



Geological Society Contaminated Land Specialist Group Annual Report 2020

Our committee

Full details of the current committee are published on our webpage:

<https://www.geolsoc.org.uk/contamland>

Summary of conference & events

Due to the Covid 19 outbreak public events have been curtailed but we have been beavering away behind the scenes.

January

The CLG got together with the Contaminated Land Forum – North East Thames (CLF-NET) at Burlington House on 30 January 2020 for a free half-day event sponsored by AECOM to discuss the current issues in developing and remediating land affected by contamination and Part 2A. The forum was attended by about 90 delegates who also enjoyed two rounds of tea/coffee/biscuits and networking. As this was a Geol Soc event, it was an ideal opportunity for Alex Sarney to promote our membership and Chartership opportunities and the library offered support for visiting delegates afterwards. There were presentations on SoBRA, SiLC and SQP and the National Quality Mark Schemes, hot topics from the EA, a remediation case study and tips on successful development through the planning system.





Reading early careers networking event:

On the 30th of January 2020, the Early Careers Sub-committee hosted a networking event at the Three Guinea's in Reading.

The event was well attended, with approximately 30 early careers professionals from a range of geo-environment backgrounds and provided an opportunity for networking over drinks and food. Short talks were given by representatives from our sponsors (ALS and Enitial) focusing on their careers and how they had ended up in their positions.

Feedback received was positive, with people expressing how useful it was to have an opportunity to get to know others in a less formal setting.

November

Title: Contaminated Land Standards – an overview

On Monday 30th November 16:00-17:00 using the Zoom by Chris Swainston.

The session included a general overview of the current situation regarding Standards applicable to contaminated land in the UK and provided some examples of the key ones and especially why it is a good idea to use and be aware of them.

Feedback from Chris was that the audience were engaged, with plenty of questions on the general approach that British Standards take to their work.

The hope is that the presentation can act as a focus point on the website in relation to this particular issue, which is of special relevance to the more junior/inexperienced staff at the start of their career and starting to learn about these things with senior staff hopefully promoting their use and understanding as part of CPD and their professional work.

December

Geological Society Contaminated Land Group Early Career Quiz 1st December 4:30pm

The Early Careers Committee hosted our first online quiz event in December. Over 30 people battled it out over questions ranging from geology in the movies to British geological landmarks. Prizes included a £30 Cotswold voucher, a geological themed mug and the much-coveted geological hammer USB stick. We are looking forward to hosting another quiz in 2021.

Other items to note

The committee has agreed to facilitate the production of STEM content relevant to the Earth Sciences curriculum.

We have set aside funds to produce some short videos to encourage people to pursue a career in contaminated land. The videos will be produced by Reel Access a production company based in Birmingham. Initial plans to record the videos in November 2020 were curtailed by lockdown restrictions. It is intended to produce the videos next year as soon as it is safe to do so.



The
Geological
Society

We have Contacted CIRIA to offer assistance with their climate working land group.

We've continued liaising with the regional groups to seek opportunity to co-badge meetings and assist each other in organising events covering land contamination topics.

The following planned events were postponed due to COVID 19 social distancing restrictions:

- Co-badged event with the Environment Network on the topic of plastics in the environment originally planned for 14th May 2020
- EA H5 Site Condition Report guidance that is due to be published in January 2021, seminar from EA hosted Feb/march
- Talk from Chris Swainston at the Geological Discussion Forum, originally planned for 14th April 2020
- Joint event with the Hydrogeology Group on Sandstone Aquifers originally planned for 28th/29th April 2020
- Joint event with Royal Society of Chemistry originally planned for late 2020

Finances

Our accounts are now held with Lloyds Bank, we opened the account in December 2019. Our balance from 2019 of £13,019.18 was transferred from the Geological Society on 8th July 2020.

The Early Careers networking event was held in Reading on 30th January 2020. We received £300 sponsorship each from ALS and Enitial for the event, and the expenses including food and drinks were £492.

We funded prizes for the early career virtual quiz which was held on 1st December 2020. The cost of these, including postage to the participants was £49.53.

Date	Income	Expenditure	Balance	Comments
			£13,091.18	Opening balance carried over from 18/19 financial year
Jan-20		£492.00	£12,527.18	Expenses for Reading networking event
Feb-20	£300.00		£12,827.18	Sponsorship from ALS for Reading early careers event held 30 th Jan
Dec-20		£49.53	£12,777.65	Expenses from Early Career Quiz prizes.
Dec-20	£300.00		£13,077.65	Sponsorship from Enitial for Reading early careers event held 30 th Jan

Balance on 31 December 2020 **£13,077.65**

Election to committee

During 2020, Dave Jones, Kristian Fox, Becky Corps, Paul Dennis and Aaron Morley stepped down from the committee. We thank them for their efforts during their involvement with the group. Dave Jones will remain co-opted until March 2021.



A call for volunteers was circulated in Autumn 2020. Five new committee members were co-opted and formally elected at our AGM on **9th December 2020**. They are:

- Robert Tyler
- Rachel Thomas
- Emily Reynolds (early careers)
- Jamie Melville (early careers)
- Oliver Gernon (early careers)

Plans for 2020

The Geological Society's theme for 2021 is 'Year of Space'. As part of this we have so far planned:

Production of short videos to encourage people to pursue a career in contaminated land

Webinars

We will also continue working with other groups and organisations including the regional groups, regional contaminated land forums and other professional bodies to develop events and other initiatives to promote the profession.

We will be conservative with our surplus funds until it is clearer when we can hold in-person conference again. surplus funds in line with our constitution.

The chartership working group will discuss ways to both help the society attract candidates for chartership with the society and facilitate candidate's applications.

John Cleland

Contaminated Land Specialist Group Secretary

January 2020