

EAST MIDLANDS GEOTECHNICAL GROUP**PRESENTS****WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING?**

with

**Professor John Atkinson
(City University, London)**

This contentious question was raised by Prof. Atkinson in his recent article in the ICE Geotechnical Engineering Journal. Prof Atkinson argues that "...It is said: two thirds of ground engineering is done by non-geotechnical engineers; the largest source of claims and disputes is in the ground; too much of the time of good geotechnical engineers is spent in court and on disputes. If these claims are true then something is the matter."

The article has already generated a lively debate within the geotechnical engineering and academic communities, and Prof. Atkinson will be seeking to continue the debate at this meeting.

In the talk, Prof Atkinson will consider the nature of geotechnical "failures" in a wide sense, the causes of problems in the ground, the competence of geotechnical engineers and their education and training and some of the drivers and constraints on change. In his own words: "The intention of the talk (and of the original Ground Engineering articles it will be based on) is therefore to raise the relevant issues and continue the debate. There will be some observations and experiences, and many questions but few answers."

All those involved in geotechnics, or with an interest in the issues that will be raised, are invited to attend what promises to be a lively and thought-provoking event.

**Monday 9th February, 2004
6.30pm**

at

**University of Nottingham
School of Civil Engineering, Coates Building****Refreshments available in Telford Orangery, Coates Building, from 6pm**

For more details of this and other EMGG events (and a location map of the venue), please visit our web site: www.lboro.ac.uk/emgg or contact the Meetings Secretary (Dr Ashraf El-Hamalawi) on 01509 223206 or email a.el-hamalawi@lboro.ac.uk