

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.

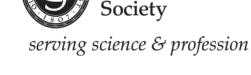
Venue: The Geological Society of London, Burlington House

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:
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All past lectures can be viewed on our website at www.geolsoc.org.uk/shelllondonlectures11

2012 Programme

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



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