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# Geological Society Contaminated Land Specialist Group Annual Report 2022

## Our committee

Full details of the current committee are published on our webpage:

<https://www.geolsoc.org.uk/contamland>

## Summary of Conference & Events

### May 2022

### Hydrogeology of Sandstones Conference

Co-badged with the Hydrogeology Group, the Hydrogeology of Sandstones Conference was held on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at Burlington House. The conference was extremely well attended, with 26 speakers delivering fantastic talks on geology, water resources, groundwater management, groundwater quality and contaminated land. Anna Hitchmough and Jenny Lightfoot convened on the second day, and Emily Reynolds was part of the organising committee working with the Hydrogeology group.





## August 2022

### Careers Video Filming

The CLG, led by Anna Hitchmough and Matt Wright and working with professional production company Reel Access have produced short promotional videos to encourage students and early career professionals into the discipline of contaminated land. Representatives from academia, industry and regulators were brought together at the Lapworth Museum in Birmingham on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2021 for filming. The careers videos were finalised in August 2022 and are now available on the Geological Society careers pages and YouTube ([Career resources - YouTube](#)). The footage produced showcases the interesting and varied careers possible within contaminated land and frames the work we all do in a way that will hopefully appeal to younger audiences encouraging them into the industry.

The screenshot shows a YouTube channel page for 'The Geological Society'. The main video is titled 'A CAREER IN CONTAMINATED LAND: CONSULTANT CAREER PATH' with a duration of 7:45. Below it, there are four more videos in a playlist:

1. A CAREER IN CONTAMINATED LAND: CONSULTANT CAREER PATH (7:45)
2. Discover a career in contaminated land! (3:43)
3. A CAREER IN CONTAMINATED LAND: CONTRACTOR CAREER PATH (7:35)
4. A CAREER IN CONTAMINATED LAND: ACADEMIA CAREER PATH (9:41)

The channel page also shows 'Career resources' with 11 videos, 166 views, and a 'SUBSCRIBED' button.

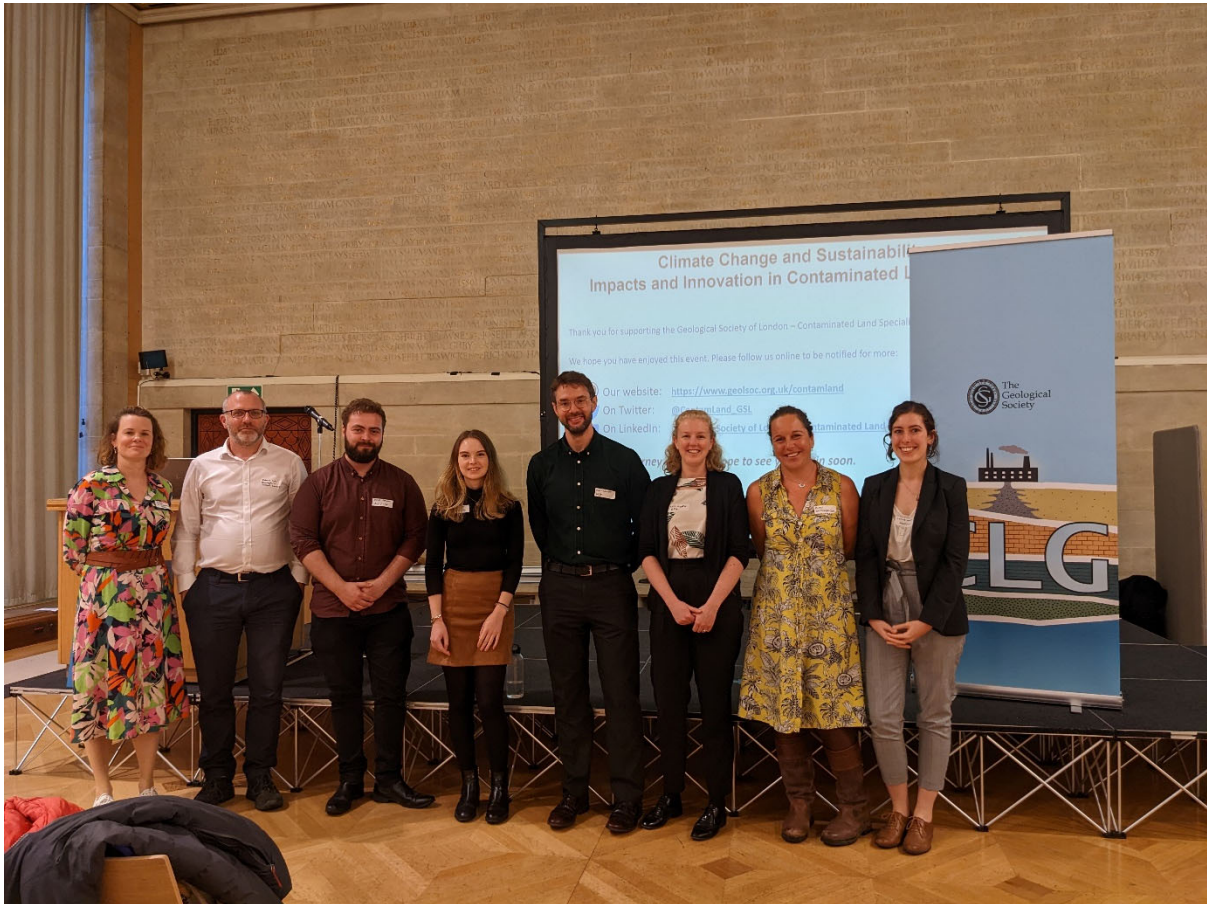
## October 2022

### Climate Change and Sustainability Conference

The CLG climate change and sustainability conference was held over the 19-20<sup>th</sup> October at Bristol City Hall Conference Rooms. We had around 70 people in the room on both days, with 9 speakers on the first day and 8 on the second covering a variety of topics related to impacts from climate change on our industry, and innovations to improve sustainability in our work. The presentations prompted lots of thought-provoking discussions and good feedback was received from attendees and presenters alike. The presentations were recorded and will be made publicly available in due course to facilitate wider knowledge sharing.



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## **December 2022**

### **Contaminated Land Group Christmas Quiz**

On Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December we hosted a free virtual Christmas Quiz with a contaminated land theme. Rounds included names that obscure historical land use, guess the Christmas geologist, contaminated land legislation and the ever-enjoyable cryptic emoji round. A top prize of a £30 outdoor shop voucher was offered and some CLG merchandise as runner up prizes. The attendees all said they enjoyed the event very much and certainly learnt a few things!

### **Cardiff University Early Careers Networking Event**

On Friday 2 December 2022, Emily Reynolds and Abigail Brooks hosted a networking event at Cardiff University for students from the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences. The networking event is set up with an early career professional (ECP) from a different company at each table. Groups of students then visit each ECP, having 15 minutes to network before moving on to the next ECP. Joining Mott MacDonald at the event were ECP representatives from Network Rail, AECOM, T&P Regeneration, TerraFirma and Vertase FLI. We are keen to keep up the close relations with Cardiff University, as much as the Earth Science course leaders are keen to have us come back each year to meet the next student cohort. It is a great opportunity for students to ask questions about the transition between university and beginning a career, their university course, placements, interviews and applications. Feedback received was positive, with people expressing how useful it was for



students to have an opportunity to talk to early career professionals in an informal setting. The event was also beneficial to the speakers, to have the opportunity to meet current students and develop skills associated with planning events.





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## Other Initiatives

In 2022 the committee agreed to facilitate the production of STEM content relevant to the Earth Sciences curriculum. We initially set aside funds to produce some short videos to encourage people to pursue a career in contaminated land, however Scotdec could no longer support the project. Moving forward we now propose to add STEM content to the GSL Geoscience Education & Outreach Network (GEON) platform (<https://geon.geolsoc.org.uk/feed>).

We've continued liaising with the regional groups to seek opportunity to co-badge meetings and assist each other in organising events covering land contamination topics.

The following planned events were postponed due to COVID 19 social distancing restrictions:

- Co-badged event with the Environment Network on the topic of plastics in the environment originally planned for 14<sup>th</sup> May 2020.
- EA H5 Site Condition Report guidance that is due to be published in January 2021, seminar from EA hosted Feb/March.
- Joint event with Royal Society of Chemistry originally planned for late 2020.

## Finances

There were payments made in May and June 2022 to Reel Access for the filming and editing of the careers videos. Other income and expenses were related to the sustainability conference in October, which overall made a profit of over £4,000. Some expenses for payment in January 2023 relating to activities in 2022 include carbon off-setting of sustainability conference attendees travel (£92.75) and prizes for the Christmas quiz (£41.64) and expenses from Robert Tyler for sustainability conference (£73.00).

| Date     | Income    | Expenditure | Balance           | Comments   |
|----------|-----------|-------------|-------------------|--|
|          |           |             | <b>£13,838.03</b> | Opening balance carried over from 2021   |
| June -22 |           | £1,500.00   | <b>£12,338.03</b> | Payment to Reel Access for the career video filming and editing completed in 2021                            |
| Sept-22  |           | £704.40     | <b>£11,633.63</b> | Swag bags for sustainability conference, tote bags and notebooks   |
| Sept-22  | £2,700.00 |             | <b>£14,333.63</b> | Sponsorship from Landmark, Groundsure, Enitial, Van Walt and Structural Soils from sustainability conference |
| Oct-22   |           | £4,273.80   | <b>£10,059.83</b> | Payment for catering for sustainability conference   |
| Oct-22   |           | £332.77     | <b>£9,727.06</b>  | Payment for banners and posters for conference   |
| Oct-22   | £7,351.35 |             | <b>£17,078.41</b> | Income from registrations for sustainability conference  |



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## Election to Committee

During 2022 the following members stepped down from the committee:

- Anna Hitchmough
- Amy Juden
- Jenny Lightfoot
- Rachel Thomas
- Michael Smith
- Angela Haslam
- Clay Durrant
- Molly Brown
- Jamie Melville
- Jordy Koning

We thank them for their efforts during their involvement with the group.

A call for new volunteers was circulated in December 2022. Twelve new committee members were formally elected at our AGM:

- Ena Hyka
- Russell Corbyn
- James Rhys-Williams
- Louise Stroud
- Theresa Cory
- Patrick Moore
- Been Rees
- Dhuliany Littig
- Aaron Moyle
- Adam Packman
- Duncan Freeman
- Danielle Evans

## Plans for 2023

We will continue working with other groups and organisations including the regional groups, regional contaminated land forums and other professional bodies to develop events and other initiatives to promote the profession.

The chartership working group will discuss ways to both help the society attract candidates for chartership with the society and facilitate candidate's applications.

**Emily Reynolds**

**Contaminated Land Specialist Group Secretary**

**January 2023**