



The
Geological
Society

-serving science & profession



Date:
Thursday 16th
April 2015

Venue:
Burlington House

Details:
Tea / coffee:
17:30

Meeting
Commences:
18:00

Free to attend

Registration not
required

Webcast TBC

For further information
and registration, please
contact:

Event Convenor:

Dave Giles

email:
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Geological Society Geological Society Engineering Group Evening Meeting

Case Studies in Engineering Geology

Scour Feature in St. James's Square, London

Richard Ball, CGL

Unexpected ground conditions were encountered during the excavation of a basement in St. James's Square London, where a vertical contact between the London Clay and the overlying River Terrace Deposits was recorded. Details of the ground conditions encountered are presented and a synopsis of the difficulties caused by these ground conditions in the construction process.

The Value of Classification Testing in Engineering Geology: An Example from North East England

Dr. Andrew Smith, Coffey

Classification tests are widely used in geotechnical investigation for construction. Much effort has been expended on correlations between classification tests (particularly moisture contents and index tests) and other properties. Indeed, it may seem that their original purpose, that of classification, has almost been forgotten. This presentation describes a project in the North East of England in which a single particle size distribution test result proved crucial in interpreting a complex geological structure. This proved to be vital information for the development of a ground model in support of a claim.

Carsington Dam – Some Key Lessons Revisited

Professor David Norbury, Director of
David Norbury Ltd

The failure of Carsington Dam during construction in the 1980's was a major embarrassment to the UK earthworks industry. This presentation will outline the causes of the failure, which come down to a basic misunderstanding of a number of aspects of clay behaviour. Although this was well aired at the time, this was a generation ago. This talk will revisit the causes and the lessons which hopefully remain learnt from this event.

