CHRIS ASHTON

Senior software engineer
Accessibility advocate
Creative problem-solver

- ashton.codes
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Projects ———

GitHooks.io - horizontally scalable, hosted webhooks platform. Allows developers to write and share GitHub-integrated webhooks.
LAMP • AWS Lambda & EC2 • GitHub API • OAuth • Node • Composer

StudentMunch.com - food review site, using structured data markup to show as review in search results. Bespoke WordPress theme built in AMP.
AMP • Structured data • Validation

SmartResolution.org - online dispute resolution platform with plugin support for AI-driven resolutions. Awarded the Best Major Project prize at university.
Cucumber & Ruby • PHP • SQL • PDO

Secretary - automatic quality assurance editorial checks for WordPress posts. Built to be extensible and config-driven.
WordPress • YAML • SVN • Open-source
`wordpress.org/plugins/secretary/`

3D Solar System - solar system written in WebGL.
WebGL • JavaScript • HTML5 • CSS3
`chrisbashton.github.io`

References ———

References available upon request.

Profile

Senior web developer specialising in delivering responsive & accessible front-end solutions. Currently helping to lead the Visual Journalism team within BBC News.

Achievements

- Graduated top of the class, awarded **Best Bachelor Degree in Computer Science**
- **Published several articles in *Smashing Magazine***; search @ChrisBAshton
- Invited to speak at the ***Paris Web*** **conference** in October 2018
- Awarded **Best Contributor of the Year** at the BBC News Developer Awards 2015
- **Founded my own company**, *Webdapper Ltd*, whilst at university
- Sing in the **BBC Symphony Chorus**, whose concerts are broadcast internationally

Experience

Feb 2017 - Present — **Senior Software Engineer** — BBC
- Devised & implemented an abstraction strategy to deliver Visual Journalism content across BBC products & third-party platforms.
- Re-built projects to use Webpack & Yeoman and migrated to AWS.
- Built a custom pattern library and promoted accessible web design through my voluntary role as "Accessibility Champion".
- Recruited six excellent developers internationally through writing job ads, screening CVs and code tests, and running interviews.
- Line-manage a number of colleagues & manage their objectives.

Feb 2016 - Jan 2017 — **Web Developer** — BBC
- Led the team's upgrade to a componentised project architecture, resulting in faster development and more robust content.
- Regularly created multi-lingual, full-stack applications for the web and the BBC News/Sport apps, covering high profile events.

Jul 2015 - Jan 2016 — **Test Engineer** — BBC
- Set up integration and regression test suites on CI using Docker.
- Led the ongoing development of the Wraith visual regression testing tool, now the BBC's most-starred open-source project.
- Hand-built an in-house BDD framework in Node.
- Championed the adoption of user stories as a communication tool and test specification, saving hours of wasted developer effort.

Aug 2014 - Present — **Founder** — Webdapper Ltd
- Developed over 10 sites to date.
- Generated over 20,000 Facebook likes for clients.

Jul 2013 - Aug 2014 — **Trainee Web Developer** — BBC
- Created many mobile-first, bespoke applications to tight deadlines.
- Built a toolkit which sped up some developer tasks by up to 97%
- Templated the 'datapic' format. Blog: `http://bit.ly/1wT6XTz`

Education

2011 - 2015 — **BEng (Hons) Software Engineering** (1st class; BCS-accredited)
Aberystwyth University

2003 - 2010 — **A-Levels:** AAB**, AS Level:** B**, GCSEs:** 13 (11 at A*/A)
Lampeter Comprehensive School