Russell Morris was born and raised in north Wales, and completed his education at the University of Oxford where he gained B.A. and D. Phil degrees. He is currently Bishop Wardlaw Professor of Chemistry at the University of St Andrews.

His research interests lie in the synthesis, characterisation and application of porous and layered materials including zeolites and metal-organic frameworks. He developed ionothermal synthesis – the use of ionic liquids as reactive media for the preparation of solids. This has had impact across a wide range of chemistry. His recent work on developing the *ADOR* approach to the preparation of zeolites offers routes to exciting materials that would not be possible using standard techniques. Morris also pioneered the use of porous materials for the storage and delivery of biologically active gases for medical applications and there are several start-up companies developing his technology to market.

He is an elected Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS), a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and a Fellow of the Learned Society of Wales. He is currently an associate editor for Dalton Transactions.