



# ALUMNI OF THE MONTH MARCH 2024



## **George Carey**

Duty Fleet Manager & Inclusive Chair at Greater Anglia

Year left STM 2015

Post year 11 studies was an Engineering Apprenticeship at the age of 16 based at Colchester Institute.

At the age of 16 I left STM with seven A-C grade GCSE's including BTEC qualifications (Business & Design Technology). I was lucky enough to secure an engineering apprenticeship with Greater Anglia.



Greater Anglia operates 190 trains across 133 stations including Southend Victoria, London Liverpool Street, Cambridge & Norwich. This is supported by a staff count of over three thousand individuals.

My apprenticeship lasted four years. In those years I undertook an engineering, maintenance & commissioning diploma with City & Guilds. The opportunity with apprenticeships are endless, I was exposed to a majority of the business and given the time to absorb as much experience in each department as possible. I undertook my placements across the business with 14 other apprentices, which made it still feel like a school environment, which I believe assisted me in the transition from STM to working within a large Company.

Upon completion of my apprenticeship, I was qualified as a train maintenance technician working within 1 of our 3 maintenance depots.

Due to the exposure given to me whilst training I had gained experience within our Control Centre based within Romford. I was successful in securing a role as a 'Fleet Planning Manager' & for the next 5 years found myself planning Depot workloads, creating contingency plans, managing refurbishment programmes & ensuring trains entering passenger service were compliant & safe.

Fast forwarding to now, I'm on my 9<sup>th</sup> year at Greater Anglia, I'm a Duty Fleet Manager, responsible for the engineering maintenance of 133 trains called Class 720's with a combined approximate cost of 900 million. I'm responsible

### **PROFILE:**

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**JOB: Duty Fleet Manager and Inclusive Chair at Greater Anglia**

**YEAR left STM: 2015**

**After GCSEs: Apprenticeship, Engineering, maintenance and commissioning diploma with City and Guilds.**



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for not only the maintenance of the trains but the welfare of a Depot containing up to 150 members of staff at any one time.

Alongside my role I also chair an internal networking group called 'Affinity'. When ensures Greater Anglia is a safe place for all to be their true self. To educate and promote to people throughout our business and beyond on the importance of diversity and inclusion within our organisation.

I will still be working towards gaining further qualifications, later this year I am hoping to start a level 5 operational management course as part of an adult apprenticeship scheme.

***I would highly recommend an apprenticeship to any individual who is unsure on the next steps to take when leaving STM.*** The world truly is your oyster and obtaining qualifications alongside gaining experience is invaluable and will forever assist you in further job opportunities. If I could pass across one bit of advice from my time within my career in rail it would be ***to take every opportunity with two hands***, it may seem scary at the time, but with effort and dedication you'll come through better than before. I wasn't in top set for any subject during my time at STM, so please, do not think that will stop you from entering a future career, where there is will there is a way.

**greater**anglia