

12<sup>th</sup> November 2015

**SUBJECT: LETTER OF ADVICE TO 18 YEAR-OLD SELF**

Hello,

You don't know me yet, but someday soon you will. Right now you have your sights set on being an engineer. That wasn't an easy decision and you're going to have to fight for it, but it's worth it. Continue to approach everything with an open mind, your curiosity and 'big picture view' will take you where you need to go.

'Quality' matters to you now as a consumer. But in a few short years, it will offer you great opportunities and a chance to make a difference. More importantly a day job with a variety you'll find you can't live without.

People matter. It may be difficult, but learn to talk to anyone about anything. It will help you succeed and make the journey more fun.

Engineering is a solid basis. Work hard. The skills you'll learn in the next 5 years are invaluable. Engineering Design at Bristol is a great choice as it'll give you a breadth of knowledge. Sponsorship will take some of the pain out of finding your first job.

Enjoy the Renishaw graduate scheme. It may feel like you're heading the wrong way at times, but it will give you a practical foundation that will make you more credible.

You'll be unsure about taking the Quality position but don't be afraid to define your own direction. Trust yourself.

The medical device industry is a whole new world. Keep questioning, challenging and learning. This role will shape you into a quality professional. You'll learn that quality is everywhere – a key part of every aspect of a business.

Moving on from your first company is one of the hardest choices you'll ever make. It'll be worth it though – your time at Babcock will change your

perspective. This job will grow with you. It will allow you to form a personal approach for what quality means to a business and what the quality professional has to offer.

It'll soon be time to move on again. Another difficult choice! Take the step, Nuvia will give you the chance to implement your approach and prove the value of the quality function to a business.

Be proud of who you'll become and what you'll achieve. Soon you'll be leading a professional team. You'll be defining strategy and delivering against it. You'll be changing attitudes and cultures and, most importantly, you'll enjoy what you do.

Don't worry that you don't know what you want. You'll be asked 'What is your 5 year plan?' It's good to have goals, but life will surprise you. Be flexible, take the opportunities as they come. Do what you enjoy now and down the line, it will lead you to what you enjoy next.

There are no right and wrong decisions. Make the decisions you make and then build it into what you want it to be. You're in for an amazing decade - enjoy yourself! Good luck, have fun and be brave.

*Ruth*