





Lion Rock, Cheddar Gorge – rock slope safety risk assessment by engineering geological survey and rope access inspection.



## RISK ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

Current projects on geotechnical risks and slope instability led by Phil Stephenson include:

**Lion Rock, Cheddar Gorge** - a Rock Slope Safety Risk Inspection and Assessment has been made for the National Trust on a prominent rock slope feature which overlooks the gorge and its various houses, shops and car parks used by residents and tourist visitors.

**Beechen Cliff, Bath** - a Land Stability Risk Assessment for Bath & North East Somerset Council who wish to transfer the land to the National Trust. From engineering geological mapping survey and desk study searches, the site was found to be part of the *Beechen Cliff Landslide*, a major landslide which occurred about 20,000 years ago in the last Ice Age (Devensian). Various risks and liabilities of the land were identified and assessed in our report.

**Lydford Gorge** - a Rock Slope Stability Risk Assessment has been carried out for the National Trust to assist with long term slope management of this major tourist attraction in west Devon. From engineering geological inspection of the gorge and desk study review of recent information, a risk assessment and management plan has been created which identifies the needs for future inspections and works.

## Feasibility Study for Meldon

**Funding has been secured for a Feasibility Study for the Meldon Quarry Rock Walk Project from the local Okehampton United Charity.** As project consultant for Aggregate Industries and other project group partners, David Roche GeoConsulting is developing ideas and scoping and costing the various phases of project work which aims to provide new public footpaths, viewing areas and interpretation boards. The initial phase of the project – *Meldon Quarry Rock Park* - was completed during 2009 and has become a popular feature for visitors.

## EXPERT WITNESS CASES

**Clay material quality, variation and testing** – minerals geological review and report of evidence to defend claim by a paint manufacturer against a china clay producer for supply of clay product from South West England.

*Client:* Sibelco / WBB Minerals

*Expert Witness:* Professor Peter W Scott, Consultant

*Instructing Solicitor:* Buller Jeffries, Birmingham

**Slope instability adjacent to residential homes** – engineering geological evidence for local authority prosecution of private landlords.

*Client:* Torbay Council *Expert Witness:* David Roche

**Groundwater inflows into river training wall works** – geotechnical and hydrogeological advice on groundwater conditions to a counter temporary works claim a by contractor, for client authority.

*Client:* North Somerset Council *Expert Witness:* David Roche

**Ground conditions for water pipeline** – engineering geological review of evidence to defend a claim by a horizontal directional drilling contractor for unforeseen ground conditions at Dawlish.

*Client:* South West Water *Expert Witness:* David Roche

*Instructing Solicitor:* Ashfords, Exeter

## Exeter Ship Canal Study

Ground conditions along the historic Exeter Canal have been researched and assessed by desk study and site inspection by Deryck Laming and David Roche. Our report for Exeter City Council includes maps, boreholes and findings dating back as much as 400 years to when the canal was constructed.



Dr Deryck Laming, Exeter Canal and dredger Mannin – still working – on a sunny winter day

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