

International Women's Day

Interview with REACT Developer, Inga Tarelea

Can you tell us a little about the beginnings of your career path (what job did you aspire to do when you were young, and how this may – or may not – have changed throughout the years)?



"I remember in high school I really liked informatics, but I didn't believe in myself to pursue a career in software development, and I choose to do my bachelor's in economics. Very quickly I realize that wasn't for me and switched domains every now and then to find what was right for me.

The irony is that all this time I had a hobby – building websites and coding. I have no regrets, but it's such a shame it took me 10 years to understand that my heart was in coding, and I could turn my hobby into a career."

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Is there anyone who inspired you throughout your career? If so, please tell us a bit about them and what effect they had on you.

"I've always thought developers are magicians. They just write a couple lines of code and **boom** something magically appears or disappears from the screen. Now I know the secret, so it's not magic it's just work."





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Let us know your role at Community Fibre and how it interacts with the broader company.



"I'm currently a front-end developer at Community Fibre. Working on our public website, offering our customers a smooth and pleasant online experience.

In order to achieve this, our team have a great collaboration with the UI/UX designers, wider Marketing team and of course IT team."

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Why did you choose to take up this role, and what drew you towards a role in telecoms?



"Working on our public website is such an impactful and highly responsible role. It motivates me, knowing that I contributed to a great online experience for our customers."

Also, Community fibre offers high speed, full fibre broadband which in my opinion is an "absolute must have" in 21st century, especially for Londoners."



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What do some of the International Women's Day slogans, like #BalanceForBetter or #EmbraceEquity, mean for you in your work life?



"The more we collaborate, discuss, are united and hear each other, the better results we achieve. We need to have women voices heard!"

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Have you faced any barriers in your career or in performing a role due to being a woman? If so, how did you overcome them?

"At the beginning of my career, I was warned that programming is a '**mans**' **field**' and that it will be very hard for me. But, I was pleasantly surprised to find that **that wasn't true**. I was always very welcomed, and I so want to share this message to all women."



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Do you think there is currently enough visibility and resources to ensure that more women can take advantage of career opportunities commonly underrepresented by women? If not, how can we all do our part to improve this?



"I'm currently a part of two communities that encourage women to pursue a career in tech. That's *"IT Ladies"* and *"Tech Women"*. We promote the idea that women can also switch careers, and still be excellent in what they do – we help them do that.

This is a way to create more visibility. Let's all contribute!"



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What is the most important advice you have been given throughout your career?



"There's **always** a way, you just may not see it at first. So, keep looking."

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What advice would you give to women pursuing specialist careers, entrepreneurship or senior leadership roles.

"Concentrate on being a great specialist. Everything else is just noise."



Happy International Women's Day

What final message would you
like to send out, Inga?



"Everything is possible!"



You can check out more experiences from Community Fibre's female talent [here](#).