



Education

- > BSc Natural Sciences with Chemistry – Open University
- > Registered Science Technician – Royal Society of Chemistry



Current job

As a technician in the CTL, I spend most of my time supporting the undergraduates, providing chemicals, troubleshooting equipment and explaining unfamiliar techniques. In vacation I try out new practicals, stock take and order consumables.



Questions

> I chose to study chemistry because I enjoyed it at school. I had a very good teacher who made it fun and I seemed to be able to understand it fairly easily.

> I chose to become a lab technician because it seemed like an interesting job when I finished school. I would be able to do something that I enjoyed. I started straight after A-levels as a trainee. I was able to learn on the job doing day release to college.

> The most exciting thing about my work is seeing how the undergraduates develop. They start off very unsure about their practical work and it is great to see them become more confident. When they go on to become researchers and academics it is very satisfying to think that I may have played a part in encouraging them to do the best they can.

> The greatest scientific advance of the last century was the lithium ion battery. It is used in so many of the things we use today. Technology would not be able to move on without it. I am proud to say that I knew many of the team who developed it including John Goodenough and Phil Wiseman.

> Outside of work I am passionate about genealogy. I have spent a number of years tracing my family tree. In the last two years I have done a DNA test which has helped me to confirm that a lot of what I have done is correct. I have connected with relatives from all over the world!