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Dams and Reservoirs

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Gallimaufry

Welcome to this issue of Dams and Reservoirs, our fourth and last issue of 2021.

We rarely feature service reservoirs in this journal, so you will find the paper about a new United Utilities service reservoir, located in a National Park, of interest. It covers the earthworks that were necessary, and the construction of the reservoir using a semi-precast concrete system. Key innovations in the method of construction are described, which may be of value to other designers.

We stay with service reservoirs in a paper describing how a system to monitor leaks using temperature and strain measurements has been installed at a Severn Trent service reservoir. The paper describes how this system is also being used in earth embankments. In both cases a real-time warning system is provided, should leakage or movement be detected.

In the Republic of Ireland three open service reservoirs in Dublin were to be replaced by a single covered reservoir, but two of the open reservoirs had to remain operational while the new reservoir was built on the site of the third. The paper describes how this required careful monitoring of the earth embankments of the operational reservoirs during the excavation for, and construction of, the new service reservoir.

In the UK amenity reservoirs are often to be found in landscaped parks, which means that any necessary works have to be sensitively designed and carefully carried out. Such was the case for the increase in spillway capacity needed for a lake in Kent, but the paper explains how additional works to improve the drawdown capacity were then found to be necessary, and were included in the works.

Earthquakes in the UK that are of sufficient magnitude to damage dams or their appurtenant structures are rare, but nevertheless must be considered by engineers, as the consequences of a failure are potentially high. A paper from the British Geological Survey describes two different, but complementary, methods of remote monitoring of the effect of earthquakes on dams and other structures.

This issue also contains a Technical Note regarding the definition of Zero Wave Overtopping from EurOtop 2018, and how this could be applied in Floods and Reservoir Safety, 4th Edition.

As always, we welcome discussion on any papers published in Dams and Reservoirs – whether you would like clarification on points raised or can contribute additional information. Please send your contribution to editor@britishdams.org.

Upcoming Events

The following events are scheduled for the first quarter of 2022. Visit https://britishdams.org/meetings-and-events/events-calendar/ for more details.

Monday 10 January 2022	BDS Prize evening (at ICE)
Monday 7 March 2022	Post-Toddbrook Guidance Documents (at ICE)
Wednesday 16 March 2022	The 60th Rankine Lecture (at Imperial College)

21st BDS Conference 'Dams and Reservoirs in a Climate of Change' – Call for Papers

The 21st BDS Conference will be held at the University of Nottingham between 14th and 17th September 2022.

The theme of the conference will reflect on how we rise to the challenges within our industry. This may be driven by specific reservoir events, introductions of new legislation, guidance, sharing of best practice and current views on a sustainable carbon-neutral world.

Synopses, maximum 250 words, should be submitted by 21st January 2022 to Andrew Thompson, BDS Honorary Technical Secretary, by e-mail (hontechsec@britishdams.org). Completed papers will be required by 1 May 2022.

How can you contribute?

To discuss this paper, please email up to 500 words to the editor at editor@britishdams.org. Your contribution will be forwarded to the author(s) for a reply and, if considered appropriate by the editorial board, it will be published as discussion in a future issue of the journal.