



Colin Thorne

1964-1971

I chose to study at Kelvin Hall because I was interested in science and technology and that is a decision I have never regretted.

After leaving Kelvin, I studied Environmental Sciences at the University of East Anglia, where I was awarded BSc and PhD degrees. When I graduated, the UK job market was difficult (a bit like today!) so I looked abroad and was appointed as an Associate Professor at Colorado State University in America.

Working abroad was OK, but the pull of home was strong and after a few years I moved back to England, taking a post at Queen Mary University, London. In 1990, I was appointed Professor of Physical Geography at Nottingham University.

My teaching and research focuses on rivers and I work on great watercourses like the Mississippi, Yangtze, Ganges, Brahmaputra, Parana, Columbia and Mekong. I also advise the government on river and flood risk management throughout the United Kingdom, including especially the Rivers Thames, Severn, Trent and (in Scotland) the Findhorn.

It was the excellent facilities, positive learning environment and dedicated teaching staff at Kelvin Hall that unlocked my potential and set me on a successful career path that takes me all over the world – just look all those rivers up on a map and you'll see what I mean!