

# Orla Grant

Hydraulics Engineer - Aquamarine Power



**Orla Grant**, BEng, PhD

Hydraulics Engineer for Wave Power Developer - Aquamarine Power

Irish Leaving Certificate - Scoil Mhuire, Buncrana, Co. Donegal

HND in Mechanical Engineering Manufacture & Design - North West Regional College, L'Derry

BEng (Hons) Aeronautical Engineering - Queens University Belfast

PhD in Biomedical Engineering - Queens University Belfast

As a Hydraulics engineer at Aquamarine Power, Orla is a member of a multi disciplinary engineering team working on the development of the Oyster Wave Energy Converter. She works closely with the design engineers, the operations team, and the company's supply base to deliver a functional power take off system for the Oyster device. The overall aim of her company is to make renewable energy mainstream.

The story of Aquamarine started in 2001 when Professor Trevor Whittaker's R&D team at Queen's University, Belfast began to research flap-type wave power devices with a view to reducing the cost of energy. The QUB research ultimately led to the development of the Oyster wave energy device and Aquamarine Power was set up in 2005 to bring this innovative wave energy to the commercial market. The Aquamarine team now numbers over 45 people.

In her view, the best advice for any aspiring engineer is to "Do what interests you & enjoy it. Stick at it, do not give up easily!. Think positively & consciously believe (& keep telling yourself) that you can do it. Also, always remember the following:

- 'No one can make you feel inferior without your consent (Eleanor Roosevelt)'