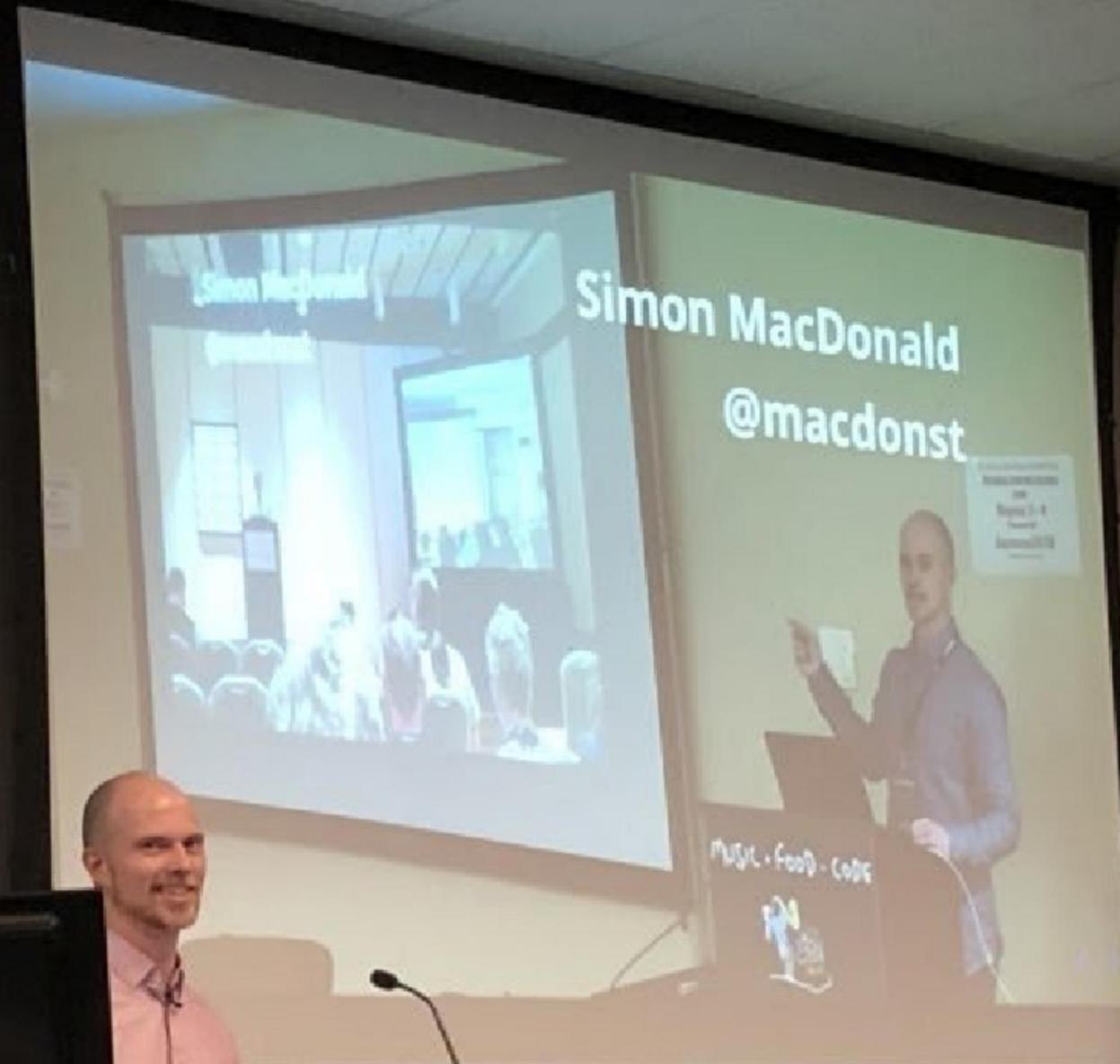


Maintaining Open  
Source While  
Maintaining Your  
Sanity



Simon MacDonald  
[simonmacdonald.com](http://simonmacdonald.com)  
@macdonst

*May You Maintain A  
Popular Open Source  
Project*

- Developer Curse

# Setting Up Your Project

# **Include a README**

# Include a README

- Overview

# Include a README

- Overview
- Getting Started Instructions

# Include a README

- Overview
- Getting Started Instructions
- An Invitation to Contribute

**Have a CONTRIBUTING doc**

# Have a **CONTRIBUTING** doc

- How to send a Pull Request

# Have a **CONTRIBUTING** doc

- How to send a Pull Request
- Style Guide

# **Code of Conduct**

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# Code of Conduct

- Helps create a positive social atmosphere for your community
- Should include:
  - Where it takes effect
  - Whom does it apply to
  - What happens when someone violates the code
  - How does one report violations
- The earlier you establish one the better

# Add a License

**Add a License**  
**Any License**

Add a License  
Any License  
Well, Almost Any  
License

# **Decide on How to Handle Issues vs Question**

# **Decide on How to Handle Issues vs Question**

- Everything in GitHub Issues

# Decide on How to Handle Issues vs Question

- Everything in GitHub Issues
- **OR**  
Bugs only in GitHub Issues,  
Questions on StackOverflow

# Speaking of Issues



**Wayne Beaton**  
@waynebeaton

[!\[\]\(2fff3c9e4afb192f04e878e77fb552ed\_img.jpg\) Follow](#)

On the off chance that you'll read this before reporting a bug, "doesn't work" isn't really enough to go on.

3:29 PM - 15 Jul 2016

  3  11

# Create an Issue Template



Nicholas C. Zakas 

@slicknet

 Follow

Don't be that person who deletes the issue template text because you think it doesn't apply to you. It does.

11:16 AM - 1 Sep 2016



6



16

# **What Goes in a Good Issue Template?**

# **What Goes in a Good Issue Template?**

- Ask if the user has searched past issue

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- Expected Behaviour

# What Goes in a Good Issue Template?

- Ask if the user has searched past issue
- Expected Behaviour
- Actual Behaviour

# What Goes in a Good Issue Template?

- Ask if the user has searched past issue
- Expected Behaviour
- Actual Behaviour
- Reproduction Scenario
  - Version
  - Sample Code
  - Logs

# Triaging Issues

**Submitter doesn't  
follow issue  
template!**

~~Submitter doesn't  
CHOOSE~~  
~~template!~~

**Submitter asks a  
question that has  
been answered  
before!!**

Submitter asks a



before!!

**Requested an  
Update 2 Months  
Ago and No Reply**

Reauested an  
update 2 months  
**CLOSED**  
Ago and No Reply

**Submitter Asks a  
Dumb/Obvious  
Question!!!**

# **Submitter Asks a Dumb/Obvious Question!!!**

**docs**

**Submitter is asking  
for new functionality**

**Submitter is asking  
for new functionality**

**enhancement**

# **Issue template filled**

**Issue template filled  
and it's reproducible!**

# Mark as a bug



# People are more difficult than code



Jed Watson  
@JedWatson

[Follow](#)

Getting your first real troll is like a rite of passage for a popular open source project. People standing up for you is even better 😊

3:27 AM - 30 Jul 2016

2 38

# Set Boundaries



**Nolan Lawson**

@nolanlawson



Following

The trolls in OSS don't bother me. What bothers me is not having the time or energy to respond to issues/PRs/q's from well-meaning people. 😞

**Be respectful,  
empathic but firm**

# What About Pull Requests?

You Should Have a  
Pull Request  
Template

# You Should Have a Pull Request Template

- Description

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- Description
- Related Issue

# You Should Have a Pull Request Template

- Description
- Related Issue
- Type of Change:
  - Bug fix
  - New feature
  - Breaking Change

# You Should Have a Pull Request Template

- Description
- Related Issue
- Type of Change:
  - Bug fix
  - New feature
  - Breaking Change
- Checklist
  - Follows code style
  - Doc change
  - Read CONTRIBUTING
  - Added tests
  - All tests pass

You Don't Have To  
Merge in Every Pull  
Request

# **Open Source Starter Repo**

# **Open Source Starter Repo**

**<https://github.com/adobe/starter-repo>**

# Building Community

How you think Open Source apps  
are maintained



# Building Community

How Open Source apps  
are really maintained



[CommitStrip.com](http://CommitStrip.com)

**Make it easy for people to  
contribute**

# **Make it easy for people to contribute**

- Identify beginner bugs

# Make it easy for people to contribute

- Identify beginner bugs
- Document the heck out of things

# Make it easy for people to contribute

- Identify beginner bugs
- Document the heck out of things
- Give people other ways to contribute besides writing code.

**Turn contributors  
into maintainers**

# Thank People For Their Efforts



Simon MacDonald  
@macdonst

 Follow

Thx 2 @michellarcari the @PhoneGap push plugin v1.6.2 supports Android Wear action buttons. [buff.ly/1PU6LcK](http://buff.ly/1PU6LcK)

12:00 PM - 6 Apr 2016

↪ 6 ❤ 8

# Tests

# Tests

- Gotta Have Them

# Tests

- Gotta Have Them
- Not a Lot

# Tests

- Gotta Have Them
- Not a Lot
- Mostly for Regression

# **Documentation**

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- Bare minimum start with a README

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- Enhance with markdown docs that are linked from the README

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- Bare minimum start with a README
- Enhance with markdown docs that are linked from the README
- Graduate to docs for GitHub pages

# Releasing

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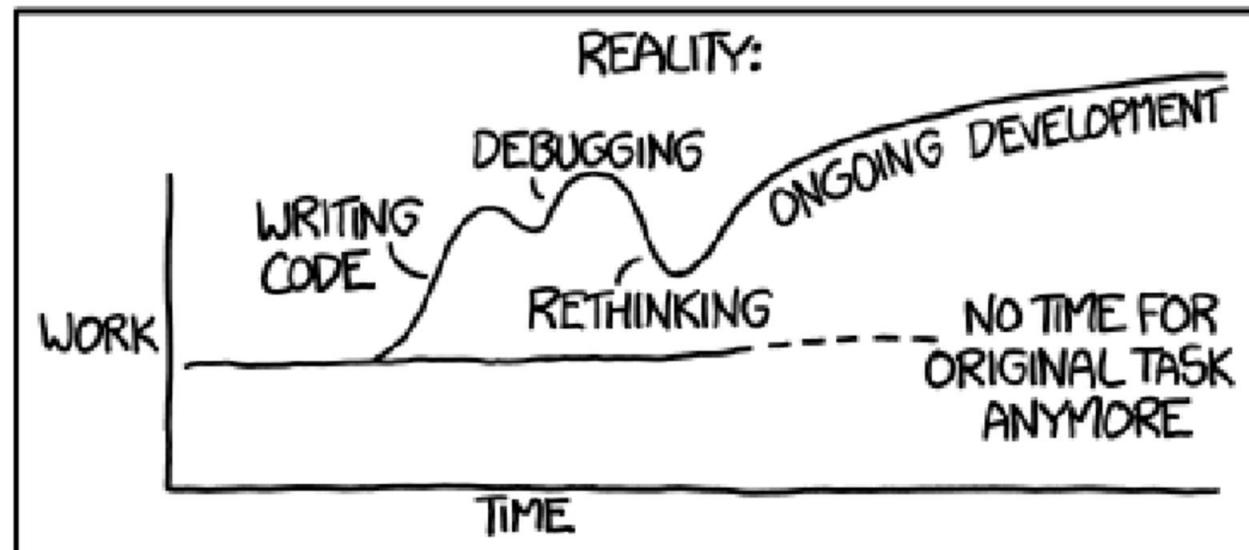
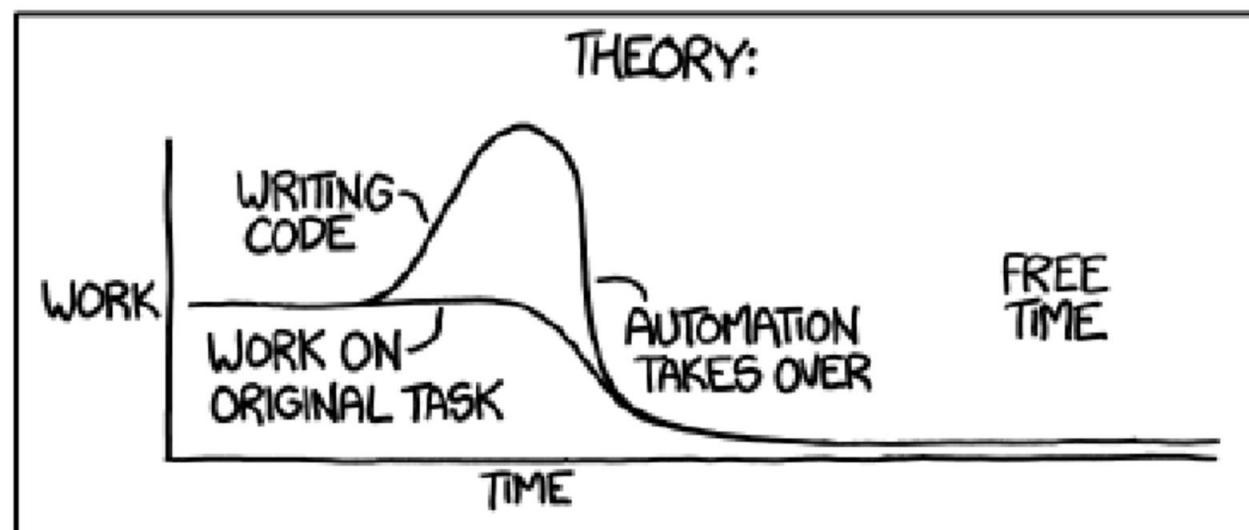
- Release on every commit

# Releasing

- Release on every commit
- Release on a time based schedule

# Automate Your Release

"I SPEND A LOT OF TIME ON THIS TASK.  
I SHOULD WRITE A PROGRAM AUTOMATING IT!"



# **Remember**

A... always

A always

B be

C closing

A ntion



## Resources

- A curated list of awesome READMEs
- Pick a License, Any License
- Question Monitor for Stack Exchange
- Creating an issue template for your repository
- Adding a *CONTRIBUTING* file
- Creating a pull request template for your repository
- Contributor Covenant, i.e. Code of Conduct

# Further Reading

- Art of the Pull Request
- How to Write Great Pull Requests
- How to Be an Open Source Gardener
- **My condolences, you're now the  
maintainer of a popular open source  
project**