# ANNA HOLLAND-SMITH

SOFTWARE ENGINEER | PROGRAMME MANAGER | PUBLIC SPEAKER

*A passionate technologist, public speaker and advocate for diversity and inclusion.*

I am a former criminal defence lawyer, turned Software Engineer. Having successfully transitioned into a new career, I remain committed to encouraging and enabling others to do the same through the provision of a more accessible coding education and the creation of inclusive developer communities and a more equitable tech workforce

## TECH SKILLS

*As a language agnostic developer, my skills include (but are not limited to):*

JavaScript | TypeScript | Scala | Ruby | Python | Java | Version Control | Git | Agile | TDD | HTML5 | CSS | SASS | Bootstrap | React | NodeJS | Relational Databases | Non-Relational Databases

## SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

Public Speaking | Community Development | Mentoring | Programme Management | Diversity and Inclusion | Building Diverse Teams | Creating Inclusive Processes | Data Analysis | Data Visualisation |

## EDUCATION

**Makers Academy**
**2016**
*Highly selective coding bootcamp*

**Birkeck College, University of London**
**2011 - 2013**
*LLM (Qualifying Law Degree)*

**University College London**
**2010 - 2011**
Gender, Society and Representation MA

**The University of York**
**2007 - 2010**
History and History of Art BA (Hons)

## PUBLIC SPEAKING

**TechNation's 'Northern Voices'**
I was selected to participate on TechNation's Northern Voices Programme. This was a six-month speaker training programme designed to address the challenges of gender or regional imbalances at conferences and in media appearances, in turn making digital jobs a more attractive career for all

Since participating on this programme, I have regularly committed to media opportunities and speaking at conferences and events.

## INTERESTS

Yoga     Art     Travelling     Photography     Music     Reading

## EXPERIENCE

**Programme Manager,** THG Tech and Innovation Accelerator 2018

Responsible for the creation and programme management of THG Accelerator programme, providing a gateway to technology careers for graduates from non-computer science backgrounds.

**Co-creator,** Women Who Keynote, 2017

womenwhokeynote.com is a platform designed for women and gender minorities to promote themselves for speaking opportunities.

The mission of Women Who Keynote is to contribute to the elimination of all-male panels and help improve the visibility of women in male-dominated industries. Our platform is intended to hold event organisers to account and encourage greater diversity in their speaker lineups.

**Shareholder and Advisor,** Manchester Codes, 2017 - present

Manchester Codes provides an alternative to the traditional coding bootcamp model. It removes arbitrary barriers to entry through it's commitment to affordable and part-time learning.

**Software Engineer,** BBC, 2016 - 2018

Software Engineer within the Connections Team of the Content Distribution Services within BBC Design & Engineering. Content Distribution Services is the department within Design & Engineering that builds and operates published content APIs that power the BBC Online**.**

**Career Change in 2016**

In 2016 I changed my career from law to software engineering. Prior to my career in technology, I trained and worked as a criminal defence lawyer at **GT Stewart Solicitors** where I specialised in the preparation and management of Crown Court cases**.** During my legal training, I enjoyed a period as a Resident Fellow at **Wymondham College.** I had also undertaken internships and pro bono work with **Release** and **The Koestler Trust.**

## VOLUNTEERING AND ORGANISING

**Co-Founder and Organiser,
Codebar Manchester**
Codebar helps to address technology's diversity challenges through workshops, coaching, tutorials and events. They started in 2013 and have since created an amazing community of technical people all around the world, with 17 chapters and hundreds of students attending every week.

**Volunteer Instructor
CodeFirst:Girls**
Code First: Girls works to help increase the number of women in tech. I am a volunteer Tutor with the Manchester General Course hosted by Thoughtworks.

**Organiser
CodeYourFuture Manchester**
Code Your Future Manchester offers a six-month education programme for refugees and asylum seekers, providing training in HTML, CSS and Javascript and preparing students for Junior Developer roles across the North West of England.

**Volunteer
Code4000**
Code 4000 is a new initiative, taking inspiration from The Last Mile - an established prison coding programme that started in San Quentin but now runs in several prisons in California - that aims to teach prisoners coding skills.

**Volunteer
Hive Manchester**
Hive Manchester run digital making activities for 13-18 year olds, outside or within formal education. Hive utilises facilitators and mentors who work in the industry. Events range from 1 hour tasters to 1 week camps.

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## AWARDS

**30 under 30**
CodeFirst:Girls Ones to Watch 2018

**Top 30 Women in Tech 2018**
Manchester Evening News

**Digital Volunteer of the Year 2018**
AbilityNet TechForGood Awards

**Rising Star Finalist 2018**
Uk Social Mobility Awards