



Finding balance, building with purpose & breaking past the noise

LATEST INSIGHTS & INTERVIEWS FROM THE NEWSROOM

can women lead purpose-driven business objectives?

Taking the lead towards business as a force for inclusion, collaboration, and meaningful impact, not just profit. [Read](#)

the work-life balancing illusion

The invisible workload: how domestic responsibilities shape women's careers. [Read](#)

IWD: beyond the headlines and hashtags

1.	A digital revolution: Ensure women and girls can reap the economic benefits of the digital revolution, accessing new skills, opportunities and services, by bridging the digital gender gap & providing equal access to technology.
2.	Freedom from poverty: Address women's poverty by investing national budgets in social protection and high-quality public services, including health, education and care, investments which can also create millions of decent, green jobs.
3.	Zero violence: Adopt, implement and fund legislation to end violence against women and girls, and develop comprehensive national action plans, including support and coordination with community-led organizations to extend the reach of services.
4.	Full and equal decision-making power: Accelerate the achievement of women's full and equal decision-making power in private and public domains, and at all levels of government, including by applying temporary special measures.
5.	Peace and security: Drive accountability for the women, peace and security agenda and gender-responsive humanitarian action by adopting fully financed national action plans and funding local women's organizations leading responses to crises and conflicts.
6.	Climate justice: Prioritize women and girls' rights, including those from rural and indigenous communities, in the transition to environmental sustainability, by centring them in climate action, ensuring they can develop new skills to gain green jobs and guaranteeing their access to productive assets and land rights.

International Women's Day brings a surge of conversations, campaigns, and commitments, but beyond the headlines and hashtags, the real work continues.

It's easy to get swept up in the noise, but what truly matters is the ongoing, structured effort to advance women's rights and equality.

The key objectives of UN Women serve as a powerful reminder of this, with their focus on economic empowerment, political participation, ending violence, and ensuring women's voices are central in shaping the future.

These aren't just aspirations; they're essential markers of progress that

As part of this, we are taking part in the UN Women UK delegation to CSW69, where global leaders, advocates, and organisations are coming together to discuss real, tangible solutions.

The theme — For All Women and Girls: Equality. Rights. Empowerment — reinforces the collective responsibility we have to push for change. It's not about empty words or gestures but about shifting the systems that continue to hold women back.

Let's use this moment as a prompt not just to celebrate but to recommit to action, year-round.

demand action far beyond a single day in March.

And just to bring some humour into the day, a couple of posts that made us laugh. 😊



Sophie Walker • Following

Writer, editor, advisor, mentor. Feeling all at sea? Look how broad your...
2d • Edited • 🌐

Happy International Women's Day Week. If you've spent considerable prep time ensuring your work event won't make the men feel uncomfortable, don't worry about it.
There's always next year.

[#iwd2025](#) [#internationalwomensday](#) [#isitoveryet](#)

👍❤️👍 133

3 comments • 1 repost



Sophie Bailey 🌱🌿 • Following

x2Founder | Strategic Partnerships | Scaling Ecosystems | Drivin...
1d • 🌐

Unpopular opinion of the day:

World Book Day & International Women's Day should both go in the bin.

Instead:

Read more books

Pay women more

The End.

The work-life balancing illusion



Over the past two weeks, we've looked at how women's fatigue is often overlooked and how the pressure to always say yes can take its toll.

But what's driving this exhaustion in the first place? A major factor is the disproportionate share of household responsibilities that still falls on women — regardless of career status, education, or even progressive beliefs about gender roles.

Research shows that even in dual-earner couples, fewer than 7% share housework equally, and for solopreneurs, the challenge can be even greater, with no one else to pick up the slack. The myth that women are 'natural multitaskers' only adds to the burden, despite evidence that multitasking actually reduces productivity. If we're serious about sustainable businesses, we need to talk about sustainable workloads — at home and at work. [Read the full story](#)

Community meet-ups : dates for your diary

IN PERSON: Exploring collaboration

16th APRIL 9.30AM | 15th MAY 2.00PM
Royal Society for the Arts, off the Strand, London



ONLINE: Drop-in & bring your own topic

 Last Monday in the month, every month
31st MARCH | 28th APRIL | 19th MAY
Online from 12.30PM - 1.30PM each session



Interested in helping to shape the conversations at the drop-ins? We're looking for session chairs for upcoming dates. Drop Maggie a [message](#)

IN PERSON: Co-work & Net-walk

14th MARCH
Harbour Hotel from 1.0PM - 3.00PM
Richmond Park from 3.00PM on



[BOOK HERE FOR ALL EVENTS](#)

Purpose, progress & people-centred AI

Attending atalk at the **RSA** this week with economist John Kay, the conversation around purpose-driven business was particularly energising. His insights into how companies can align profitability with broader societal impact felt especially relevant as we shape Lumin's future. Purpose isn't just a buzzword, it's a critical differentiator in how businesses are built, led, and sustained. Kay's perspective reinforced the importance of long-term thinking over short-term gains, a challenge many of us in the solopreneur space are already navigating. The real takeaway? Success isn't just about scale, it's about creating something meaningful and enduring.

As part of what has been going on for International Women's Day, I joined a group conversation with members of **The Portfolio Collective**, exploring the changing shape of work for women. Great to see a couple of Lumin members who were also taking part, bringing sharp insights on how traditional career paths are evolving. The shift towards portfolio careers, solopreneurship, and fractional work is opening up new opportunities, but also new challenges. Flexibility is key, but so is ensuring women are positioned to thrive in these new models of work, rather than just 'making it work' around other demands.

On a related note, I joined an event hosted by Lumin founding advisor **Vanessa Pazos** of NoBa Capital for a fascinating discussion on integrating AI into our work without losing the human element. As someone who has always embraced tech to streamline processes, I'm conscious of how much has changed, even in just the last couple of years. But in the race to adopt the latest tools, we need to keep a firm grip on what AI can't replace: human insight, collaboration, and emotional intelligence. How we combine human and agentic counterparts to drive real progress, while keeping people at the centre of this shift, is what will make the difference.

More on all of this over on [This is Lumin](#) newsroom and as ever, if there's something you'd love to see explored, let me know!

Maggie Taylor

Founder of LUMIN

#womenchangemakers #bridginggenerations #collaborativesuccess

Can you pass the message along to someone you know who may be interested in hearing about Lumin? Encourage them to register for our updates and to join us on LinkedIn

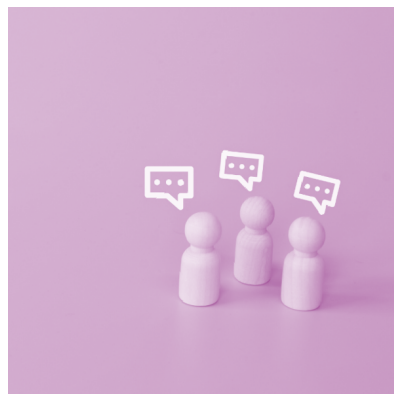
SIGN-UP FOR
UPDATES



Watch LUMIN Voices on YouTube

Listen, learn, and help amplify these women's voices sharing knowledge and building opportunity. Each conversation is also explored in a feature article in the Lumin newsroom. **What stories or challenges would inspire you?** Nominate yourself or others — your input shapes the journey!

WATCH



If you've taken part in one of the mentoring circle sessions, we'd love to get your feedback via this quick online form. Responses are anonymous — what matters most is your honest perspective on these initial trial sessions. Your insights will help shape future direction. Thank you 🙏

FEEDBACK



REMINDER!

Join the hub

Join conversations and build lasting connections in the LUMIN private group on LinkedIn

JOIN THE HUB

Connect with us so we can follow you back and share your news and activity with the community



THISISLUMIN.COM

This is Lumin

Lumin and This is Lumin are trading styles of Lumin Connect Limited Incorporated in England and Wales number 14749776
Registered Office 124 City Road,
London EC1V 2NX

If you no longer wish to receive emails from LUMIN, click here to be removed from our mailing list

[Unsubscribe](#)

