

> THE RIGHT ADVICE



- Developing Brownfield Sites
- GDPR: Have you signed up?
- Congratulations Jude

Welcome to RGS insite issue 33

our in-house electronic bulletin that aims to keep you all up to speed with everything that's happening each month.

Rogers Geotechnical Services Ltd are site investigation specialists offering ground investigation and geotechnical services to developers, builders, structural and consulting engineers, architects, insurance companies, local authorities, piling and foundation engineers, private individuals and other geotechnical consultants.

Building on Brownfield sites!

As the Government tackles the UK's national housing crisis, there has never been a greater need to carry out proper site investigations prior to development.



As the Government continues to support campaigns to protect the 'green belt', the pressure grows for developers to focus on 'brownfield sites' - which are often heavily contaminated and require costly remedial work.

This latest blog, published by the LABC, showcases compelling evidence to suggest that Britain has enough brownfield land to solve the crisis.

[Click here to take a look.](#)

Remediation work is obviously crucial and this is where RGS comes in. With early involvement, we can be of invaluable assistance to clients, new and old.

Managing Director **Emma Lewis**, said,

“ There has never been a greater need to carry out proper site investigations. Many new developments are now being proposed on previously developed brownfield sites and on ever more demanding 'greenfield' sites. These sites are challenging and require thorough ground investigations.

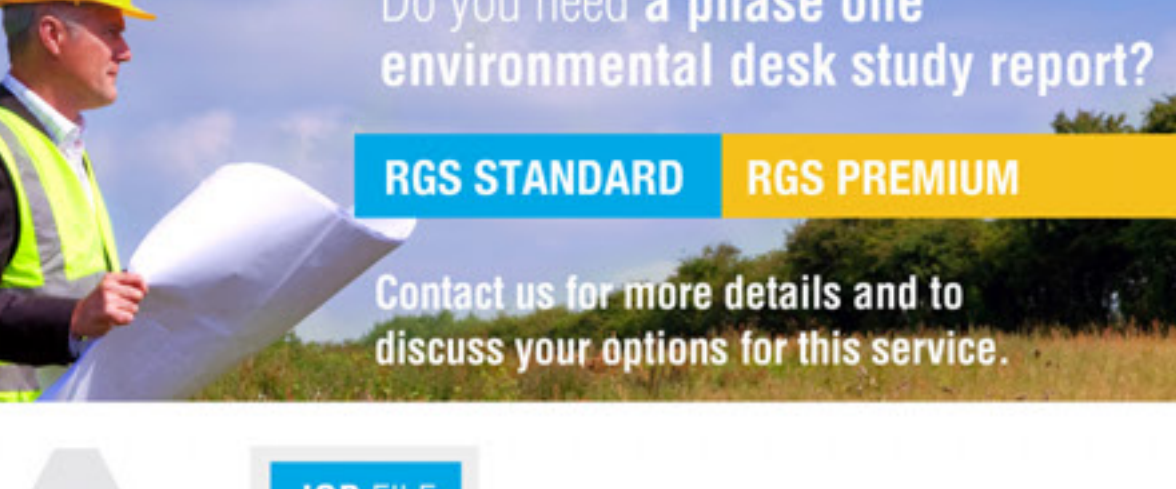
The right site investigation can in many cases, lead to project cost savings in the long term by allowing contractors to foresee problems, make decisions about remediation and proceed with all the facts and information relevant to the project and budget available.

We have a specialist team of highly qualified and experienced Geotechnical Engineers and together with on-site laboratory facilities, we offer a site investigation service from the planning stages, right through to any required remediation solutions and completion of your project.



BROWNFIELD SITES

Tax Benefits



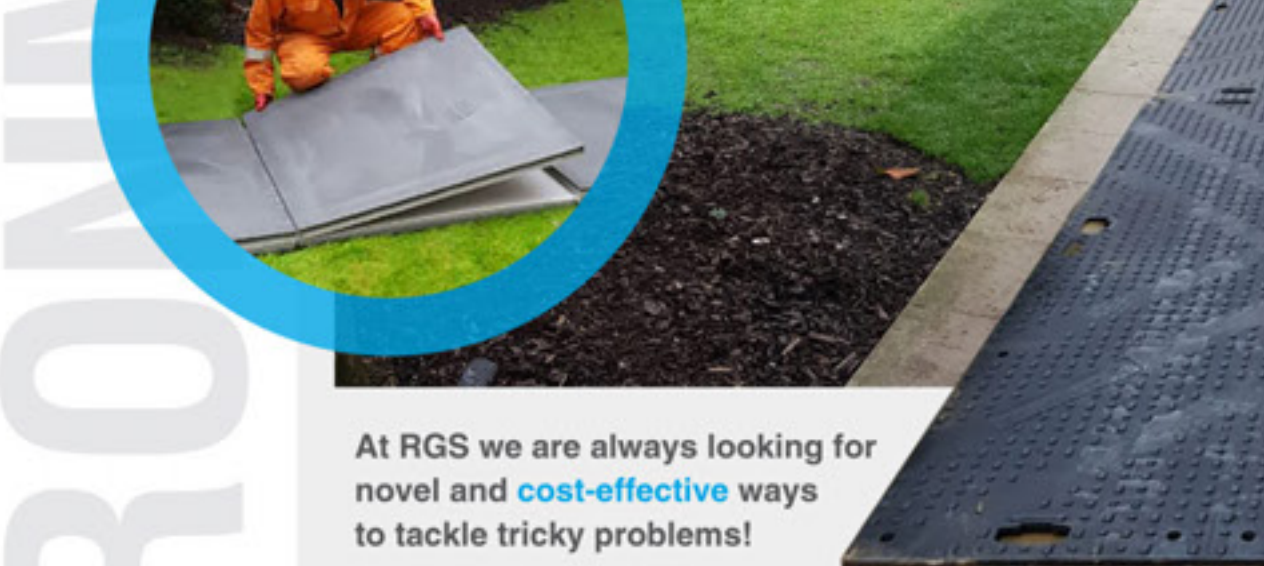
Encouraging news about developing Brownfield sites

Still on this subject, Emma recently had a very productive meeting with national tax experts, **Catatax** and learned more about the Government's various tax relief schemes which may be available to developers who have purchased former industrial sites.

Managing Director **Emma Lewis**, said,

“ If land remediation is a major consideration for the site, tax relief can be claimed, subject to specific HMRC criteria. Retrospective claims can be made, dating back three years.

We ran a report in one of our e-newsletters last year, which showed that approximately 95% of the UK is undeveloped. It's interesting, I think, that so many brownfield sites are available and that the green belt can still be protected



Do you need a phase one environmental desk study report?

RGS STANDARD RGS PREMIUM

Contact us for more details and to discuss your options for this service.

JOB FILE

Spreading the load



At RGS we are always looking for novel and cost-effective ways to tackle tricky problems!

We recently carried out work at an Oxford site, which required compliance with a strict method statement to safeguard protected trees' roots, on highly manicured lawns.

Moving machinery on to this location was therefore a major challenge and it was essential to spread the load in order to reduce vibrations and protect the grass and surrounding area.

We quickly ruled out the first option, which would have involved the purchase and disposal of 5 tonnes of wood chippings!

Instead, we struck on the bright idea of using 'gym mats' which proved a solution which was effective in terms of protection as well as relatively low cost!

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Congratulations Jude!



Very warm congratulations to our Lab Manager, **Jude Norcliffe**, who has been awarded her **CMI Level 5 Diploma in Management and Leadership (QCF)**.

Jude's role is crucial at RGS as the smooth and efficient running of the lab is central to all that we do here.

Emma said,

“ We are all delighted for Jude and it's testimony to all her dedication and hard work. We recently focused on the lab in our regular e-newsletters (insite and intech) and it's important to say that Jude and her team run a vital and highly efficient service.

CLIENT DATA

Have you signed up?

IMPORTANT!



The new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) come into force on May 25th 2018 and like all companies, RGS needs to be compliant.

RGS actively welcomes this new law as it will ensure that all organisations collect their data lawfully and transparently. They will then be required to safeguard it securely, without sharing anything with third parties. All data will be disposed of, securely, if the client so requires.

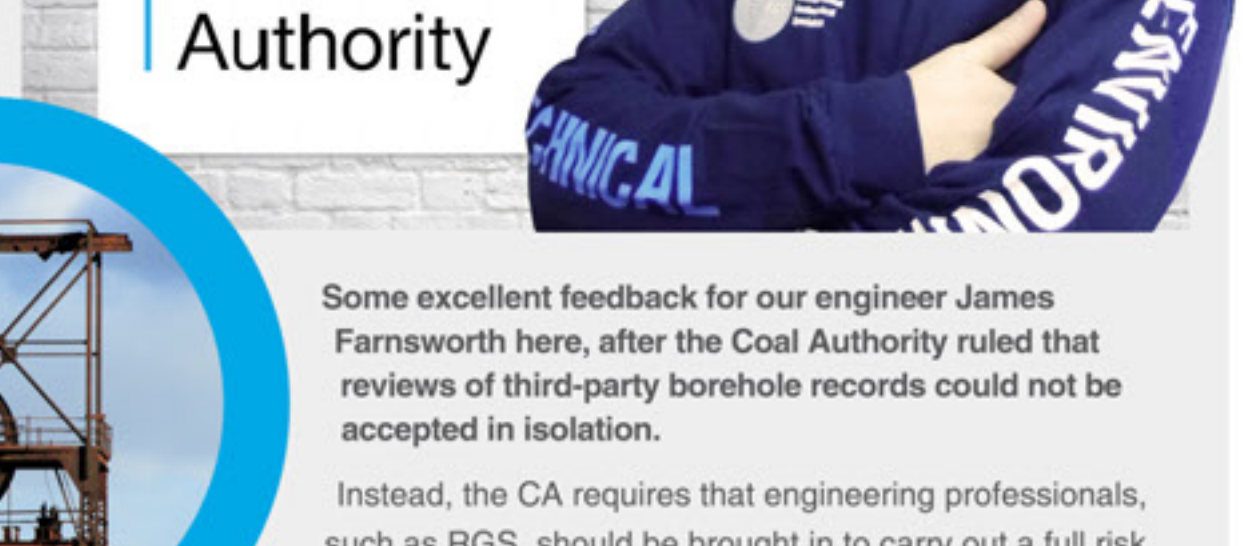
Make sure you still receive our newsletters: [click here and complete the form.](#)



I am happy to be contacted by email

CLIENT FEEDBACK

Well done James!



Some excellent feedback for our engineer **James Farnsworth** here, after the Coal Authority ruled that reviews of third-party borehole records could not be accepted in isolation.

Instead, the CA requires that engineering professionals, such as RGS, should be brought in to carry out a full risk assessment of the historical mining implications. We carry out similar jobs across the region on a weekly basis, as the legacy of the coal mining industry in this region is vast.

The client reported back:

“ ...thanks for your guidance and support, this all goes towards offering good client support. As we have now experienced, this support is paramount and is why we would be recommending your services to other contacts Once again, your help has been much appreciated.



HEALTH & SAFETY

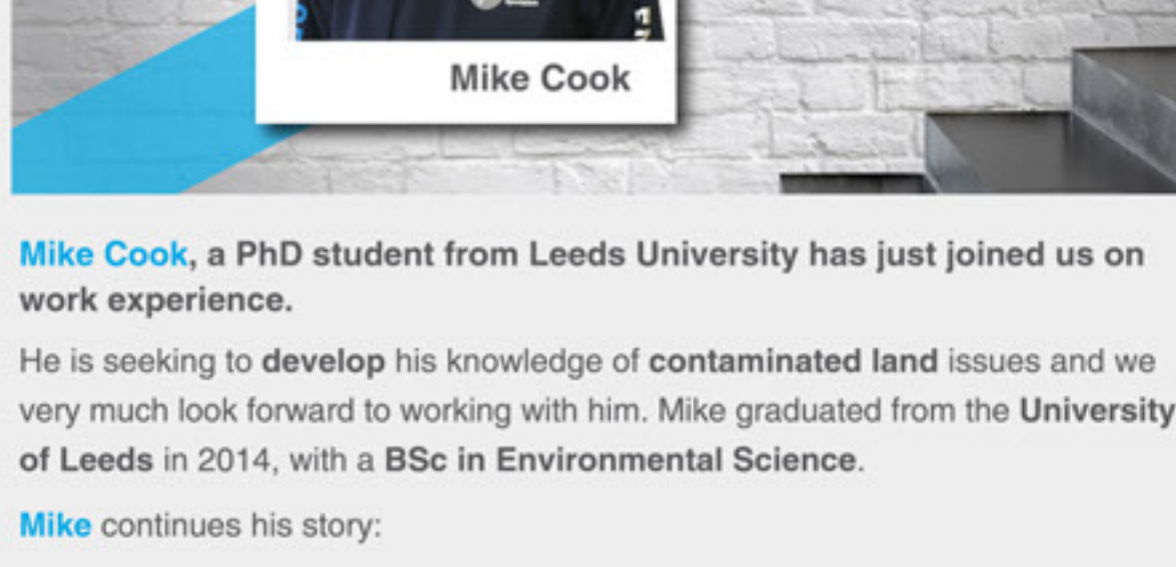
Keeping safe

As part of our occasional health and safety features, please click here to see a manual handling poster and advice from **Citation**.

All good stuff - please make sure you take the messages fully on board.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Welcome Mike!



Mike Cook, a PhD student from Leeds University has just joined us on work experience.

He is seeking to develop his knowledge of contaminated land issues and we very much look forward to working with him. Mike graduated from the University of Leeds in 2014, with a BSc in Environmental Science.

Mike continues his story:

“ After this, one of my lecturers took me on to study a PhD which looks at the remediation of contaminants via in-situ biodegradation.

I think my stint with RGS should provide me with a good overview of how geotechnical and geo-environmental assessment works within a non-academic setting. In addition, working closely with RGS's experienced geotechnical engineers should help to round my skill set, making it less environmentally centred.

After completing my placement at RGS, I will return the university briefly to complete my viva and graduate. After this I hope to secure a full time job in geo-environmental contracting or consultancy.

We will also be welcoming **Jon Farnworth** next month, on a three-month secondment from **Roger Bullivant**.

CLIENT FEEDBACK

Talk to us

“ We are always keen to hear what clients think of our service and welcome feedback from within the industry. We'd love to hear from you.

[Click here to email us your comments](#)

For more information about your investigation requirements please do not hesitate to contact us

Telephone on 01484 604 354

or click here to email us