several books on the subject. Professor Atkins has agreed to give another talk in 2021.

Nineteen members joined the Zoom meeting. Half a dozen members were apparently unable to join the Zoom meeting because of difficulties over the link. Gerald Blake apologised for this disappointment, caused in part because he had forwarded the wrong link and not all members had picked up the corrected version. Overall our Zoom was regarded as very successful not least because Bob Tuddenham had hosted the meeting, thus giving us a couple of hours of Zoom.

Gerald Blake will speak about "The geography of the oceans" via Zoom on Thursday November 19th at 2.00 PM. His talk will include a briefing about the UK fisheries and the EU. Members have indicated a wish to meet monthly, but fortnightly meetings might be considered in 2021 if the monthly Zooms continue to flourish.

We still hope to be able to mount our postponed exhibition of maps in The Witham in May 2021 and foundations are being laid for this big event. Gerald Blake or Phil Johnson can give details.

GERALD BLAKE 18 OCTOBER 2020