

- ○ Local Centre Meetings ^[1]
- Scottish Local Centre ^[2]

Date: Friday 6 December 2019

Time: 17:30 - 19:00

Location:

University of Edinburgh
School of GeoSciences
The University of Edinburgh,
Grant Institute
The Kings Buildings, West
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SPEAKER | Ms Ellen Clarke,
BGS Edinburgh
Ellen Clarke joined the
geomagnetism team at the
British Geological Survey in
1988. Learning the subject on
the job and through remote
studies, she obtained a
degree from the Open
University in 1998. She
became leader of the BGS
real-time geomagnetic
services in 2003. Throughout
her career, Ellen has had an
interest in space weather and
'real world' applications of
geomagnetic science. She
also has a particular interest in
recovering new data from old
records such as the historic

analogue magnetograms from Greenwich and Kew observatories, showing for example the Carrington Solar Flare of September 1859 and the extreme geomagnetic storms that followed.

ABSTRACT | 'Space Weather' is a term broadly used to describe the variability in conditions in the near-Earth space environment that are caused by magnetic activity in the Sun and in the solar wind. Geomagnetic storms, resulting from space weather, can influence the operation and reliability of both space-borne and ground-based technological systems and infra-structure. This talk aims to introduce the topic of space weather and includes examples of geomagnetic storm events of historical interest. Space weather impacts on various modern day technological systems will be described, with an emphasis on effects at ground level. The role that scientists at BGS have had in helping industry understand, monitor and predict space weather and its consequences, will also be discussed.

BIOGRAPHY | Ellen Clarke joined the British Geological Survey in 1988. She obtained an HND from Napier University in 1993 and followed this up with a degree from the Open University in 1998. She became leader of the BGS real-time geomagnetic services projects in 2003. Throughout her career, Ellen had had an

interest in space weather and applications of geomagnetic and space weather science. She has a particular interest in the Carrington Solar Flare of September 1859.

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