



[Dr Susan Burrows](#)

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### **Life before Warwick**

I spent three years at the Scottish Crop Research Institute looking at plant fibres.

### **Best things about working at Warwick**

The friendly working environment, and also landscaping of the campus – it looks good all year round.

### **Worst thing about working for Warwick or If you could change one thing at Warwick, what would it be?**

Queuing to get onto campus in the morning, then having to pay to park. Where I live the car is the only transport option.

### **What people are surprised to learn about me?**

I play the piano and violin, I am also an occasional church organist.

### **What would your dream job be?**

My dream job would involve a mixture of reading and gardening, preferably in a sunny climate. Any ideas?

### **Research interest**

I have a background in glasses and ceramics, and am currently working in the Ultrasound group, looking at electromagnetic acoustic transducers for use in high temperature ultrasonics.

### **What have been useful training/ development to date**

Sessions on how to write grant applications have been the most useful, although learning from colleagues is also important.

### **Other roles (eg. peer review journals)**

Where to start? I sit on the Research Forum as the research representative for Physics, the Athena Swan action group and the departmental safety committee, as well as setting and supervising final year student projects, peer reviewing articles etc etc. I am also the technical head of the teaching laboratories.

### **Next bid/ grant**

In the immediate future I will be looking at the durability of high level and intermediate level waste glasses for the nuclear industry.

### **Latest academic writing publication (journal/ book etc)**

- 'Thermographic Detection of Surface Breaking Defects Using a Scanning Laser Source'  
SE.Burrows, S.Dixon, SG.Pickering, T.Li, DP.Almond NDT&E International 44 2011 589-596

- Modelling Defect Detection using Lamb Waves generated by a laser pulse. SE. Burrows, B. Dutton, S. Dixon IEEE Ultrasonics, ferroelectrics and frequency control. 59 1 82-89 2012

**Looking for?**

As a chemist in a former life, I would like to do some more work with sol-gel systems – a good way of preparing glasses or ceramics which cannot be prepared conventionally.

**Major achievement to date**

Combining a research career with bringing up children – it can be done!

**Three top tips / learning**

- Be flexible, don't be afraid to change direction.
- Communicate outside of your own group.
- Keep a good work-life balance.