

Interviewee: Stephanie Tytler (nee Flaherty)
UoS Dates: 1967 - 2005
Role(s): Departmental Secretary, Dept of Psychology,
Principal's Secretary,
Library Assistant, Secretary in Housing Administration.
Latterly Head of the Centre for English Language Teaching
(CELT)



Interview summary:

Start 00:05 – ST was working in the Psychology department and was promoted to be Principal Dr Tom Cottrell's personal secretary. Was due to start on a Monday in January 1968. There had been a storm during the night.

01:28 – It was supposed to be ST's first day working for Tom Cottrell but due to the storm all buses were off. When ST got to the entrance to the uni she could see trees had fallen and blocked the way to Pathfoot. Had to climb over and under trees to get to Pathfoot.

02:09 – When ST arrived at Pathfoot there was no one else there besides the Principal. Tom Cottrell took her in to his office and dictated shorthand to her for two hours without a break. When they were done, ST left his office and noticed she had covered his white carpet in dirty footprints. Realised that no matter how bad the storm, life goes on at Stirling.

03:02 – From then on it was the best job she ever had.

03:29 – Talked about the footprints with Tom Cottrell afterwards but not at the time. Tom Cottrell wanted her first day to be very business-like. He was a wonderful man to work with, very interesting with well-rounded knowledge. Although he was a scientist he was also interested in the arts and the visual arts. They had a close relationship.

04:21 – ST worked there until 1970.

[Ends 04:24]

Interview No:	SURSA OH / -020
Interviewed by:	Bill Inglis
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Summary completed by:	Aime Jaffray
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