# **CHRIS ASHTON**

### **Full-stack Software Engineer**

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# **EXPERIENCE**

### Developer

### **Government Digital Service**

- April 2019 Present
- Currently developing Rails services and rewriting legacy systems on GOV.UK, using Agile methodologies. Other responsibilities include DevOps, recruitment, and running a11y-focussed newsletters.

## **Acting Technical Lead**

### **BBC.** Articles

- Nov 2018 April 2019
- Led the delivery of v1 of the new BBC article renderer: an isomorphic React single page application and shared component library.

# Senior Software Engineer

### **BBC**, Visual Journalism

- Feb 2017 Oct 2018
- Recruited and trained a global team. Line managed and mentored several developers, allocating projects aligning with their goals.
- Upgraded legacy tech stack to pure Node/NPM and Webpack (including bespoke plugins). Migrated deployment pipeline to AWS.
- Volunteered as "Accessibility Champion" and improved standards.

### Web Developer

#### **BBC**, Visual Journalism

- **Feb** 2016 Jan 2017
- Devised and implemented an abstraction strategy to deliver Visual Journalism content across the BBC apps, web and third-parties.
- Regularly created multi-lingual, full-stack applications for the web and the BBC apps, covering high profile events to tight deadlines.

## Test Engineer

# **BBC**, Visual Journalism

- **J**uly 2015 Jan 2016
- Led the maintenance of a screenshot testing tool (Wraith). Hand-built a BDD framework in Node. Set up Docker test suites on CI.

### Founder

#### Webdapper Ltd

- Aug 2014 Present
- Founded my own company whilst at university. To date, I've planned, designed and developed over 10 websites for clients.

# Trainee Web Developer

### **BBC**, Visual Journalism

**i** July 2013 - Aug 2014

# **SUMMARY**

Experienced full-stack web developer, specialising in front-end. A pragmatic and organised leader, currently working for the Government Digital Service.

Passions: a11y perf standards

Values: diversity flexibility autonomy

Enjoys: | bouldering | cooking | singing

# **ACHIEVEMENTS**

Graduated top of the class

Awarded Best Bachelor Degree in Computer Science out of approx 80 people

'Exceeded' rating

Achieved highest rating in GDS end-ofyear review, March 2020

Conference speaker
Spoke at Paris Web 2018

Smashing Magazine contributor Published a series of articles on smashingmagazine.com

Best Contributor of the Year Awarded at the BBC News Developer

**BBC Symphony Chorus** 

Have sung in several televised Proms since joining in 2013

### **EDUCATION**

Awards 2015

B.Eng. in Software Engineering Aberystwyth University

**Sept 2011 - June 2015** 

1st class, with Honours; BCS-accredited

AAB (A-Levels), B (AS Level) Lampeter Comprehensive School

**2003 - 2010** 

13 GCSEs (11 at A\*/A)

- Developed the *Commonwealth Games* feature, which was televised on BBC Breakfast. I also took the initiative to translate it to Welsh.
- Templated the 'datapic' format. Blog: http://bit.ly/1wT6XTz

# **PUBLICATIONS**

### **\*\*** Talks

 "Publishing content to multiple platforms" (2018). In: Paris Web Conf: https://vimeo.com/295213010.

## Books

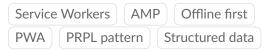
 Clarke, Jill (2020). Software Developer. I was asked to provide a section to the Case Studies chapter: 'The Road To Being An Experienced Developer'. United Kingdom: BCS, pp. 156–157.

## Articles

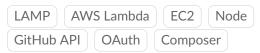
- I Used The Web For A Day On A 50 MB Budget (July 2019). URL: https://smashingmagazine.com/2019/07/web-on-50mb-budget/.
- I Used The Web For A Day On Internet Explorer 8 (Mar. 2019). URL: https://www.smashingmagazine.com/2019/03/web-on-internet-explorer-ie8/.
- What I like about being a developer at GDS (Aug. 2019). URL: https://technology.blog.gov.uk/2019/08/14/what-i-like-about-being-a-developer-at-gds/.
- How BBC Interactive Content Works Across AMP, Apps, And The Web (Mar. 2018). URL: https://www.smashingmagazine.com/ 2018/03/bbc-interactive-content-amp-apps-web/.
- I Used The Web For A Day Using A Screen Reader (Dec. 2018). URL: https://www.smashingmagazine.com/2018/12/voiceover-screen-reader-web-apps/.
- I Used The Web For A Day With JavaScript Turned Off (May 2018).
   URL: https://www.smashingmagazine.com/2018/05/using-the-web-with-javascript-turned-off/.
- I Used The Web For A Day With Just A Keyboard (July 2018). URL: https://www.smashingmagazine.com/2018/07/web-with-just-a-keyboard/.
- High-Impact, Minimal-Effort Cross-Browser Testing (Feb. 2016).
   URL: https://www.smashingmagazine.com/2016/02/high-impact-minimal-effort-cross-browser-testing/.

# **PROJECTS**

**StudentMunch.com** - food review site, using structured data markup to show as reviews in search results. Built as a Progressive Web App on top of AMP.



**GitHooks.io** - horizontally scalable, hosted webhooks platform. Allows developers to write and share GitHub webhooks.



SmartResolution.org - online dispute resolution platform with plugin support for Aldriven resolutions. Awarded the Best Major Project prize at university.

Smartresolution.org



**Secretary** - automatic quality assurance editorial checks for WordPress posts. Built to be extensible and config-driven. wordpress.org/plugins/secretary/



 ${\bf 3D~Solar~System}$  - solar system written in WebGL.

chrisbashton.github.io

WebGL JavaScript HTML5 CSS3

# REFEREES

References available upon request.