

# NEWSLETTER

## 2-DAY ANNUAL CONFERENCE IS BACK!

**Exciting news.** For the first time in many a year our 2-day Annual Conference is back. This is at least one positive outcome of the Corona Virus Pandemic. Trustees have decided that our November Conference should be held virtually over 2 days, 18-19 November. This will enable a wider participation both nationally and internationally with special breakout places for our exhibitors. Fees for the two days will be a little less than the originally planned one-day face-to-face event at Aston and are therefore, especially good value for money. We plan to postpone the Aston event until 2021 when the Covid-19 situation allows.

## HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

### Conference 2020

This month we present the revised 2-day programme for the Annual Conference on 18-19 November 2020. More on this follows.

### Virtual Regional Seminars?

An alternative to way to share research and ideas during the restrictions at the moment. See below and have your say.

### New Feature

Your mail. We have introduced a new feature this month to provide better dissemination of issues and questions from the membership. See this initiative below.

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Twitter: <https://twitter.com/epuk5>,

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## Virtual Regional Seminars?

As the health crisis prevents us from running regional meetings right now, we would be interested to hear whether Members would like us to consider offering virtual regional seminars for the physical seminars that were to be held this Spring on air quality and contaminated land. For example, the South West Division had to cancel their AGM and Meeting at Bridgwater, Somerset scheduled for 23<sup>rd</sup> April. Whilst, the contaminated land meeting was due to be held at the BGS Keyworth, Nottingham on 1st June. Both had valuable line-ups arranged for the Membership.

Inevitably, there will be cost implications for the Society in arranging virtual events, so we need to be sure that attendance will be significant. So do let us know your thoughts on this suggestion.

All comments will be welcome by our Chairman Christopher Fry,  
at: [cchfry@btinternet.com](mailto:cchfry@btinternet.com)

## Correspondence

We are introducing a new feature to Newsletter. The Secretariat receives a significant amount of correspondence which in some cases, might well be of interest to the membership at large.

This month we received this letter from an elderly gentleman who is clearly worried about the impact of this potential quarry on health of his family and himself. How would you advise him?

I am writing today to ask if you can give me any advice regarding my concerns for the proposed quarry that has applied for planning permission on Tuesday 23 June, to excavate blue lias stone. This quarry will be sited in Batts Lane, Long Sutton, in an open field immediately across from my property. All the surrounding area is residential or farm land and my concerns are regarding noise, dust, traffic and disturbing the rich variety of wild life the area enjoys.

My husband and I are in our 70's and live with my daughter, her husband and their two young children, age 10 and 11. I am particularly worried about the air quality for them and also the increase traffic on which is an already busy road, A372 which runs past our entrance and is the access road to Batts Lane.

Any advice you can give me regarding this planning application will be much appreciated.

## The Latest Conference 2020 Line-Up

*The confirmed speakers and topics for Conference so far are as follows:*

*William Wilson, Wyese Consulting, and Professor Eloise Scotford, UCL,* will give an update and commentary on the Environment Bill.

*Neil Wait, Environmental expert advising the HS2 project,* will present his findings on assessing and resolving environmental challenges.

*Professor Stephen Holgate, University of Southampton,* newly appointed Clean Air Champion, will update Conference on progress for clean air action.

*Dr Ian Mudway, Kings College London,* will give an assessment of new research in health impacts.

*Steve Forster, Remedica Group Ltd,* and Chair of Joint Industry Working Group in Soil and Asbestos and C & D Materials, will give an update on the new AGS guidance on asbestos.

*David Rudland, former EPUK Chair of Land Quality,* will introduce a major new EPUK publication on decommissioning of petrol/diesel forecourts.

*Dr Tom Henman, lead investigator from RSK,* commissioned by the Scottish Government, will update on the CO<sub>2</sub> disaster involving former coal mines in Gorebridge in 2014.

*George Gibbs, Noise Consultants Ltd,* will present on noise mapping: potential further uses and opportunities.

*Oliver Bewes, Noise Manager, Infrastructure Directorate, HS2 Ltd,* will discuss noise issues associated with the high-speed train project.

*Dr Antonio Martinez, Salford University,* will also be presenting his most recent research.

It is guaranteed to be two days of interesting and informative presentations and discussion. Don't miss out, sign up today and take advantage of the Early Bird Rates.

<https://www.environmental-protection.org.uk/events/epuk-events/annual-conference-2020/>

## MEMBERSHIP

*We are always looking for new members. Please recommend EPUK and its services to your colleagues and any organisation you feel would benefit from membership. Follow the link below for more information regarding types of membership and associated cost.*

<https://www.environmental-protection.org.uk/membership/>

*Or ask us for a Membership Booklet by emailing [info@environmental-protection.org.uk](mailto:info@environmental-protection.org.uk)*

## AND FINALLY, FROM THE PRESS



### Electric Scooters in Paris

The Guardian reports this month that residents of Middlesbrough in the north-east of England were the first in the UK to legally ride electric scooters on the open road when the law changed on Saturday 04 July, as the government struggles to prevent a recovery from coronavirus based on cars.

Although e-scooters have been whizzing illegally around many UK cities for the past few years, the pandemic has prompted the government to speed up plans to pilot public rental schemes.

The Department for Transport said the Tees Valley would be the first to test what the region's mayor, Ben Houchen, praised as "a clean energy, socially distant mode of transport". An initial 100 scooters are set to appear in Middlesbrough later this month in a partnership with a new UK-based operator, Ginger, rolling out across Teesside, Darlington and Hartlepool.

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