



Newsletter of the Extractive
Industries Geology Conferences

EIGConferences

Circular
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The Conference Venue
University of Birmingham



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EIG 2016 - University of Birmingham Wed 6th to Fri 9th September 2016

Welcome to the first Newsletter for EIG 2016. Following the great success of the joint 2014 EIG / FGIM Conference, the EIG Organising Committee are pleased to confirm the 19th EIG will be held at the University of Birmingham. The Conference will take place on the 7 – 8th September 2016 with field trips on the 6th and 9th September.

Birmingham University was ranked 11th in the UK and 64th in the world was named 'University of the Year in 2014. It also ranked 1st in the UK for Graduate Prospects in The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2015

The EIG Conference is the principal event for sharing knowledge, scientific research and good practice in the field of applied geology within the UK minerals industry. The event is for geo-professionals associated with the extraction of industrial rocks and minerals, including those involved in geology, hydrogeology, geotechnical engineering, restoration and after-use, reserves and resources and quarry design and planning. The conference includes 2 days of presentations plus pre- and post-conference field trips.



Simon McCurdy
2016 Conference Chairman
simon.mccurdy@eigconferences.com

Conference Chairman Simon McCurdy and the 2016 organising committee have been working hard to ensure that EIG will once again deliver an outstanding conference .

The excellent conference facilities at Birmingham we will use include the famous Bramhall Concert Hall with the Conference Dinner and Exhibition Stands in the iconic Great Hall.



The Great Hall, University of Birmingham



UNIVERSITY OF
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Charles Lapworth
At Birmingham



He is best known for pioneering faunal analysis of Silurian beds by means of index fossils, especially graptolites, and his proposal (eventually adopted) that the beds between the Cambrian of North Wales and the Silurian of South Wales should be assigned to a new geological period: the Ordovician.

By the late 1870s he had a significant academic reputation and in 1881 he was appointed as the first professor of geology at Mason College, the forerunner of the University of Birmingham. As his first research project at Birmingham, Lapworth chose to re-examine the geological structure of the Northwest Highlands

Having taken up residence in Birmingham, Lapworth spent many years studying the rocks of the Midlands and Welsh Borderland, becoming the leading authority on the geology of the area. Much of his free time was spent taking groups including students, amateur and professional geologists, and natural history societies, on field excursions within the region.

Call for Papers and Proposed EIG Themes

Please reply with offers or queries to papers@eigconferences.com

The 2016 EIG Conference will incorporate a diverse range of technical themes. As usual, the final themes will partly depend on the range of topics covered by the abstracts submitted by potential speakers, and on the decisions made by the Papers sub-Committee. There are some particular topics we would like to see submitted as abstracts .

Given that 2016 marks the 50th anniversary of the Aberfan tip disaster, one of these themes will be on recent developments and case studies in the safe design of mine and quarry tips (to include both solid and liquid 'tips' and the eventual reclamation of these to beneficial after-use, where appropriate.



Another specific theme, which follows suggestions made earlier this year at the one-day meeting, is that of groundwater and surface water control within mines and hard rock quarries (to include papers on water related aspects of quarry design, mitigation design, successful management, regulation, monitoring, reclamation and after-use).

Papers on other aspects of geotechnics and hydrogeology will, as usual, also be very welcome, particularly case studies which demonstrate either good practice or lessons learned from problems which could have been avoided.

A third theme suggested by the Committee is that of health issues within the extractive industry, for example related to respirable crystalline silica (RCS), dust or groundwater pollution.

Other topics on which papers are always invited include industry regulation, geodiversity action plans, mineral exploration, resource assessment and long-term planning for future mineral extraction. As always, papers which focus on helpful case studies, both in the UK and overseas, are particularly welcomed.

Other suggested themes could include:

- Research & development in the extractive sector
- Economic importance of the extractive sector
- Resurgence of UK mining
- Digability/ equipment selection ("Can you dig it? Yes you can!")
- Black Country / Local Geology





A thank you to all our EIG 2014 Sponsors

The EIG Committee want to thank all our sponsors for their support at St Andrews in 2014. It allowed us to host a conference for over 180 delegates and 48 oral presentations. The conference benefited from an excellent trade exhibition. The Ansel Dunham Lecture was given by Duncan Wardrop. Thank you to :

- University of St Andrews
- Lafarge Tarmac
- Wardrop Minerals Management
- Sibelco
- Hanson
- Edge Hill
- Cuesta
- British Gypsum
- SRK Consulting
- Envireau Water
- Origin Analytical
- Cemex
- LSS
- Maptek
- Chemostat
- QuarryDesign
- Poster Exhibitors



Field Excursions

Although still in planning, Gerry Lucas and his team are putting together an itinerary of several one-day pre- and post-conference field trips on Tuesday 6th September and Friday 9th September.

Proposed field trip locations include:

- Bayston Hill Quarry, Shrewsbury
- Stonebridge Quarry & Berkswell Quarry, Solihull
- Wilnecote Quarry and Croxden Quarry, Staffordshire
- Local clay pits/ brick works
- Joint trip with the History of Geology Group (HOGG) led by Hugh Torrens, possible venue Black Country / Telford areas (tbc).

Do you have any suggestions for field trip locations ? Email them to: gerry.lucas@eigconferences.com

Trade Stands

The EIG Conference is a superb opportunity to showcase your services and products to a large number of target customers.

Trade stands will be available in the stunning Great Hall which will also be used for Teas and Coffees between sessions, ensuring a good footfall. The trade stands sold out quickly at St Andrews so ensure early contact and booking to secure your place. Contact: john.peate@eigconferences.com



Promote your services with a Trade Stand

Sponsorship Packages

Every year, a number of companies choose to associate with, and support, the EIG by sponsoring a key element of the conference. The following are a few available:

- Logo on the delegate welcome pack
- Hosting the ice breaker reception
- Hosting the Conference Dinner
- Hosting the pre dinner Drinks
- Sponsoring a plenary session covering your chosen field e.g. Geotechnics, hydrogeology, etc
- Sponsorship posters



All our sponsors will have their hyperlinked logo on the EIG website for the next two years.

To discuss the opportunities available please contact Nick Horsley at: nick.horsley@eigconferences.com



Sponsor the EIG and get noticed ! (EIG 2014 Sponsors)



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EIG 2017 1 Day Meeting

The next one day EIG Meeting will on Wednesday 21 June 2017. The conference centre associated with the Gaydon Motor Museum, Warwickshire has been provisionally booked; arrangements will also be made at a nearby hotel for those who wish stay overnight before the meeting.

Possible topics for 2017 could be :

- Issues around reserve estimation.
- Quarry after-use.
- Exploration methods
- Quarry equipment selection and use regarding geological/ground conditions.
- Geo-science R&D for mineral operations.
- Geo-science inputs into the design of quarry after-use.

Thoughts and Ideas please to Geoff Walton :

geoffw@dustscan.co.uk



2015 - 1 Day Meeting Report

The 2015 meeting on '**Surface Water, Groundwater and Flooding in Mines and Quarries**' was a well-received meeting. Nine papers were presented each having a 30 minute slot which allowed for questions, although a further 70 minutes were also allowed for Q&A sessions in 3 separate slots in the programme.

The conference attendance was interesting. Of those attending there were 40 from the extractive industry, 40 from consultancy, 14 from government and NGOs including academia and 14 from equipment suppliers.

An extended Q&A session concluded the meeting; there were several themes that were brought up such as the need for more monitoring and diligent investigations, but there appeared to be 3 principal areas of concern:

- Firstly, uncertainty over regulations and water licencing issues.
- Secondly, how in the future runoff discharge consents will be managed in the regulatory regime and the role of local flood authorities.
- Thirdly, issues around groundwater flooding risks in the context of quarry backfilling.

There was an apparent need for more transparent discussion with government and agencies than appears likely in the short term; the absence of attendees from government and regulators was regrettable. Joined-up government is missing at present and industry and consultants need to push for changes in the *status quo*.

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