Welcome to the first newsletter of the Piling 2020 Conference.

The Piling 2020 Conference Organising Committee

**Less than a Month to go until the Piling 2020 Abstract Deadline**

The Call for Abstracts is open for the Piling 2020 Conference. The **closing date for submission** is **30 April 2019**.

Abstracts for papers or posters can be submitted via the conference website [https://www.piling2020.org/abstract-submission](https://www.piling2020.org/abstract-submission)

- Abstracts must be submitted using the Piling 2020 MS Word template, which is available on the website.
- Abstracts are limited to a maximum of 300 words. One figure or image may be included (particularly relevant for poster submissions), maximum image file size 5MB.
- The authors must identify whether the submission is for a paper or poster.
- The authors should identify which Technical Theme is relevant to the submission. Technical Themes are listed on the conference website.

All submissions will be peer reviewed at each step including the abstract, first draft and final paper submissions. At least one author from each accepted final paper must register for the conference prior to publication. Proceedings will be published as a formal proceedings, which will form a substantial reference document for geotechnical engineering related to piling. An application is currently being made to reference the proceedings of Chalk 2018 on Scopus. When the proceedings for Piling 2020 are published a similar application will be made for that volume.

Submissions are invited on a wide range of topics, including

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<tr>
<th>Temporary works including the design and construction of piling platforms</th>
<th>Developments in pile installation and methods of construction including support systems</th>
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<td>The design and construction of piled foundation systems for lateral and/or vertical loading</td>
<td>Research on piling and piled systems</td>
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<td>Embedded pile retaining systems</td>
<td>Case histories of pile construction and performance</td>
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<td>Materials used in pile construction (environmental, sustainability, embodied carbon)</td>
<td>Geological hazards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Testing, related to pile performance and for design (integrity and load bearing)</td>
<td>Instrumentation used in pile construction and testing</td>
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<td>Sustainability (wind farms, thermally active piles etc.)</td>
<td>Use of digital technology</td>
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<td>Future engineering issues related to piling</td>
<td>Health &amp; Safety</td>
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Abstract acceptance/rejection will be notified in July 2019, with papers due to submission in December 2019.
The Conference
The British Geotechnical Association (BGA) with support from the Federation of Piling Specialists (FPS) will be hosting a major international conference on Piling in Durham on 15 and 16 September 2020. This follows on from the highly successful Chalk 2018 conference organised by the BGA and is the second of a series of bi-annual conferences that the BGA intend to organize.

There has not been a conference related specifically to piling for a number of years but recently there have been many technical developments in the field related to offshore and onshore projects namely the development of offshore wind farms and major infrastructure projects.

With the amount of work currently underway, it is appropriate to focus on this topic and to bring together the knowledge and experience gained in recent years. We are looking to obtain input from researchers and practitioners with the aim of sharing their experiences to develop new and novel solutions.

In addition to conference papers (which will be published in formal proceedings), there will be a series of authoritative keynote lectures on important aspects of Piling. There will also be a conference dinner in the conference programme.

Sponsorship and exhibition opportunities will be available, please contact us at conference@piling2020.org

Conference Organising Committee:
Chairman: Kelvin Higgins (Geotechnical Consulting Group)
Organising Committee:
Professor David Toll (Durham University)
Dr Ashraf Osman (Durham University)
Dr Jonathan Morris (Cementation)
Dr Paul Morrison (Arup)
Mark Pennington (Balfour Beatty Ground Engineering, representing the FPS)
Yvonne Ainsworth (JRL Civil Engineering)
Dr Martin Preene (Preene Groundwater Consulting)

Conference website: www.piling2020.org