

Shell London Lecture Series: Stranger than Fiction: Worlds around and beneath us

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Geological Society of London

Reconciling past and future worlds: Geology and ground engineering

SPEAKER: *Jackie Skipper (Geotechnical Consulting Group)*



Planning for and constructing our built environment and infrastructure for today and for the future is an immensely complex process - but 'the ground' is still what keeps our buildings up, and is what we cut or tunnel through to construct roads, train networks, fuel, water and sewage pipelines. We ignore it, and it's future behaviour at our peril - it can also fail, be washed away, slip, collapse or erode. The ground, in all its complexity, is the geotechnical engineer's principle raw material, and yet it is usually much less well understood than the concrete or steel used to construct our walls and foundations.

As engineers plan the shape of our future world, it is clear that we also need to develop the geological skills to reconcile the nature and behaviour of the ground that was deposited millions of years ago with how that same ground is going to behave, not only in relation to our newly constructed built environment, but also in 50, 100, 150 years time.

This talk will look at how the most basic of services that we use every day work in relation to the ground and how developing this infrastructure requires an increasingly sophisticated geological understanding in order to be successful for years to come.

Date: *Wednesday 9 January 2013*

Timings: *This lecture will be given at 3pm and 6pm on this day (with tea/coffee served for half an hour before each), so please let us know, when requesting a place, which talk you would like to attend.*

Venue: *The Geological Society of London, Burlington House*

Entry to this lecture is free to all, but places are allocated on a ballot basis. Please call at reception (to your right) or contact the Society by post, phone, fax or email (see below).



For further information, please contact:
Conference Office, The Geological Society,
Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BG
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2013 Programme

9 January	Reconciling past and future worlds: Geology and ground engineering	<i>Geotechnical Consulting Group</i>
27 February	TBC	TBC
27 March	Exceptionally preserved fossils: Windows on the evolution of life	<i>David Siveter, University of Leicester</i>
17 April	Rivers under the sea	<i>Jeffrey Peakall, University of Leeds</i>
May	TBC	TBC
3 July	TBC	<i>Sanjeev Gupta, Imperial College</i>
11 September	Dwarfism in animals on islands	<i>Victoria Herridge, Natural History Museum</i>
9 October	New discoveries of life at deep - sea hydrothermal vents	<i>Adrian Glover, Natural History Museum</i>
November	TBC	TBC
18 December	Lakes Beneath the Ice	<i>Martin Siegert, Edinburgh University</i>



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