

CHRISTINE ARROWSMITH



Job: Business Analyst

Company: Retired Chartered IT Professional

I started as a trainee programmer in the language of COBOL in 1970. My coded programme was punched onto cards and data fed into the System 4 via punched tape. Frequently I had to fight for promotion. I am 71, a baby boomer so I formally retired at 60, actually a bit before as I had to care for Mum. In 1958 I read a children's reference book the first Commercial Computer LEO I am now a vounteer with Manchester Baby. I know I am out of date but I still loove rechnology.

Frustrated (at the lack of women)

Geeky

Enthusiastic

The skills I use most in my job...Explaining

- Identifying
- Recording

The most interesting thing I've worked on in my career so far...Sorting out data needs between different departments suffering from Communication's failure.

What inspired me into digital and tech...A book which talked about the creation of the LEO computer which I read when I was 10. No one knew what a computer was, I had no idea what a computer job would be but I asked questions until I found out.

My educational background is...7 'O' levels, 2 'A' levels and assortment of diplomas plus an Open University degree.

What advice I'd give to girls thinking about a career in digital and tech...Go for it, it's fun making that stupid machine do what you want it to do but make sure you know exactly what it must do is 100% correct!