Meet... Anke!
our Test Automation Engineer

Anke, tell me about your career journey, it's been quite interesting!
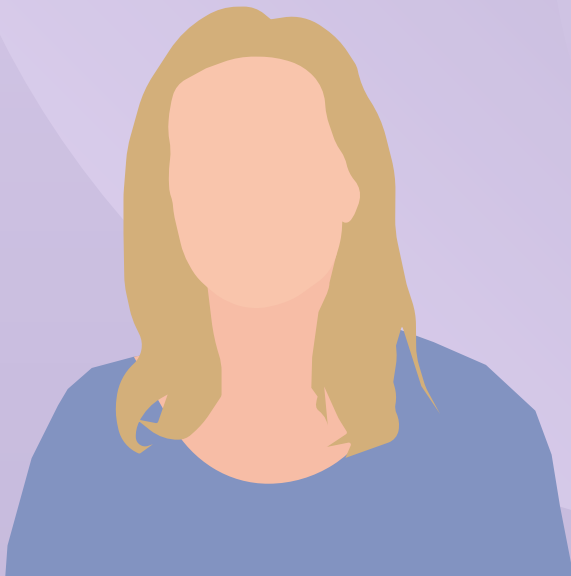
It's been varied! I started in financial services by joining a Grad scheme at Barclays Capital in London in an anti-money laundering role. I then moved into a range of different roles which were all mainly based within Compliance teams. I eventually worked my way up to Head of Risk Assurance which was my last role before I totally reevaluated my career and decided to pursue a career in Tech.

Wow, so what made you decide to have a career change?

I'd reached a point where I knew I wanted a change but was debating did I want a similar role at a different company, or an entirely different role? All I knew for sure was that I wanted to do something completely different.
A role in tech had been something that I'd considered when I first started looking for work but had never pursued so I took the plunge and decided a career change was the next step for me.

So how did you get the skills you needed for your current role?

I signed up for a Coding Bootcamp which was taking place around the corner from me. This was a really hard and intense course and there were definitely moments where I struggled. A lot of others on the course had studied Computer Science previously so already had a good understanding whereas I was starting completely from scratch. The course however was brilliant, and I learned a lot in a really short space of time!

October 2019

Joined Uinsure as Junior Tester

May 2023

Promoted to Test Automation Engineer

How did you come to join Uinsure then?

When I finished the bootcamp I started looking for entry-level roles in Tech and applied for the Junior Tester role at Uinsure. I joined a team of 5 in 2019 and have been able to develop my skills whilst learning on the job and with the support of the great team around me. We now have a huge dev team of over 40 and I've been promoted as the team has grown which is a reflection of how my skills have also advanced.

What does your day to day look like?

Typically we work in 2-week sprints which start on a Wednesday. I'm involved at every stage, whether this is planning the sprint and understanding how I'm going to test the code or contributing to retros where we look at how we can improve next time. In each sprint we have a list of tickets to work through during that period. The workload can vary massively depending on the projects as its business driven and depends on what the priority is to be delivered next. I love that though. As there is a huge variance in the role each sprint, I get to work on a variety of projects, and I also get the visibility to see how it sits within the business strategy.

What's it like working in the Dev team?

I've been in the team for 5 years. It really feels like a team, we're always collaborating and feeding back to each other. There are always opportunities to learn new things and I particularly enjoy achieving difficult things together.

What skills do you need to succeed as a Tester?

- Coding experience is useful

- You need to be able to get on with people and work well in a team

- Excellent problem solving skills

- Speed and adaptability are a must

- Good at communication, as you'll need to explain your findings back and what the devs need to do to fix it

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