

How did you join the Supply Chain arena?

I ended up in Supply Chain by accident... not an uncommon occurrence! I studied Chemistry at university and loved it, so I'd always assumed that I would end up working in chemical research. The science was super interesting, but a few months into working in a lab I found it isolating and missed the buzz of working with a team of people. A friend suggested applying for a graduate scheme in Supply Chain at Associated British Foods, so I gave it a go and fell into the world of Supply Chain.

At ABF I was lucky enough to get involved in areas all across Supply Chain and Manufacturing in World Foods. Highlights were managing a cutting-edge poppadom production line, planning ingredients from 4 continents and leading process mapping for new IT systems. SC is exciting but it can be tough too. When COVID hit the unpredictable demand and the constant logistics chaos made our function a really difficult place to be. Like so many people I felt burnt out, and it was only with the support of the whole Supply Chain team that we could keep on going.

In 2021 I moved to become the Operations Director for a fast-growing tomato drinks start up. I'm a huge Bloody Mary fan, so it was meant to be! At Longbottom & Co I lead the Supply Chain function and we're on the journey to becoming a big player in a new premium category.

The last 18 months with Longbottom & Co have been a (delicious) whirlwind, and I've gotten to carve out new processes, create new international supply chains for our US launch and build new teams along the way. The variety of the role is what keeps me excited and motivated. I pivot between Logistics, Supply Planning, Quality and Procurement on the same day. It's not always easy, but it's definitely never boring!

Which statement motivates or inspires you?

"Uncertainty is where things happen. It is where the opportunities - for success, for happiness, for really living - are waiting." – Oliver Burkeman

LONGBOTTOM & CO



Evelyn Battye

Operations Director, Longbottom & Co

What are you passionate about in SC?

I love seeing an idea turn into reality. I get excited when a product goes from a concept on a piece of paper, to a real physical object coming off a production line.

I'm especially passionate about working in food, as food and drink products play a huge role in people's lives. They can be a basic necessity, a luxurious treat and everything in between.

At Longbottom & Co I love knowing that I've played a role getting our drinks into the hands of consumers across the world.

