

Who are the women involved in STEM?

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What I wanted to be when I grew up

Work with robots or aeroplanes. I loved Lego building, puzzles and problem-solving, which led me to a career in engineering.

Professional

Top-level responsibilities

I command 47 Aircraft and Avionics Technicians and am the maintenance coordinator for a fleet of seven ARH Tiger Helicopters.

Day-to-day work and skills

Communicating technical issues to aircrew; problem-solving; safety and technical risk assessments; personnel management.

Personal

Current location and community

I live in Darwin in the Northern Territory.

My interests and hobbies

I enjoy snowboarding, movies, sport, travelling and cooking.

I am passionate about

Aviation, women's contribution to STEM and education for girls in third-world countries.

What I would say to 16-year-old me

Attend workshops, university open days and do work experience. Try to speak to your parents' friends who work in different industries to gauge what interests you!



Captain Louise Farrell

Captain, Aviation Maintenance Engineer

Australian Defence Force – Army Aviation

Girls in Engineering week at University of Wollongong

Year 11 and 12 school subjects were Advanced English, Advanced Maths, Maths Ext 1, Physics, Metals and Engineering, Modern History, Religion.

Took a gap year to work part-time and travel in South America.

Started Bachelor of Engineering at QUT, Brisbane.

Applied for a Defence Force scholarship after one year of my degree and was accepted into their University Sponsorship program.