

Environmental
Geotechnical
Specialists



insite

ISSUE
51

January 2020

#DecadeOfDrilling
RGS Building on
10 years of growth

REGULAR NEWS AND VIEWS FROM ROGERS GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES

> REFRESHED. READY. BRING ON...

2020

FIRST DAY NHBC LAND QUALITY

UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE

OUR NEW PANDA!

PROACTIVITY PAYS

Welcome to RGS insite issue 51

Our regular newsletter celebrates more than a decade of drilling and keeps you up to date with RGS and industry news.

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.

BEST TEAM FORWARD!

RGS WELCOMES IN A NEW DECADE WITH OUR ANNUAL 'FIRST DAY' TEAM EVENT.

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It's RGS tradition to begin every new year with a day in which the **whole team assembles at our Yorkshire HQ** to review progress, share goals and focus on best practice.

Highlights this year included an exciting leap forward in average tender value. We're adept at handling very substantial and demanding projects, and the increasing demand we're seeing for large scale tenders reflects our solid reputation for outstanding service and attention to detail!



EVERYBODY WAS THERE!
CLICK HERE TO MEET THE TEAMS

Fundamental to all that we do, **health and safety** always features prominently in our 'First Day' team event. We were delighted with our **excellent report** in December from **Citation**, who assess our compliance every year. However, there's never room for complacency in this vital aspect of our work... Our H&S partner, **Dave Toulcher** (affectionately known company-wide as 'Health & Safety Dave') made sure that we're all **fully refreshed and updated on developments**, including COSHH, manual handling and driving at work.

We realise that these aren't the sexiest subjects in town, but we believe with a passion that **understanding, respecting and responding to risk** saves lives, limbs, capabilities, careers and families. For RGS, health and safety are top priorities and after our energising First Day, we're **ready and able to continue delivering site investigations effectively, efficiently and with the greatest of care!**

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STANDARDS & CONFORMITY

Land quality: want a better understanding of the national Standards?



The latest Standards are now in force for every new **NHBC-registered** home where foundations were begun on or after 1st January 2020.

These Standards provide a valuable and comprehensive guide to good housebuilding practice from the foundations upwards.

In particular, Section 4.1: Land quality - Managing ground conditions gives you useful insight into the value of professional site investigations.

[CLICK HERE](#) TO HAVE A READ, AND IF YOU NEED ANY HELP ON ANY OF THE ISSUES RAISED JUST [GIVE US A CALL ON 01484 604 354!](#)



Our newest team member - a PANDA®!



We've recently taken delivery of PANDA®, a particularly useful and flexible dynamic cone penetrometer (DCP) device which will supplement the TRL probe that has been part of our in situ test kit for over 10 years.

Used to measure the strength of in situ soil and the position and depth of sub-surface soil strata, the results of DCP tests are correlated with other data (ie SPT and CBR) to determine soil bearing capacity and compaction. These data are critically important in the building of roads, pavements, embankments, trench work, landfill facilities, bridges and many other investigations.

While we often carry out soil investigations and compaction control surveys with drilling rigs, PANDA®'s portable design significantly expands our capability. Described by some as 'a DCP on steroids', the lightweight, variable energy automated PANDA® provides immediate and replicable results for vertical, horizontal or sloping test orientations, allowing quick, well-informed decisions onsite.



It can survey inaccessible areas that drilling rigs simply cannot reach, and needs no support equipment. PANDA® also gives strength results at depths well beyond the range of most hand-held equipment, as well as reducing the operator's health and safety risks in comparison with the TRL probe.

HOW WE CAN HELP

Do you have restricted access issues? Sensitive or unstable sites? Need to assess the stability of crane outriggers or scaffold platforms? Looking to control compaction for bulk earthworks? For these and many other settings, PANDA® gets the job done quickly and accurately: [just call our friendly team on 01484 604 354.](tel:01484604354)

// WE'LL CONTINUE TO RESEARCH OTHER PANDA® APPLICATIONS AND WILL KEEP YOU UPDATED ON FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES!



ADVICE & GUIDANCE

UXO: how to **avoid costs, delays** and **danger** on your sites



The Second World War may seem like history to many, but its legacy lives on in many guises, not least, unexploded ordnance.

Between September 1940 and May 1941, the German air force dropped around 30,000 tonnes of ordnance on Britain, largely on key industrial, commercial and port towns and cities such as London, Liverpool, Birmingham, Sheffield and Southampton.

The devastation is legendary, but about 10% of these bombs and missiles failed to detonate, and remain mostly hidden underground to this day. In addition, our own security forces' training facilities also generate a certain amount of unexploded shells, ammunition and so on.





WHAT IS UXO AND WHY DOES IT MATTER?

Unexploded ordnance or 'UXO' refers to any kind of bomb, shell, missile, mine, ammunition or other explosive device that has either been abandoned or has failed to explode.

Lying undiscovered beneath the ground, these hazardous objects can pose a serious risk to anyone breaking ground nearby.

Although the overall chance of a potentially explosive device on your land is generally low, the rise in developments on former industrial 'brownfield' sites and ex-MOD land has seen an increase in UXO finds over recent years. So what should you do about it?



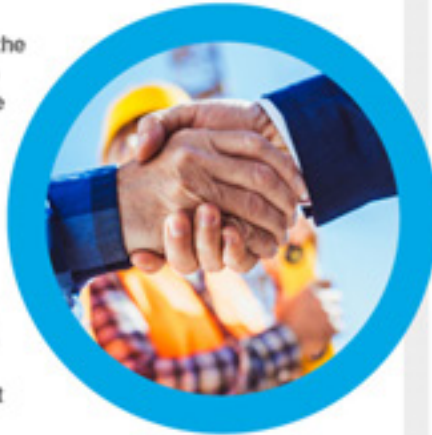
RGS: A GUIDING HAND

As an owner, it's your responsibility to make sure that your site is a safe place for workers and visitors alike, but with rules and regulations coming from a multitude of different sources, we know that this task can seem huge and daunting.

Because we want you to secure the best possible outcomes, we'll do all we can to help you manage the rare but exceptional risk of UXO.

HOW WE CAN HELP

Several maps are available which estimate and classify the general UXO risk across the country as low, medium or high. To protect our own staff, we routinely check your site against these maps before we visit.



In general, we accept a low risk classification and our Fieldworks Team will go ahead with their initial visit. Should your site show a medium or high risk, we'll advise you on what action to take - for example, further record checks or specific investigations.

We always focus on minimising your risk, maximising safety and achieving all this in the most cost-effective manner possible. Should you find that you need the expertise of a specialist UXO provider, we'll arrange that for you if you wish.

WANT MORE DETAIL ON UXO AND SITE DEVELOPMENT?

[Click here](#) to read RGS Engineering Support Technician [Ian Warrington's](#) helpful [UXO Fact Sheet](#) - and don't hesitate to call us on [01484 604 354](tel:01484604354) if you need more advice.





CUSTOMER FEEDBACK

Proactivity pays



“ Thanks, RGS! We really appreciate how proactive you've been throughout this project. ”

VolkerStevin's kind comment regarding an investigation featuring complex buried services highlights a key characteristic of the RGS approach: **proactivity**.

Rather than simply doing our job as site investigators and leaving the rest to others, we become part of your project management team, anticipating, communicating and resolving issues wherever possible before they impact on time and costs.

RGS MD, Emma Lewis, explains,

“ As well as site investigation specialists, we also act as collaborative project managers. We get involved and make things happen. It's the way we always work and clients tell us it makes a real difference to them, reducing their stress and keeping their projects on track. ”

WANT SITE INVESTIGATION EXPERTS WHO MAKE YOUR LIFE EASIER? WE'RE HERE TO HELP.
CALL US ON 01484 604 354.





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

For more information about your investigation requirements
please don't hesitate to contact us.

Telephone on 01484 604 354

[Click here to email us](#)

CLIENT FEEDBACK

Talk to us

“ We're 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

