

Elise Cartmell

(Attended ESS 1979 – 1989)

Studies:

BSc (Hons) Environmental Chemistry at The University of Edinburgh; PhD Environmental Engineering at Imperial College, London.

Career history and Education:

I am now the Chief Scientist at Scottish Water responsible for the sampling, laboratory and scientific services for Scottish Water.

I joined Scottish Water in April 2016 following a career in academia at Cranfield University where I was Professor of Water Technology and Director of Environmental Technology. Here I specialised in wastewater treatment with particular reference to trace contaminants and anaerobic processes.

I am a chemist with a BSc (Hons) from The University of Edinburgh. I obtained my PhD in Environmental Engineering from Imperial College, London in 1997. Prior to joining Cranfield in 2000 I was a research scientist at WRc plc. I am a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry and the editor for Environmental Technology Reviews.

Favourite memory of your time at the school?

Oh difficult question! Probably was the opportunity and the experience of the Class 8 exchange when we went to Freiburg, Germany.

Most useful lesson/hardest learnt lesson while at school?

At the school you receive a great deal of support and encouragement. For me, that meant I learnt to worry less and to just give everything a go.

What have you taken with you into your life and work from the school?

My time at school provided me with an incredibly broad education and understanding. It has helped me to be able to look at things differently and provide alternative perspectives to challenges. Above all though, the school helped provide me with the confidence, self-reliance and motivation to keep going!

If you could do it again what would you do differently?

No I wouldn't really do anything differently. I feel I did the best I could at the time.