



# **Home Counties North Regional Group**

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Followed by

### Chalk mines and solution features in Hertfordshire and the problems they cause

## Clive Edmonds BSc MSc PhD DIC FGS CGeol EurGeol CSci

Historical chalk mining is widely recorded in Hertfordshire for a variety of purposes (agriculture/paper making/brick making etc). As towns have expanded outwards across former land areas used for these purposes changes in drainage and loading characteristics have triggered ground subsidence causing structural damage to the built environment. Dissolution of the chalk has additionally produced significant numbers of solution features across the chalk outcrop. Again wet weather or leaking services are common triggers of solution features resulting in damage to buildings and infrastructure. The talk will present an overview for Hertfordshire based on data recorded in the PBA national databases and experience gained from solving subsidence insurance claims.



Clive joined Peter Brett Associates in 1997 and became a partner in 2006. He has about 30 years' experience having worked throughout the UK and in parts of Europe and Asia. He typically leads projects with significant geological, geomorphological and geotechnical issues, particularly instability. He is a leading UK expert in the investigation and solving of ground instability problems especially relating to natural cavities (karst) and mining cavities. Through academic studies and commercial experience he has developed geomorphological modelling, geohazard mapping and risk assessment techniques for sites underlain by karst and mines. Major projects include: a national study of natural cavity instability in Great Britain; development of national databases for natural cavities and mining cavities; large scale investigations and remedial stabilisation works (up to values of £12 million) for subsidence-damaged properties in Reading, Hatfield, Hemel Hempstead and elsewhere; and numerous subsidence insurance claims. Clive has acted as expert witness for public inquiries, ruling court and litigation cases, has been interviewed on TV and radio, and has authored more than 30 technical papers/books and lectured widely.

#### Date: Tuesday 22 April 2014 Venue: Sir Robert McAlpine, Eaton Court, Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead HP2 7TR Refreshments 18.00 Annual General Meeting starts 18.30 Lecture starts 19.00 For more information on the Home Counties North Regional Group visit the website at http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/hcnrg