



Gallimaufry: News and Events from the British Dam Society

Welcome to the last issue of *Dams and Reservoirs* for 2018.

This issue includes an interview with our current BDS chairperson, Tracey Williamson. We have a write up of the EURCOLD workshop and a discussion on the Garstang and Catterall visit.

This issue includes technical papers on prediction of building damage from dam failure and a guidance document on breach prediction. We also have a practical paper on issues faced in the design and construction of earthworks.

Finally, we have a discussion piece on FRS 4th edition, following on from the workshop delivered as part of the BDS conference in Swansea this September.

We would like to remind our readers that we welcome comment and discussion on our published papers. If you would like to provide any discussion on the papers included in this issue, or previous issues, please email the editor.

We are currently looking for articles for our 2019 editions. Please could I request that our readership continue to highlight topics and schemes that they think would be of interest to the wider readership and contact the editor with a proposed title or subject in the first instance. Please note that our editorial panel are on hand to provide mentoring and guidance in preparation of papers, should you require.

The deadlines to receive articles, including technical papers, discussion pieces and case studies for volume 29 of the Journal are as follows:

Issue 1 = 1st November 2018

Issue 2 = 15th January 2019

Issue 3 = 30th April 2019

Issue 4 = 30th July 2019

At times we receive interesting papers, which we would like to publish, but due to their length or complexity are not suitable for publishing in the hard copy of our Journal. In these instances the papers are still available on line for readers to peruse. Please also note that articles are available on line in

advance of being published in the hard copy of our Journal, so it is always a good idea to check the Journal online to keep up to date with recent developments in our industry.

A note from our BDS chair

Following the successful 20th Biennial BDS Conference in Swansea, we would encourage all attendees to participate in the survey circulated to the 294 delegates, if you haven't done so already. This will ensure we make the next conference even more successful. Once again, my thanks go out to everyone for the organisation and participation of such an excellent event. Regarding the next conference, if you have a suggestion for a venue or would like to help organise this event, please get in touch with anyone on the BDS Committee.

The following awards and competition prizes were presented at the BDS Conference 2018:

- The Bateman Award for the authors of the best paper published over the past 2 years, which made a significant contribution to dam engineering, was given to Tim Blower and Scott Davidson for their paper entitled 'Safeguarding Critical Infrastructure against Landslip Risk on a large dam in Albania'.
- The YEF ICOLD Paper Competition 2018 for papers submitted to the BDS Conference by an international member of ICOLD's Young Engineers Forum was awarded to Louis Coetzee from the South African National Committee on Large Dams for his paper entitled 'Smart Construction Monitoring of dams with UAVs'. BDS provided a place at the BDS Conference 2018 and £500 towards expenses. Louis also presented his paper at the Conference.
- The Best Young Professional Presenter Award 2018 for the best presentation at the BDS Conference 2018 by a BDS Young Professional Member was awarded to Alasdair Walker.
- The winner of the Photographic Competition 2018 with prize money of £200 was Jamie Lancaster; second place and £100 was presented to Paul Farnell; and third place and £50 was presented to Dougie Armour. Photographs can be viewed on the BDS website.

Please can we draw your attention to the recently launched BDS initiative, which is aimed at helping BDS Members of any age or discipline to achieve their goals within the dams and reservoirs profession, be that to improve knowledge regarding the design, operation, and maintenance of dams or to develop the necessary skills to become a Qualified Civil Engineer (QCE) under relevant reservoirs legislation. You can find out more on the website or contact a member of our Young Professionals Steering Group.

There is a technical site visit to Williamsgate Service Reservoir in Cockermouth, Cumbria on 15th November 2018, hosted by United Utilities. This is a great opportunity, especially for trainee Supervising Engineers, to see inside a service reservoir.

The next BDS meetings is on 19th November 2018 from 18.00 at the ICE London. Regional hubs will be held in Glasgow, Warrington and Cardiff, where you can join a group to watch the event. These events are becoming more popular and it's a great way to network with other dam professionals.

Finally, don't forget to sign up for news and emails on the BDS website so you don't miss out on the monthly eNewsletters and please let us know if you have any news or announcements related to dams and reservoirs, which you would like to share with BDS members in the next eNewsletter.

Thank you

Tracey Williamson
BDS Chair

Flood Hydrology Road map and (PMP/PMF) updates

Following the autumn 2015 flooding the Cabinet office carried out a National Flood Resilience Review, published in Sept 2016, which included in its recommendations to '*develop further the statistical methods to reduce uncertainties in flood estimation, including taking account of long term variability and trends*'.

In order to achieve consensus on the way ahead the Environment Agency hosted a workshop on 24 and 25th Sept 2018 to agree a vision and research priorities for UK hydrology for the next 25 years. This followed a questionnaire earlier in 2018 and was attended by around 45 people, including government agencies, academics and consultants. Ian Scholfield and Alan Brown attended on behalf of the reservoir community, both as members of Reservoir Safety Research Advisory Group (ReSRAG). 23 projects were identified, including updating PMP and these will be developed/prioritised further over the next few months. The most likely outcome is that there will be a more explicit statement of uncertainty with any flood estimate, so for example FRS4 may need updating to provide guidance on whether spillways are designed for the median (best) estimate with say a 50% chance of being exceeded and if so how the panel engineer/owner considers the uncertainty in the selected flood estimate when calculating risks and implementing appropriate risk reduction measures.

Alan Brown and Ian Scholfield

Upcoming events

5–8 November 2018	Taipei, Taiwan	The 9th International Conference on Scour and Erosion
15 November 2018	Cockermouth	Technical site visit to Williamsgate Service Reservoir in Cockermouth
19 November 2018	ICE London	Confined Spaces at Dams
6 December 2018	Kinmel Manor, North Wales	Plas Uchaf reservoir, Kinmel Manor, North Wales. Joint meeting with the ICE
7 March 2019	ICE London	UK Reservoir Spillway Flood Hydrology (Joint BH/BDS meeting)