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Geological Hazards – How safe is the UK?

**Prof. Martin Culshaw: Visiting Honorary Professor, University of Birmingham and
Honorary Research Associate at the British Geological Survey**

17th November 2020

Zoom Talk: opens at 6pm for 6:30pm Start

The Western Regional Group is pleased to welcome Prof. Martin Culshaw who will discuss the geohazards which affect the UK and their impact.

When the public becomes aware of geological hazards, it is usually because a catastrophic event such as an earthquake, a volcanic eruption or a tsunami has occurred elsewhere in the world. While Britain does experience these 'geohazards' very occasionally, their effect is usually small. Yet, geological hazards in the UK cause losses in terms of damage to buildings, structures and infrastructure of around £0.4bn every year. In addition, people occasionally lose their life or are injured. The



Hatfield Colliery (Yorkshire) landslide in spoil tip material 2013

lecture will discuss the natural and artificial geological hazards that affect Britain. The difference between 'hazard' and 'risk' will be explained (even though all professional geologists should already know this!) Suggestions will be given as to how geological hazards can be mitigated and the risks reduced using the geological information already available to us.

Zoom Details: When: Nov 17, 2020 06:30 PM London

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0qc-yvrTlqE9V-eeDmIjv3-u0RQAWvRDBR>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Entry is free, non-members welcome.

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Prof. Martin Culshaw: Visiting Honorary Professor, University of Birmingham and Honorary Research Associate at the British Geological Survey.

Martin Culshaw is an independent researcher and, until last year, a scientific editor. Until April 2008 he was Director of Environment and Hazards at the British Geological Survey (BGS) and the Survey's Chief Engineering Geologist. He has been involved in engineering geological research, environmental and engineering geological mapping, geohazard assessment, site investigation, urban geoscience and the application of geology to land use planning for nearly 50 years. During this time he has spent a number of years overseas in Asia, Africa, Europe and Central America.

He is Visiting Honorary Professor in Engineering Geology in the School of Civil Engineering at the University of Birmingham and an Honorary Research Associate at the BGS. He has published over 160 papers, books and articles and over a 110 technical reports for the BGS, the UK, and overseas, government departments and private clients. More recently he has contributed to the Engineering Group's report on the engineering geology and geomorphology of glaciated and periglaciated terrains, CIRIA's manual on abandoned mineworkings and encyclopaedias on natural geohazards and engineering geology. He edited nine conference proceedings, as well as organising numerous meetings and conferences and serving on three journal editorial boards. He recently retired as Editor-in-Chief of the Bulletin of Engineering Geology and the Environment. He received the Engineering Group of the Geological Society's Award for 1989, and was the Geological Society's Glossop Lecturer in 2004, receiving the Glossop Medal, and received the E B Burwell Jr Award from the Geological Society of America in 2006. In 2010 he was awarded the International Association for Engineering Geology and the Environment's Hans Cloos Medal and, in 2020, their Marcel Arnould medal. He has served on various committees and steering groups for the International Association for Engineering Geology and the Environment, the Geological Society, the Institution of Civil Engineers and the Construction Industry Research and Information Association (CIRIA). He was a trustee and member of Council of the Geological Society from 2005 to 2009 and a Vice President from 2007 to 2009.

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