

Shell London Lecture Series - Geology in the Age of Man

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Geological Society of London

Earthquakes and tsunamis in the modern world



SPEAKER: *James Jackson (University of Cambridge)*

Earthquakes over the last decade have produced a series of revealing examples illustrating the world we now live in. There have been large earthquakes that have killed very few people, and demonstrated the impressive resilience and improvement in infrastructure in several countries; yet they have sometimes been accompanied by tsunamis that were devastating and deadly. Over the same period, much smaller earthquakes have killed up to 30% of urban populations in countries that are far less well prepared. These contrasts are related to wealth, development and education, but also to the geological setting and the nature of the hazard involved. We now have an unprecedented ability to reveal exactly what happened in these events, through a combination of relatively new monitoring technologies that can provide information rapidly and with extraordinary resolution. Such knowledge is helpful, and in the long term helps build resilience, but also reveals our ignorance of fundamental processes. This lecture will examine such issues and what is behind the sombre conclusion that 'the rich pay and the poor die'.

Date: *Wednesday 18 January 2012*

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 applying for tickets, which talk you would like to attend.*

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

Entry to this lecture is free to all, but by ticket only. 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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E: registrations@geolsoc.org.uk
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2012 Programme

| | | |
|--------------|---|--|
| 18 January | Earthquakes and tsunamis in the modern world | <i>James Jackson, University of Cambridge</i> |
| 15 February | Rocks and climate change: How we can stop pulling the carbon trigger | <i>Bryan Lovell, GSL President</i> |
| 28 March | Life at the edge: Sinking deltas | <i>James Syvitski, University of Colorado</i> |
| 18 April | Reconciling past and future worlds: Geology and ground engineering | <i>Jackie Skipper, Geotechnical Consulting Group</i> |
| 9 May | Unconventional gas | <i>Melvyn Giles, Shell</i> |
| 27 June | Sustainability of groundwater in a changing world | <i>Paul Younger, University of Newcastle</i> |
| 26 September | Volcanoes and man | <i>Sue Loughlin, British Geological Survey</i> |
| 10 October | Pollutants and human health in the age of man | <i>Jane Plant, Imperial College London</i> |
| 14 November | Geological aspects of renewable energy | <i>Bruce Levell, Shell</i> |
| 19 December | Incoming: Learning to love the meteorite | <i>Ted Nield, GSL</i> |



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