

*Ambassador Profiles*

*Name Keith Garnett*

*Occupation: Ventilation System Engineer*

*What were your interests when you were at school?*

*The main subjects I was interested in at school were; Technology, Maths, Computer Studies and Technical Drawing.*

*As a student were you able to take advantage of any STEM type activities outside the usual school timetable?*

*No, nothing was available.*

*If so, how did this influence your career path?*

*What are your roles and responsibilities in your workplace now?*

*I am the Ventilation System Engineer in my work area. I am responsible for developing and maintaining expertise on the assigned system.*

*Why did you decide to become an STEM ambassador?*

*Initially to promote Engineer outside of my work area and in doing so assist with my application to become an Incorporated member of the IMechE. I am currently applying to become a chartered member and the STEM ambassador role will provide evidence to help towards this. I hope to continue as an ambassador after I obtain chartered status as I find it a really enjoyable and rewarding experience.*

*What do you feel are the positive outcomes of being a STEM Ambassador?*

*For yourself?*

*A feeling that that you are creating an interest in young people towards Engineering and assistance in career development.*

*For the pupils taking part in the activity?*

*An understanding of how the knowledge learnt in school subjects transfers to the world of work. An enjoyable experience away from the usual class room learning.*

*For the teaching staff accompanying the pupils?*

*An idea of how the knowledge from the subjects they teach is used in the practical activities that relate to different work areas.*

*Which STEM activity have you enjoyed the most and why?*

*I have enjoyed the robotics days because the pupils really seem to enjoy and participate in the activities.*

*I have also really enjoyed the Girls in Engineering events, witnessing real interest in Engineering and the removal of the idea that Engineering is just for males.*

*What was your role in this activity?*

*I have delivered presentations, ran small activities and generally helped out at various events.*

*Do you think being a STEM Ambassador has enhanced your career in anyway?*

*Yes it has helped in my applications to the professional institutes. My employers encourage out of work involvement and activities with young people.*

*Do you have any advice for people who are considering becoming a STEM ambassador?*

*I would really recommend it as a rewarding experience and it adds another area to career development. There are various levels of involvement to suit most people and there is a large sense of achievement when pupils show an interest in the activities you are assisting with.*