

Transcript

Gold Town interviews – How can you become a geologist?

George Riley, Geologist:

I chose Geology because I, like the outdoors. I grew up in the Yorkshire Dales, so like to spend my time outside. I liked studying geography at school and liked sciences, particularly chemistry and biology.

The most useful thing that I learnt at university was the sort of scientific process that you have to go through, sort of thinking about hypothesis and testing them, making sure you don't bias investigations and that's very important in lots of things. It's been important in our work here, particularly with sampling and analysing data.

[Talking to colleague]: The only bit that's, only bit that intersects is sort of here.

So if you want to go into the mining industry in the UK there are opportunities. Generally a lot of people on my course and a lot of people I know have gone to Australia and Africa and Scandinavia, there's a few in Eastern Europe as well, so you've generally got to go where the work is, but there are quite a few companies active in the UK, generally quite small companies, maybe more limited exploration, so generally yeah there are less opportunities in the UK but I think when they come up if that's what you're interested in you've got to take them.

My advice for potential students would probably just be to, look for any opportunity to get experience while you're at university just, just pester people, contact people from LinkedIn, and just, just try and get some industry experience cos it does help afterwards when you're looking for jobs, if you've got something on your CV and you've got something discuss at interview.

In the future the role of the geologist will change as technology develops and that gets incorporated more and more, so that's the case in mining, you've got more drones being used, we've used one here, you've got more sort of optical imagery in, in processing plants and used to log core nowadays, so I think all of that will develop.

Probably the thing I enjoy most about geology is you don't look at your surroundings the same, especially when you're outside going for a walk, you don't see rivers and, streams the same, don't see

mountains the same cos you sort of, know the processes that formed them and yeah I think it's nice to understand the world around you, just that bit more, in that bit more detail.