News from MJCA

Technical advisers on environmental issues

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We are now on twitter! You can find us @MJCA_OFFICIAL

Providing independent advice on environmental issues

NERC and Boaty McBoatface

We announced in our last newsletter that Leslie has been appointed as a member of the Council for NERC, and what an eventful time it has been! Following a call from NERC for suggestions to name the new £200 million polar research ship that sparked global interest, Royal Research Ship *Sir David Attenborough* has been selected as a name that captures the ship's scientific mission and celebrates the broadcaster's contribution to natural science.

Reflecting the global interest that the campaign drew, Science Minister Jo Johnson confirmed that the popular suggestion Boaty McBoatface will live on as the name of one of the high-tech remotely operated sub-sea vehicles. The 'Boaty' sub-sea vehicle will be dispatched from RRS *Sir David Attenborough* to allow the ship's research crew to collect data and samples from the deepest waters of the Arctic and Antarctic.

Leslie, who sits on the NERC Council said:

"We were delighted with the wide publicity generated for NERC and especially for the science which is supported by NERC. I am looking forward to attending the Keel Laying for the new ship later this year."

Some further entries to the #nameourship campaign included Usain Boat, Pingu, What iceberg? and simply, Boat! Some more mainstream suggestions included Henry Worsley and Katherine Giles.

The future of UK 'fracking'

On 23 May 2016 North Yorkshire County Council granted Third Energy's application to carry out hydraulic fracturing near Kirby Misperton. After years in the doldrums, will this landmark planning decision prove to be the catalyst which reignites the UK industry – and the ever present debate, is 'fracking' safe?

Whether you support or oppose the principle, one thing all parties will agree on is that if it's here to stay, then let's make sure it's done safely and in a way that protects environment.

With MJCA's expertise in offering technical guidance in support of planning applications; water impact assessment and management; waste management technology and solutions and contaminated land investigation and remediation one thing is for sure – if the industry takes off we'll be able to provide technical support every step of the way.

Earlier in the year Guy Titman from MJCA was involved in an appeal for Tarmac Aggregates relating to the definition of recovery or disposal of waste at Methley Quarry near Leeds. Further information on the decision and the implications can be found in the article written with Emma Tattersdill of Freeths for Mineral Planning at the link below.

http://www.mineralandwasteplanning.co.uk/meeting-legal-criteria-recovery/article/1389885

To celebrate the Geological Society's 'Year of Water' take some time out to complete our hydro themed word search. Send us a picture of your completed word search to receive an exciting prize!

D N P D A Y K D R V N V G E M
R I O M R C T I A O F R S P R
A T G I E A O I I R A Y I E E
W D E L T V I T S D C E F G T
D H Y S R A P N I O Z Y D R A
O Z G E O R R E A O R Q I A W
W C S R O B N T M G B O S H D
N E J S Q T I E L B E B P C N
R K D E W A T E R I N G E S U
O A Y C R E A Q U I F E R I O
V G C X R V R X W C K N S D R
Y T I V I T C U D N O C I E G
N O I S U F F I D U H L O O F
V I S C O S I T Y P V Q N P W
A N E T A H C A E L W K S Q F

ADSORPTION
AQUIFER
CONDUCTIVITY
DARCY
DEWATERING
DIFFUSION
DISCHARGE
DISPERSION
DRAINAGE
DRAWDOWN
GRADIENT
GROUNDWATER
INFILTRATION
LEACHATE
PIEZOMETER
POROSITY
RESERVOIR
VISCOSITY

Euro 2016- The games might be over, but what about the waste?

MJCA takes a look at how the organisers tackled waste management and water use

Stadium waste

Waste management was one of the eight sustainability priorities for UEFA EURO 2016. The 3Rs approach (reduce, reuse, recycle) produced the following objectives:

- 50% recycling rate
- Zero waste to landfill
- Greater public awareness

To achieve these goals, a broad range of measures were developed:

Reduce

- Reusable cups
- Dematerialisation (e.g. no paper)
- Responsible sourcing
- Low packaging
- Awareness campaign

Reuse

- Reusable materials (signage, floor coverings, furniture, décor, etc.)
- Donation of surpluses (e.g. to NGOs)

Recycle

- Dual-bin solution (for general public and staff)
- Multi-bin solution (for kitchens)

An additional goal was to leave a positive legacy in the ten stadiums and to encourage long-term improvements in waste management. Several stadium visits were organised to share know-how and best practices.

A post-event report, expected in autumn 2016, will provide data on several indicators (e.g. waste per spectator) and assess the achievements of the action plan.

Stadium water

Efficient stadium water management is primarily the result of astute infrastructure choices. For example, most of the water used – for pitch watering and sanitation – can be rainwater collected by systems such as those installed at the majority of UEFA EURO 2016 stadiums. This use was monitored during the tournament.

With regard to drinking water within the venues, independent contractors were brought in to manage drinking water around the stadium. This contract was put out to tender, with the aim of finding a company that could implement innovative water saving solutions such as timed flow valves for drinking water taps.

2016 – International Year of Pulses!

The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations voted 2016 the International Year of Pulses with the aim of increasing understanding and awareness of the potential positive impacts that pulses can have on food security, nutrition and the environment.

Pulses can be grown in poor soils where other crops cannot successfully establish. There are some drought resistant, deep rooting species of pulse with roots which can successfully take up groundwater for successful growth in hostile environments with pulses generally having a very low water footprint. In addition to their positive impact on food security, pulses can have a positive impact on the environment and soil fertility due to their nitrogen-fixing properties. Pulses are a low cost source of protein and minerals and can be stored for long periods of time without losing any of their nutritional value. With pulses having such positive influences on many aspects of the environment, nutrition and sustainability, their production and consumption is encouraged to help spread the word about what seemingly is the food of the future.