

CONVERSATION & AFTERNOON TEA WITH SAMINA AZAM

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AFTERNOON TEA

Those of you who know me, will know one of my favourite past times is enjoying afternoon tea.

The artistry, tradition, venue and food but most of all the company. This is my virtual version of having a catch up with a friend over tea & cake.

Enjoy my conversation with
[Danielle Levy](#)
[Team Co-Ordinator, People & Culture Communications & Team Administrator People Services](#)
[Coca-Cola European Partners](#)



WELCOME TO OUR FOURTH EDITION FEATURING - DANIELLE LEVY

Hi Danielle, how are you doing and what are you up to at the moment?

I am doing well thank you. I know this year has been a huge struggle for everyone, and whilst I've had anxiety and concerns about my loved ones and myself due to coronavirus, I'm a real homebody so I've actually really enjoyed working from home, having less social commitments, getting up later and embracing this no-make up lifestyle which is something I never thought I would do! I am working from home in a dual role, whilst trying to entertain my crazy kitten and trying not to worry too much that my boyfriend is in central London everyday still for work even during lockdown.



O C U L U S
C R E A T I V E
L E A R N I N G

I N S P I R E D B Y P A S S I O N

Who are you watching/listening to?

Like everyone else that I've spoken to I recently finished the Queen's Gambit which I loved, and pretty much every other series that has come out this year on Netflix! I'm currently watching The Undoing on Sky / Now TV which has new episodes weekly, I love a murder mystery! Also watching I'm a Celebrity for some light relief. In the last year or two I have got into audiobooks and they really help me with motivation for my household chores and cooking...my favourites so far this year have been Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens, The Midnight Library by Matt Haig and Wild by Cheryl Strayed but there are loads I have loved...I'm so excited to be consuming books again (I don't often have the patience or attention span to sit and read).

What's your favourite tool/app?

This is such a difficult questions as I love so many that I don't think I have a favourite. Skype messenger for quick communication at work, One note for organisation, Whatsapp for keeping in touch and sharing photos and videos, Depop for buying and selling, Instagram for staying connected with the world....actually and this may be embarrassing given my age but my favourite app is TikTok! Hours of entertainment...honestly it's addictive.



WHAT'S YOUR BEST LOVED CAKE, TEA, COFFEE OR VENUE?

I take this really seriously as cake is in my top 5 favourite things in life! I can't remember the name of the café or if it even still exists but as a young child on a Saturday my Mum, sister and I would meet my Great Uncle Morris and go to a café on the Edgware Road in London where they had the most incredible chocolate / white chocolate cake that looked like a domino and we'd always have that. My uncle would eat his cake before his sandwich in case he didn't have room for both and his life philosophy of not saving the best things until later is still one I live by now. In terms of somewhere that I know for sure still exists I love going into the Hummingbird bakery in London on a freezing cold day and getting a hot drink and a cake!





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Are you reading anything?

I'm not reading anything currently, other than the occasional online news article, but I'm about to start a new audio book, *Oryx and Crake* by Margaret Atwood, I have no idea what to expect but I've enjoyed everything else I have read by her.

A vision/goal your going to make happen this year?

My goal every year is to get healthier and more organised and it has been the same this year. I am probably marginally more organised than I was previously in my personal life, and I have started exercising for the first time in many years and I'm proud of that as I am not someone who enjoys it! My other goal for this year was to get a pet, and finally we welcomed home a kitten called Biscuit. My goals for the year changed a lot due to this unexpected year, but since working from home, I decided to be bolder and do things I wouldn't have done had I been in the office all year, which is how I ended up with Pink / Blue / Purple hair so far this year and I have loved it!

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WORDS OF WISDOM

DANIELLE IF YOU WERE WRITING A LETTER TO YOUR YOUNGER SELF WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Instinctively I would like to warn myself against doing things I later regretted, However I wouldn't do that as I'm really happy with where I ended up, what I've learnt and the people I've met, and I wouldn't want anything to change that, I would advise myself to be much better with my money from a young age, to not waste time worrying how I look (when I look back now I wish I had enjoyed looking like that....I say the same thing to all my younger friends now who are always talking about dieting and changing how they look!) and to take more photos of everyone and everything.

Danielle fabulous advice. Yes and yes our journeys and destinations have been cemented. Our paths created a space for us to meet and our friendship to flourish.

#TeaWithSamina

