

**Media Careers: Topical Features Producer**

**Rosanne Oppenheimer**

We interviewed Rosanne, Topical Features Producer at CTVC, to find out about her role.

*What does the role of a Topical Features Producer entail?*

I am in charge of producing short 4-5 minute films, which are then inserted as part of another programme as opposed to producing 40 minute documentaries.

*Talk me through a typical day in your job?*

Well it is extremely computer based; I am no longer involved in directing. For example, it's very researched based; I research and look for stories, conduct interviews and visit potential people face to face. At the same time, there are lots of emails to be written and scheduling for film shoots. I oversee everything that happens. Also, if we are working on a documentary programme, I will look into how we would make the programme and also write up a pitch for it.

*How did you get into your role?*

Well I always wanted to be a journalist, I made sure that my GCSE's, A Levels and degree would help me to get to be a journalist. I also got a lot of work experience and worked with my university radio. I actually started on radio, and I spent four years at BBC Radio 4. I then moved on to TV and worked for four years with ITV on current affairs. I then moved to CTVC and started off with online media, however this has now moved to my current role. The fact that I have experience within all the different areas of media, Radio, TV and online, I feel is very important and useful in media as it is constantly changing.

*What three skills would you say are needed?*

Communication and organisational skills and for this role especially a good understanding of what makes an interesting story.

*What advice would you give to young people aspiring for a similar role?*

Get as much work experience as possible. Also, be aware that the job is not as glamorous as people think, it involves very long unsociable hours- however it is extremely rewarding.