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| **Graham Worton, Black Country UNESCO Global Geopark** **The Black Country UNESCO Global Geopark – A territory of Internationally important geology and ‘melting-pot’ of applied geoscience****Synopsis:**The Black Country is a place of exceptional geology that the founder of the Silurian System (Sir Roderick Murchison 1839) described with the words ‘In no part of England are more geological features brought together in a small compass than in the environs of Dudley or in which their characters have been more successfully developed by the labours of practical men’. The practical people that he referred to were geologists, mining and industrial pioneers who created a landscape where many fundamental discoveries about the Earth, its past history and the resources it holds were made. From the earliest days of this process of discovery, the practical implications of the ground were being investigated and a number of important processes and practices were established here that are now standard parts of geoscience today. This talk will look at the exceptional geology of the Black Country and the innovations in geoscience and applied geology that sprang from this area. This natural and human heritage is now honoured internationally as a UNESCO Geopark. What this means and the opportunities it offers for the future development of the area will be discussed.**About the Speaker:**Graham has been a professional geologist since graduation in 1984 working in the UK and overseas. He has wide experience in site investigation of unstable and contaminated land and landfill design and also museum curatorial and site geo-conservation works, working for 36 years in both academic and applied geology. He has a particular passion for communicating the importance of geoscience and using it as an inspirational theme to engage people in projects. This attitude and passion have gained a number of awards, including the Les Nichol trophy, Halstead Medal of the Geologist’s Association and the Brighton Medal of the Geological Society and Graham is well-respected within museum, conservation and engineering circles.He is the lead officer behind the newly designated Black Country UNESCO Global Geopark (July 2020) and continues to be the geological specialist for the Local Authority. |  |

**This season’s lectures...**5th October 2020 – Graham Worton - The Black Country UNESCO Global Geopark – A territory of Internationally important geology and ‘melting-pot’ of applied geoscience 2nd November 2020 – Adrian Collings, Arup. Les Nichol Award Presentation. 7th December 2020 – Young MGS Speaker Competition 11th January 2021 – Adrian Koe, Atkins - CIRIA guide on natural slopes1st February 2021 – Steven Miller, Geotechnics Ltd - Contracts and Site Investigation1st March 2021 – BGA Cooling Prize Presentation. Winner and Title TBC19th April 2021 – John Mitchell Award – Speakers for 2021 TBC. 10th May 2021 – AGM & Environmental lecture. Peter Braithwaite, University of Birmingham**Meeting Details for 5th October 2020:**[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3Ameeting_ZDE2OGFjMDAtMTE3Ny00MmM4LWE5ZTQtOGZiZjA4ZTYxOGIy%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22:%224ae48b41-0137-4599-8661-fc641fe77bea%22,%22Oid%22:%2274454327-b7fa-432b-bf31-04aab7c1f9dd%22%7d) Join from a video system Dial: teams@vmr.arup.com Video Conference ID: 128 496 810 0#Join by phone (audio only) +44 20 3321 5205  United Kingdom, London Phone Conference ID: 255 998 804 #  |