Distance learning is working the majority of the time from home or at work. We had two or three weekends where we actually attend university, you’re still in contact with the university whenever you require so.

Sheffield Hallam would provide us with a series of CDs and there was also the blackboard intranet site where you could go in and contact your supervisors, talk with other people on the forum. So the information was made available both by CD and also on the intranet.

I believe if organisations are willing to invest in the development of their employees then distance learning is the way that the employee and the employer can both benefit from it.

Having completed a full-time degree in engineering and then doing a distance learning course there are similarities and differences. But you still always have got the support of your lecturers and the university. It just means that it might be over the phone or via email rather than face to face on a daily basis. So, at the end of the day you still get the qualification.

Getting the balance between professional life, study life, and home life is not an easy task. So I had to put certain things on hold for the time I was doing the course; the wife didn’t get all the D.I.Y. done that she hoped for at the time. But it’s a certain amount of your time that you have to be dedicated towards.

If anyone’s thinking of taking on a distance learning course then they’ve got to be prepared for the time and commitment that it will take. However, saying that, if you do put the effort in it will pay back the rewards, so it’s worth it in the long run.