



Environmental  
Geotechnical  
Specialists

INSITE 78

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM ROGERS GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES



Welcome to Insite, keeping you up to date with industry news and RGS as we celebrate entering our 20th year in business.

**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.

# regenerating our world.

## ▲ **Global warming** is one of the biggest concerns of our time

The construction industry is among the highest contributors to the problem, with many work processes that generate harmful CO<sub>2</sub> gases.

As quickly as CO<sub>2</sub> gases escape into our atmosphere and cause harm, an ever-growing green-conscious community works on initiatives to help limit the damage, protect or regenerate vital components of our planet, and end global warming.

Tree-Nation, based in Europe, facilitate tree planting for individuals and companies wanting to offset their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.



Deforestation currently accounts for around 17% of all negative emissions. By planting trees worldwide, Tree-Nation helps restore forests and absorb harmful gases, protecting biodiversity while providing jobs in local communities - a win/win for people AND the planet.

## ▲ On a mission to reforest the world!

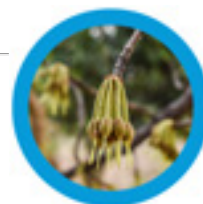
To date, this purposeful bunch has planted over 24 million trees in 88 reforestation projects across six continents. While that may sound like an impressive number of trees, it's a mere dent into what the world requires before we humans can expect to feel its impact.

Of course, Tree-Nation cannot complete its mission alone. It takes companies who share their vision for a brighter, greener future to come on board. Like Team RGS!



## ▲ Regenerating life!

Recently, our SLT has been reviewing what we do today and what we might do tomorrow to **reduce our carbon footprint**. Taking out a tree planting subscription is one initiative among many helping us make the transition towards sustainability while pushing Tree-Nation closer to their goals.



So far, RGS has helped plant 44 trees in total - 22 each in Mozambique and India. In addition to absorbing poisonous CO<sub>2</sub> gases, the Madhuca Longifolia trees planted in Mozambique have medicinal qualities beneficial to the local habitants. In India, the Rhizophora Mucronata trees help protect inland areas from the effects of the ocean.

It's an exciting project and one we are proud to be a part of, pushing our commitment to people way beyond our local vicinity and helping others around the world - one tree at a time.





If you want to know more about Tree-Nation's work or how to become involved, click [here](#) to visit their website!

Do you need help with a ground investigation or geotechnical service?

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H & S MATTERS

### Fire Safety





This month's Health and Safety feature is a **hot topic: Fire Safety**.

Every business, large or small, is at risk of a fire. The equipment used - and the people using it - are susceptible to causing all manner of issues that may lead to a fire, and employers need robust procedures in place if they want to minimise the risk.



There's no denying the damage a fire causes to property and people can be costly. Thankfully, the number of accidents resulting from a fire has reduced dramatically in recent years because of an increased focus on safety, including:

- **tougher laws** encouraging businesses to take a proactive approach against fire
- **greater awareness** ensuring staff are trained to minimise the risk of fire and respond quickly should a fire break out
- **better technology** improving the manufacturing process to make more equipment fire-resistant

## ▀ Your **responsibility** as an employer.

Employers are required legally to provide the following to protect your people against the risk of fire:

### ➤ Fire Risk Assessment

Companies with five or more employees must record their risk assessment findings (the types and level of risk uncovered determine the safety precautions required)



### ➤ Regular and Adequate training

Including fire prevention, what to do if a staff member discovers a fire, how to



## ↗ Safe Means of Escape

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Make sure exits are signposted, easy to access and always clear of obstructions



## ↗ Fire Safety Equipment

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As a minimum, your facility requires signs, sprinklers, extinguishers, and a fire blanket

## ↗ Fire Emergency Procedures

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Ensure staff know what to do in the event of a fire



## ▀ PREVENTION IS THE BEST CURE!

While you cannot remove the risk of a workplace fire in full, training your staff gives them the greatest opportunity to steer clear of causing a fire and helping to save their life by providing information on how to manage a fire should one break out.

So, what do your employees need to know?

## ▀ get into good habits

With something as high risk as fire, it's best not to rely on common sense. Explain to your staff what you expect of them to work collectively towards fire prevention. Here are some of the basics to explain to your employees:

- ↗ Keep RUBBISH to a minimum and always cleared away

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- ↗ If your company uses CHEMICALS, store them responsibly

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- ↗ Work safely and in line with fire regulations - keeping FIRE DOORS closed and EXITS clear

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- ↗ Report any ELECTRICAL FAULTS as they occur

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- ↗ Never overload PLUG SOCKETS!



## ▲ know the fire signs

Like many signs we see regularly, they become second nature to us and, consequently, are easy to miss. It's vital to place fire safety signs correctly within your facility and also that your people understand each one - where to find them and what they mean.

↗ FIRE EXIT - two signs; one to place at the **point of exit** and another with an arrow **showing the way** towards an exit

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↗ FIRE EXTINGUISHER - placed **close to** an extinguisher

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↗ FIRE DOOR - placed **on the door** to remind staff to keep it closed

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↗ FIRE ALARM - placed **next to the button** your staff must press to sound the alarm

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↗ FIRE ACTION - placed in a **communal space** in the building (explains the rules specific to your company in the event of a fire)

## ▲ PROCEDURE IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE

A fire can occur even with all staff following the prevention guidance to a tee. Your staff must learn the protocol specific to your business – which may differ from other places they have worked.

IF YOU DISCOVER A FIRE

**SOUND THE ALARM** ... even small fires can be tricky to manage, and it's a job best left to the experts. Once you've raised the alarm, **go immediately** to the muster point.

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IF YOU HEAR THE FIRE ALARM SOUND

**EXIT THE BUILDING** ... **immediately** and **quickly**, closing windows and doors behind you if safe to do so.

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AS STAFF YOU SHOULD

**KNOW YOUR WARDEN** ... a member of the team **trained** to manage a fire emergency.





## ▲ PUTTING OUT A FIRE

### 1. water

Great for extinguishing paper or wood and NOT to be used to extinguish electrical equipment

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### 2. carbon dioxide

Smothers flames in a layer of Co<sub>2</sub> gas; not for use in a confined space

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### 3. dry powder

Emits a layer of dust onto the flames; fire dies but can reignite

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### 4. foam

Effective but difficult to apply without training and NOT permitted for an electrical fire

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## KNOW YOUR FIRE SAFETY LEGISLATION

Depending on its size and cause, your policy might be to have trained personnel tackle a fire with an extinguisher. Those staff members will need to understand the following four types of extinguishers and their different purposes:

THE REGULATORY REFORM (FIRE SAFETY) ORDER 2005

THE HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK ACT 1974

THE MANAGEMENT OF HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK REGULATIONS 1999

## FIRE SAFETY THE RGS WAY

Like all other Health and Safety matters, RGS prioritises training our staff about fire safety so they are competent in prevention and ready to manage an emergency.

Noel Gault of Extinguish-In carries out our Fire Extinguisher Training for all our staff every two years. He also services our vehicle fire extinguishers and rig fire extinguishers every year, and carries out all our PAT testing every year, so our equipment is fit for purpose and protected in the unlikely event of a fire.

Does your business need support with all things fire safety?

We highly recommend Noel and his team to any business looking for ongoing guidance, training and servicing fire safety equipment.

Contact Noel on 07900 915395 or simply [click here](#) to email.





CLIENT FEEDBACK

In their own words



**More amazing feedback!**

Recently, our Fieldwork team attended a residential property in Leeds to conduct some trial pitting as part of a pre-build ground investigation. Afterwards, Cam and Mark brought soil samples back to our lab for testing, providing detailed information about the composition and structure of the subsurface before the client proceeded to build.

Home-owner Karen had this to say about the team from RGS

**"I wanted to thank you for the speed with which you arranged visit.**

**I also wanted to say how fantastic your colleagues were, they were so professional, helpful and friendly and had real empathy for what we are dealing with right now. I cannot express how grateful we are and wanted to pass on our thanks, they are a real credit to your company"**

Thank you, Cam and Mark, for showing our clients first-hand everything the team at RGS aspires to be. Not only completing the work as expected but doing so with commitment, empathy and a smile!

Proper site investigations matter - don't leave your build at risk!

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Lewis Scarboro PROJECT MANAGER



#### What does your role involve? Describe a typical day.

Managing projects is my primary responsibility at RGS. It involves communicating with clients, sub-contractors and our internal teams daily to organise site work dates and obtain other crucial information to make all aspects of the project run smoothly. This project-critical information then goes into our CRM so that our reporting engineers and laboratory team have all they need to see each job run smoothly.

I also look after the initial enquiries from prospective or current clients via our enquiries email inbox or over the phone. Again, all the details from the conversations go into the CRM, together with any client quotes created by a colleague or me, keeping this important information in one accessible place.

#### How does your role help our RGS clients?

As my role is primarily office-based, clients can rely on me being able to respond to them quickly. Also, knowing most ongoing projects, I can assist them when other colleagues are busy on-site, in most cases, allowing the client to get an answer the same day.



**What do you enjoy most about what you do?**

Frequently, we get prospective clients unsure of the site investigation process and why they need it, with many seeing it as an unnecessary cost. I enjoy guiding them through the process, helping them understand the crucial role an investigation plays and how it can help them further down the line. Armed with better knowledge, many change their thoughts towards the site investigation - and I feel good knowing they are heading into their project with critical information to help make decisions.

**If money was no object...**

Ideally, I would like to spend less time with technology and see more of the world. A holiday home abroad wouldn't go amiss, especially over the winter months!

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How can our team help yours today? From desk studies and drilling to topographical surveys and training...

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We've got new shirts. Yours is waiting.



Are you working in Geotech and looking for a new place to call home?

Due to our ongoing expansion, we currently have two exciting roles to fill at RGS.

// GEOENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER

// GRADUATE GEOENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER

If you're already working as an engineer in geosciences - or a recent graduate looking to break into this exciting world - one of our vacancies could be perfect for you!

Join the award-winning, inclusive, talented team of friendly Geotech types known as RGS!

A competitive salary, opportunities for progression and flexible working are included.

[Click here](#) to download the full job specs, including all responsibilities and required credentials or alternatively...

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## Did you know?



Construction has the highest rate of suicides in the UK.

RGS may have quadrupled in size since our humble beginnings some twenty years ago, but one thing has always stayed the same - our commitment to our people. We care what happens with our 'family' outside of work as much as when they're with us, with their mental health very much a priority.

Since a good portion of our team stems from the nearby villages and towns, it's no surprise many are involved in community activities during their leisure time. Sport, in particular, is a popular option for employees and their family members, and with such a strong link between physical activity and mental well-being, we are keen to support their out-of-work pursuits however we can. And sometimes, that requires more than simply cheering people from the sidelines - although we love to do that too!

Whether it's a one-off contribution to a community project or ongoing regular support, RGS is proud to sponsor these fantastic teams:

#### Shelley Cricket Club SPONSORS FOR 2022

With a few avid fans of the willow among our team, RGS chose to put funds into the local cricket club this season to help cover their venue and equipment costs.

All their teams consist of amateurs, locals choosing to play their favourite sport socially. While none are current RGS employees, many who step up to the crease have links to us through family members. And besides, "We don't like cricket - oh no... We LOVE it!". What better way to support an activity that keeps people's minds and bodies moving?

Huge congratulations to the club's first and second X1s, who finished fifth in their respective leagues this season. How (good is) zat!





### Clifton Rangers u11s (Brighouse) SPONSORS FOR 2022

This year, we upped our game again by engaging with a new sporting team (and code!) to support junior football in the West Yorkshire area.

One of the things we love most about our new relationship with Clifton Rangers is that theirs is a mixed team, with three girls playing alongside the boys. At this age, mixed teams are permitted - something that ends once the players go up to the u12s and above. It feels great to do our bit to support young girls and boys from our area, and who knows, there might well be some future England talent among them, judging by the goals the girls are scoring!

At the time of writing, the Rangers were two wins from two games. We'd say they are most definitely a team to watch!

### Spoke Architectural EVENT SPONSORS

Our team works with Spoke regularly whenever their clients require a ground investigation ahead of a building project. It's a long-standing, trusted partnership with a brilliant team of professionals we feel mirror our values of integrity, reliability and responsiveness - and when we heard about their sponsored row to raise money for charity, we were extremely keen to jump on the boat!

Not only did the multi-aged team of 12 folk from Spoke complete their challenge - they smashed it out of the water! Collectively, they rowed 11 miles and in the process raised £6,246.00, 24% higher than that of the target £5,000 for St Gemma's Hospice!

You can still donate to their great cause if you're quick - just [click here](#)

RGS are site investigation and geoenvironmental experts. For ground works guidance and a competitive quote...

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## On the horizon



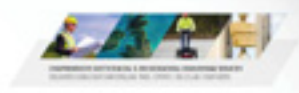
An exciting fundraiser is coming to raise money for the local charity organisation, Kirkwood Hospice.

For those less familiar with the hospice, it provides critical end-of-life services to residents of our community, respectfully supporting the patients and their families as they progress through difficult times. It takes thousands of pounds to run the hospice, most of which is down to the charity to raise themselves - yet they're busy looking after patients and rely on the community around them for fundraising initiatives.

Last month, RGS renewed its annual commitment to the hospice by providing them with our latest financial donation. However, it takes a collective effort to keep this much-needed charity going. Thankfully, many other local businesses are keen to help, with several coming together to organise a 'pre-Christmas culinary cracker' event to support the team at Kirkwood - including a drinks distiller and chocolate producer, to name a couple. While the finer details are still under wraps, we're sure it's an event food and drink enthusiasts keen to sample some of our community's best AND raise funds for the hospice won't want to miss!

Listen out in the coming weeks for more information about this latest fabulous fundraising event, and come along to support Kirkwood!.





## TAILORED CPD FOR YOUR BUSINESS / ORGANISATION

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Do you have **site investigation requirements?**

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# SEAMLESS APPROACHABLE

We'll definitely use RGS again!

We'd love to hear client feedback  
**about our services!**

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