

**Gemma Hamilton**



**Education, Experience & Achievements**

**BSc (Physics, Hons) / BE (Electrical and Electronic, Hons)**

**What led you to choose Engineering as a career?**

A passion for building things, strong interest in electromagnetics and a desire to work outside. My Grandad was an engineer on Wellington Dam and Ord River Dam, so I had an understanding from a very young age of the work engineers do.

**What is it about Engineering that inspires you?**

The big things – climbing a crane, going underground, I love the adventure.

**What has been the high point in your career to date?**

Operating a longwall shearer at an underground coal mine.

**What has been your biggest challenge so far and how have you solved it?**

Recognising, understanding and coming to appreciate people's different working styles. It was through an assessment of my own working style that I had a lightbulb moment and realised that some people work things through by talking about them, others like to go away and work it out themselves first etc.

**How have you managed your work and family commitments?**

Book in non-work commitments (such as sporting, time with loved ones) and stick to it.

**Do you have any advice for women who are considering engineering as a career, or for those who are already Engineers?**

Workplaces vary greatly in their culture. Talk to as many people as you can to find somewhere good to work. If where you work is making you unhappy; keep looking. It isn't worth being miserable to stick something out, and there is something better out there.