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South East Regional Group

Meeting

## Bags of Rocks & Sleeper Graveyards: Stabilising the Cumbria Coast

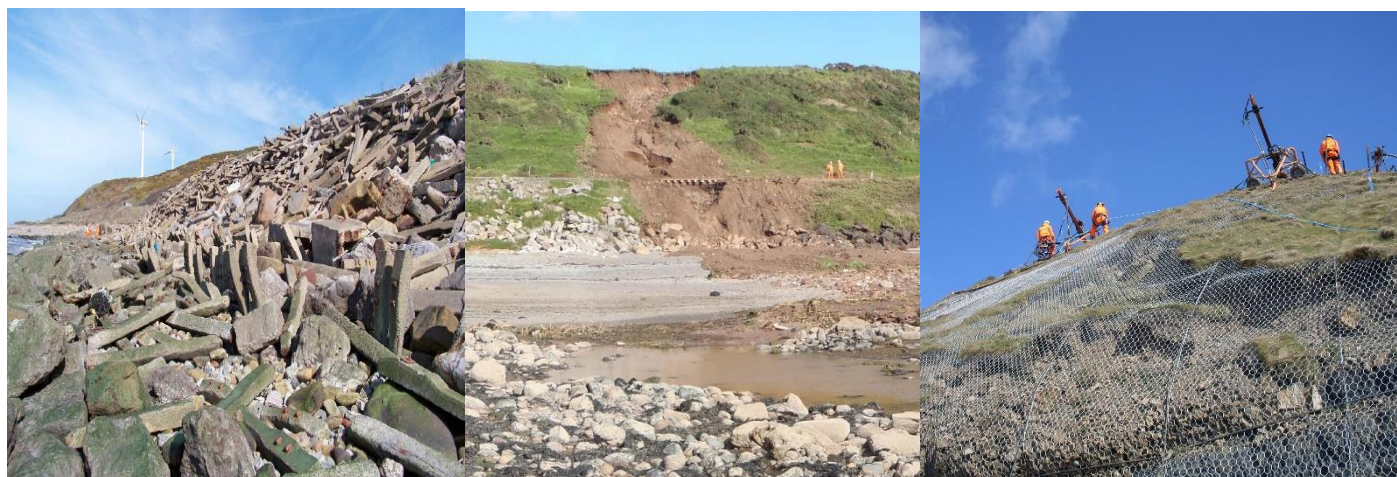


By Chris Milne, J Murphy & Sons Ltd



**Date:** 09 March 2021 **Time:** 6pm

The Cumbria Coast Line is a remote but surprisingly important rail link connecting otherwise isolated communities and providing a strategic transport route between the submarine shipyards at Barrow and the nuclear reprocessing plant at Sellafield. Whilst relatively little known now, the area was in an important industrial area during the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, driving the difficult construction of a railway along the exposed Irish Sea coast. This industrial legacy, combined with the geology and complex geomorphology of the coastline, is a constant challenge to maintenance. The talk discusses the background, problems and solutions to the ongoing stabilisation of one of the UK's most interesting rail lines.



*Biographical Details:* Chris is a Chartered Geologist, Chartered Civil Engineer and UK Registered Ground Engineering Adviser with over 25 years' experience working in railway earthworks assessment and remediation. Having been technical lead for railway geotechnics in large consultancies, he is now a Senior Engineering Manager for Murphy, working as CEM for earthworks for the Network Rail Anglia CP6 framework with responsibility for developing UK railway earthworks best practice.

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