



## **THE CENTRAL SCOTLAND REGIONAL GROUP OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

**Notice of event: Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation – ECCI  
High School Yards, EH1 1LZ  
5:30pm for 6:00pm

Note that there is no parking at the venue.  
This event is FREE and does not require any prior registration.

### **The Glasgow Geothermal Energy Research Field Site**

by  
**Hugh Barron**  
**The British Geological Survey**

The British Geological Survey (BGS) and Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) are developing two world-class subsurface energy research test centres in the UK, one of which is in the Clyde Gateway area in the east end of Glasgow. This Glasgow Geothermal Energy Research Field Site is part of a £9M project to study low-temperature geothermal energy from the flooded mine workings below Glasgow.

Eastern Glasgow was once the location of extensive coal mining. The eventual closure of the mines led to them becoming naturally flooded with warm water which could be exploited via heat pumps to provide low-carbon heat for homes and businesses. In the Glasgow area, temperatures from around 12 to 20°C are recorded in mine workings down to around 400 metres depth. However, we need to understand underground processes so that we can benefit from and protect underground resources. Geothermal energy could provide a low-cost, low-carbon heat source, but there are number of challenges for the geothermal industry.

This aims to be a world-class research site that would attract leading geothermal scientists and engineers. The knowledge, expertise and technology generated from this investment will be exportable to other areas. Around the UK, The Coal Authority datasets show flooded mine workings that could provide an energy source in other densely populated areas. Many other countries around the globe are likely also to be interested in research at the site.

More information on the Central Scotland Regional Group can be found on our [webpage](#).



# THE CENTRAL SCOTLAND REGIONAL GROUP OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## Presenter

**Hugh Barron** BSc (Hons), MSc, CGeol, CSci  
**Business Manager with BGS Scotland, The British Geological Survey**

Hugh Barron is a Business Manager with BGS Scotland and External Liaison Manager for the BGS Glasgow Geothermal Energy Research Field Site.

He has over 30 years' experience with BGS as a geologist, business development and project manager. He has been involved in geothermal feasibility work in Scotland for the last six years or so. With Aecom, he managed a Scottish Government project to review the deep geothermal energy potential in Scotland and was a co-author of the report. Hugh served on the Scottish Government Geothermal Energy Expert Group, and has worked with a variety of commercial and academic partners on shallow (minewater), intermediate (hot sedimentary aquifer) and deep geothermal (electricity generation) feasibility projects in Scotland.

He is a Chartered Geologist and currently Chair of the Geological Society Geoconservation Committee.



Registered Charity Number 210161

The Geological Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, LONDON, W1V 0JU  
Tel: 0207 434 9944 Fax: 0207 439 3470 Website: <http://www.geolsoc.org.uk>