



**Marcus Charles Matthews BSc, MSc, PhD, FGS, AMICE**

Marcus Matthews is an Engineering Geologist. He studied Engineering Geology and Geotechnics at Portsmouth Polytechnic and graduated in 1977. Following this he undertook an MSc in Foundation Engineering at Birmingham University. In 1978 he joined the University of Surrey as an Experimental Officer where he contributed to pioneering work on computer controlled triaxial testing as well as teaching on the then new part-time MSc course in Geotechnical Engineering and co-authoring what has become a classic text book on Site Investigation with Chris Clayton and Noel Simons. In 1982 Marcus was appointed as a lecturer in geotechnical engineering. During the years that followed he undertook research on the compressibility of fractured chalk, surface wave geophysics and the stiffness of soils and rocks at very small strains. In 1994 Marcus gained his PhD investigating the compressibility of fractured chalk. This work involved carrying out nine large diameter (1800mm) plate loading tests on weathered chalk with a range of dry densities. This work provided key data for Lord & Twine's CIRIA Report on Foundations in Chalk and the basis for the new engineering grade classification for the Chalk. In 1994 Marcus joined a multi-disciplinary team investigating diffuse pollution of the River Test. He pioneered the application of John Hudson's interaction matrix to pollution vulnerability mapping of the Test Catchment. In 1998 Marcus was promoted to Senior Lecturer and took on a greater administrative role. During the next ten years he co-authored three text books with Bruce Menzies and Noel Simons following on from the revision of their classic work 'A Short Course in Foundation Engineering'. One of these books ('A Short Course in Geotechnical Site Investigation') won the BGA prize in 2002. He became Programme Director for the MSc in Geotechnical Engineering as well as Director of Postgraduate Studies for the School of Engineering. He was the Assistant Scientific Editor (Engineering Geology) for QJEGH from 2000 to 2003. In 2007 the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences was formed, and Marcus became Director of Learning and Teaching for the Division of Civil & Chemical Engineering and more recently the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. This heavy admin stuff took resulted in a decline in his research. Despite this setback in the years leading up to his retirement in 2014 his research diversified into Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials (NORM) and soil sensors for a Martian rover. Following his retirement Marcus has been active in teaching geology and hydrogeology and working with Chris Clayton and Nick Langdon on a book which is essentially a revised version of the 1995 edition of Site Investigation.