



Dr J A Skipper
BSc PhD DIC CGeol FGS
Senior Consultant
Senior Geologist
Geotechnical Consulting Group

Areas of expertise

A specialist in ground investigation and interpretation of complex soils and rocks, especially in relation to major infrastructure projects, landslips and collapse features.

Recent experience

Dr Skipper is a specialist consultant geologist and is the 18th Geological Society Engineering Group Glossop Medallist. She joined the Geotechnical Consulting Group in July 2007 and became a Senior Partner in 2017. Her experience encompasses work on the ground investigation and construction of many major projects including Crossrail, Crossrail 2, the Thames Water Tideway Project, the Lee Tunnel, and the Northern Line Extension. She is on both Geotechnical Review and Formation Expert panels for High Speed 2. Recent projects include investigations of very large Quaternary collapse and solution features, tunnel lining deformation and sand ingress for London Underground, landslide projects throughout the UK, and major construction projects in the UK, Europe and the Middle East.

Areas worked

UK, Ireland, Spain, North and West Africa.

Previous experience

Following a first career in the field of medical crisis resource management. Dr. Skipper gained a degree in Geology with Engineering Geology at the University of Greenwich (1st Class Hons, 1993). After gaining university lecturing experience she joined an overland expedition to Algeria and Niger with the University of Chicago, where she gained experience of the geology of the Atlas Mountains, Saharan and sub-Saharan desert environments.

From 1995 to 1999, she undertook a PhD at Imperial College, London studying the stratigraphy of the Lambeth Group throughout SE England and sites in NW Europe. For this project she worked with engineers on a wide range of tunnelling and other infrastructure projects including the Jubilee Line Extension, Channel Tunnel Rail Link (HS1), M11 Link Road, and Newbury Bypass, using this experience to produce a model which can predict these formerly poorly understood deposits. She co-authored a landmark paper on the lithologies of the Lambeth Group in 2000.

From 2000 to 2002, Dr Skipper worked as a geological consultant whilst undertaking research into stratigraphy and mineralogy at the Natural History Museum, London. She was involved in providing expert input into a range of ground investigations including Stratford Box (Channel Tunnel Rail Link/HS1), and Crossrail. During this period she first developed and led her range of Continuous Professional Development (CPD) and field training programmes in stratigraphy for the Geological Society, Ove Arup, Crossrail, Skanska Cementation, Norwest Holst, and Soil Mechanics.



GEOTECHNICAL CONSULTING GROUP

52A Cromwell Road London SW7 5BE United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0)20-7581-8348 Fax: +44 (0)20-7584-0157 Email:admin@gcg.co.uk

In 2002 Dr Skipper joined the Dublin Port Tunnel Project as senior geologist and Designer Site Supervisor for Haswell. She introduced a system of rigorous logging, recording and interpretation techniques for all open cut and tunnelled sections in the faulted and rafted Carboniferous limestone and glacial tills of this 5.6km long project. This work led to the publication of a paper revising the Quaternary stratigraphy of the Dublin area.

Between 2003 and 2007 Dr Skipper was Consultancy Leader in Earth Sciences at the Natural History Museum, London, where she set up an Engineering Geology consultancy offering specialist stratigraphical and mineralogical services. She worked as a geological advisor on a wide range of projects including analysis of coral limestone in Mexico for shipping insurers, and advised on a wide range of infrastructure projects in the UK. During this period she also lectured at Imperial College (Engineering Geology MSc) and set up the very successful CPD training programme in stratigraphy, which she is continuing with GCG, and which are now a requirement for many major projects. At the NHM she undertook the Geological Society CPD training in acting as an Expert Witness, and has provided expert advice for a number of legal cases in engineering and shipping.

In December 2010 Dr Skipper received the Geological Society Engineering Group Award. In January 2012 she was invited to give one of the prestigious Geological Society Shell Lectures on the subject of 'Reconciling Past and Future Worlds: Geology and Ground Engineering', and in 2017 she was awarded the Geological Society Engineering Group Award 18th Glossop Medal. Dr. Skipper has lectured in a number of countries world-wide and has appeared widely in the media as a geological authority.

Awards

ERASMUS scholarship for Structural Geology 1993.

The Geological Society Engineering Group Award 2010.

The Geological Society Engineering Group Award 18th Glossop Lecture and Medal, 2017.

Professional bodies

The Geological Society of London (Chartered Geologist. Committee Member of Engineering Group 2002-5)

The Geological Club of the Geological Society of London

The British Geotechnical Association

The British Tunnelling Society

The Geologists' Association (Council Member 1993-96)

Education/Research

PhD, Imperial College, London, 2000

BSc (1st Class Honours), Geology with Engineering Geology, University of Greenwich, London 1993.

Scientific Associate, Natural History Museum, Department of Palaeontology (1999 - 1993), Department of Earth Sciences (1997 to 2015).