

SOILFIX

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Issue 4 | Summer 2023



TOP NEWS



Soilfix were proud to host the University of East Anglia (UEA) and their twin university in Ukraine (PNU) over a two-day period recently in order to share knowledge in remediation that will help rebuild their country in the future. The eight PNU delegates that attended were researchers with expertise in chemistry, physics, biology and environmental science.

[Read the article here - UEA and Ukraine Visit](#)

PORTSMOUTH UNIVERSITY SITE VISIT TO TIPNER

Soilfix welcomed the MSc Environmental Geology & Land Contamination students and lecturers from the University of Portsmouth to our Tipner East Remediation site, as a follow-up to the remediation seminar that our Directors, **Steve Jackson** and **Paul Hazlehurst**, co-presented recently.

Many thanks to VIVID Homes, PMC Construction for supporting this university site visit.

[Read the article here](#)



ROSPA GOLD



Soilfix were honoured to receive the **GOLD AWARD** from The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) in London on 16th May 2023. Demonstrating that Soilfix has a high standard of health & safety performance across our operational sites and within the main offices, as policies and procedures are also reviewed and graded as part of the awards adjudication panel. This marks the **second consecutive year** Soilfix has achieved this award and is a testament to the hard work of our employees and supply chain - now, can we make it a hat trick for 2024?!



SAFETY STAND DOWN

We recently held our fifth bi-annual Safety Stand-down for our ongoing remediation projects during the month of May.

During the event held at our Fulham site, we were pleased to have representatives from our client, **Berkeley Group Plc**, participate in our initiative and contribute many proactive suggestions.

We implemented a previous suggestion made during our last stand-down by an excavator driver, which was to have all non-drivers sit in the excavator cabin to experience firsthand the poor visibility and reinforce the importance of using a "thumbs-up" approach while working.

Read more on our [Health & Safety initiatives](#)



TERRA TEK VISIT

Never one to miss an opportunity to develop an understanding of how our supply chain works, some of the technical team had a 'grand day out' at **Terra Tek Limited** recently.

Colleagues from both businesses agreed it was great to put names to faces - and it was also a chance for the Terra Tek team to demonstrate, step by step, how many of their laboratory and site testing activities work and showcase the possibilities available with their range of testing expertise.

We enjoyed getting our hands dirty with some hands-on activities – and taking away a deeper understanding of how their services can advance our own client service delivery.



We demonstrated a large number of lab and site testing activities, provided useful information, and gave our visitors the chance to get their hands dirty with some hands-on activities...

OUR MISSION



Our mission is to *understand and manage risk in the ground* and, in doing so, create better places, deliver safer environments, improve people's well-being, and safeguard the environment.

Integral to achieving our mission is to work under a **Code of Responsible Business Conduct**, that applies to all Soilfix Directors, Managers, temporary/permanent staff, sub-contractors, consultants and professional service providers.

Read our policy here - [Code of Business Contact](#)

OVERCOMING THE POST COVID CHALLENGES



soilfix
GROUND RISK SOLUTIONS

Overcoming the post-Covid challenges

Interview with Steve Jackson,
Director at Soilfix

"Coming out of Covid, the expectation was that things would be easier. Steve Jackson talks to Ian Grant at **Environment Analyst** about the challenges the company has faced, ranging from cost inflation to planning delays.

"The housebuilding slowdown has not unduly affected Soilfix. Project by turnover is 40% private housebuilders, 40% affordable housing and 20% industrial and commercial."

"The larger projects are redevelopment projects. Two of our best clients, Berkeley Homes and Cala Homes in England, are high end housebuilders and demand is still good on these developments." [Read the article here](#)

TALKING CLIMATE CHANGE

Our Director Steve Jackson and Environmental Risk Assessor Melinda Evans have co-authored an informative article for the June 2023 Edition of the Environmental Scientist magazine, published by the Institute of Environmental Sciences.

The article discusses the effects of climate change and other global megatrends on the land remediation industry. Focussing on reducing carbon emissions, climate change, resources scarcity and deregulation, Steve & Melinda offer a contractor's perspective into the industry's challenges and opportunities.



The effects of climate change and other megatrends on the land remediation industry

Steve Jackson and Melinda Evans offer a contractor's perspective into the industry's challenges and opportunities.

GLOBAL MEGATRENDS
CLIMATE MEGATREND
ENVIRONMENTAL MEGATREND

Of the three global megatrends, the key challenge faced by the UK land condition industry falls into increasingly severe consequences of climate change (EMT19). International Global Competitiveness for Resilience (EMT19) and Diversifying Approaches to Governance (EMT19). These challenges are forcing land remediation contractors to adapt to a changing market that has, in part, clearly been driven by these global trends. However, in meeting these challenges, new opportunities exist for continued growth and evolution of this mature UK market.

ADDRESSING CLIMATE MEGATRENDS
Fundamentally, the challenge of climate change for remediation contractors comes down to two issues. First, how do we reduce our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and, second, how do we adapt what we do on our sites to deal with the predicted changes? Our industry is only beginning to grapple with the first, but we are already seeing the impacts of the second.

Environmental Scientist | June 2023

June 2023 | Environmental Scientist | 18

Members of the Institute of Environmental Sciences can read the article as part of their membership, and will be open to non-members to read in the Autumn. We will of course share a link in due course.

BROWNFIELD AWARDS

environmentanalyst

Brownfield Awards 2023

Silver sponsor:



The highly-esteemed Brownfield Awards, now in their 19th year, bring together the brownfield community to celebrate the excellent work undertaken by organisations and project partnerships, through the use of innovative techniques, awareness of sustainability, engagement with stakeholders and best practice.

Although we have opted out of entering this year, Soilfix are delighted to be a **Silver Sponsor** for this event, which is taking place on 2nd November in Manchester.



TO INFINITY AND BEYOND

Established in 1957, the National Association of Rocketry (NAF) stands as the oldest and biggest organisation for sport rocketry worldwide. We are delighted to announce that Charlie, the 17-year-old son of our Director Steve Jackson, has made it to the UK Rocketry Association (UKRA) Junior Team. This team will join the Seniors for the first time in two decades! As proud sponsors of the United Kingdom national team, we extend our best wishes to all the participants who will be competing in the upcoming 2023 World Space Modelling Championships in Austin, Texas. The event is scheduled for this week, from July 2 to July 8. We wish everyone the best of luck in the solar system!

As this newsletter was going to 'print' we were delighted to announce that the junior team won **GOLD!**

Read their incredible story here -

<https://ow.ly/za8R50OY10q>



TOUGH MUDDER

A few hardy (and not so hardy) souls entered **Tough Mudder** in May to raise money and awareness for the Mental Health in Construction charity **Mates in Mind**

A 10km course comprising of 20 muddy obstacles requiring nerves of steel and glutes of ... power! Due to a terrific downpour the previous day, it was a hard slog to walk 13K through the mud and those attempting to run were quickly on their backs, as the mud took no prisoners!!

But, we conquered and raised £1040 for this fantastic charity.

PS: Those white T shirts were a bad idea Zoe!



CHARITY GOLF DAY



Soilfix were thrilled to have sponsored the third hole at the **Costplan Group** Charity Golf Day held at the Etchinghill Golf Club in Folkestone.

It was an amazing day, and we were pleased to have collectively raised £3,070 for Pilgrims Hospices. Our model, **Lewis Hunt**, did a fantastic job of showcasing our Soilfix banner.

PIPELINE / PROJECT UPDATES

A selection of updates from our current Pipeline/Projects.

FIRST 'OVERSEAS' PROJECT

Soilfix has secured its first project 'overseas' in Northern Ireland to carry out Environmental Improvement Works during the second half of 2023 with a major new multi-national client - watch this space for more details.

FORMER FOOT & MOUTH PYRE, OXFORDSHIRE

Soilfix is currently carrying out controlled excavation of a former foot & mouth pyre, packaging and transportation for incineration treatment at a permitted facility. Again this project is for a new client to facilitate a large new commercial scheme and is being carried out under stringent health, safety & environmental controls to prevent exposure to / spread of viral contamination.

FORMER BANGER RACE TRACK | ANGMERING | CALA HOMES

We are delighted to be working alongside **Cala Group** on a 36-week project to carry out multi-disciplinary remediation & enabling works at the former Oval Raceway (also known as Angmering Raceway) near Worthing in West Sussex. For over 30 years, the 25-acre raceway was the only banked oval circuit in the country and, in its day, was world famous for its Caravan Racing and the Car Jump spectacles.



FORMER GASWORKS | ARUNDEL | OAKFORD HOMES

Soilfix is delighted to be working alongside our new client, **Oakford Homes** on a 12-week project to carry out soil remediation & site enabling works at the former Arundel Gasworks.

The redevelopment of this historical area near the River Arun will deliver 38 new homes and important community benefits by removing a prominent and long-term derelict site within a residential area. We will be working closely with **RSK Group** Geotechnical Consulting to provide third-party verification of the site.



THE GOOD NEWS SECTION

LEO MARCILLAC | PROMOTION

Leo has been promoted from Graduate Remediation Engineer to **Remediation Engineer** - this reflects Leo's progression within Soilfix in the last year. Leo has contributed to a range of projects at Soilfix already and is currently fully immersed in Tipner which is a great project for his development.

STAFF PHOTO COMPETITION

Having the luxury of working on some incredible historical, brownfield and urban developments affords us some stunning images from our staff. To encourage more staff to get involved in capturing the beautiful, weird and wonderful world that we live in, a photography competition was announced with a prize for the **STAR** shot.

This Quarter, the £20 Amazon Voucher goes to Lawrence Bell (**Project Manager at Tipner**) for his 'Portsmouth Poppies'.



STOCK PHOTO



COMPLETION OF PROJECT BABY ONE!

With the patter of many baby feet within Soilfix this year, we say a heartfelt congratulations to one of our Remediation Engineers, **MATT IZARD** and his wife Hannah, on the birth of their son Alex at the beginning of July.

INTERVIEW WITH HELEN BENNETT!

"Why the Construction Industry, Helen?"
and other questions that we posed to our new Business Development Manager, Helen Bennett.

[Read the interview here](#)



NEW STAFF

Strengthening the [Soilfix team](#) for 2023, please give a warm welcome to our fantastic new members of staff.



Dr. Rob Shortland joins us as **Regional Manager for the North**, working alongside our Business Development Manager, Helen Bennett to develop our opportunities in the North.



Kirsty Young joins us as a **Management Accountant** working within our Bristol Finance Team.



Kim Pepper with seven years of experience in the Construction Business, Kim is our **Hire Desk Co-ordinator** based at our Bristol office, working alongside Janice.



Amy Smith joins our Health & Safety Team as **HSQE Co-ordinator** working alongside Lewis Hunt in our Essex Office.



Reshmi Prakash joined Soilfix in April 2023 as our **Intern Graduate Remediation Engineer** whilst working through her Master's Degree at University of Greenwich, London.



Arno Van Averbeke originally from Cape Town, South Africa, Arno joined Soilfix in April as a **Remediation Engineer**.



Charlie Gurr joins us as a contract **Remediation Engineer**, after starting his career as an exploration geologist in Western Australia, to working as a geotechnical engineer for the past few years in the UK.