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BIRMINGHAM

Midlands Geotechnical Society Newsletter

Newsletter May 2013

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May 2013 Meeting

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Honorary Secretary:

Julian Hughes

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Meeting Venue

Lectures start: 7.00 pm

Location:

Nyquist Theatre

Arup Campus,

Blythe Gate,

Blythe Valley Business Park,

Solihull,

B90 8AE

Refreshments are available prior to the meeting from 6.15 pm onwards

Registered Charity Number: 514610

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN VENUE

Monday May 13th 2013

Annual General Meeting & Environmental Lecture

Groundwater Risk: A Case Study at IMI Works, Bentley Mill Way, Darlaston

Richard Brandsma

The Environment Agency

Outline

The presentation will set out the chequered history of this major contaminated land site, from the NRA's initial meetings with the IMI management back in the 90's till today's ongoing negotiations with the current site owners. It will highlight the environmental risks identified, notably the impacts of a large contaminated groundwater plume on the nearby River Tame, and the actions undertaken over the years. Also, it will identify the mining legacy and the resultant geotechnical issues associated with this site. As the area is part of the Black Country Enterprise Zone, there is now significant political and economic pressure too to finally clean up, redevelop and regenerate this piece of land, which should eliminate all local pollution and mining instability threats once and for all.

The Speaker

Following his Environmental Sciences degree from Amsterdam, Richard Brandsma finished his research degree in Soil Science at Wolverhampton University in 1996 and stayed on at the University for a further three years as post-graduate researcher and lecturer. He then joined the Environment Agency in November 1999, initially as Soil & Groundwater Scientist at the Midlands Regional team in Solihull, but later as part of the Area Groundwater & Contaminated Land team. He currently works as Technical Specialist for the Central Area of the Midlands Region out of their Lichfield office.

This months lecture is sponsored by

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How to get there

By air: Birmingham International airport is eight miles away, near Junction 6 of the M42. Taxis and hire cars are available.

By rail: Birmingham International station on the West Coast Main Line is eight miles away, or Solihull station is approximately four miles from the Campus. The S9 bus from Solihull station operates frequently and takes you to our office. Taxis are available from either station. **By car:** Follow signs to Blythe Valley business park, which is situated next to Junction 4 of the M42 motorway. The A34 from Birmingham and A3400 from Stratford-upon-Avon join the M42 at this junction.