# Mark Stringer

#### mark.stringer@gmail.com

#### 07803 257 982

## Agile Coach, Scrum Master and Trainer

# SUMMARY

## Agile Delivery Coach:

My specialist area is helping teams deliver projects. I am methodology-agnostic, using ideas from Scrum, XP, Kanban, SAFE and Lean Start-up as appropriate.

## Agile Course Author and Trainer:

I conduct in-house and delegate training sessions on Agile project management. I prepare all materials, exercises and collateral. I developed an Agile Foundation Certificate course which has been certified by the British Computer Society(BCS). The course relies entirely on activities, discussion and reflection (training from the back of the room) as training methods rather than traditional PowerPoint presentations.

## Core Skills:

Agile coaching, Agile delivery.

## Security Clearance

SC security cleared

# EMPLOYMENT

## Mark Stringer Consulting Ltd - Home Office (Jan '18 - Present)

Co-authored winning bid and then joined team as a scrum master working with a start-up on a greenfield development project. Project went live to deadline with agreed scope against a unmoveable deadline, July 2019. Second bid for continued work won March 2020. The project was recently profiled in a Government Digital Service Blog.

https://services.blog.gov.uk/2021/03/05/showing-the-rewards-of-user-centred-service-design-at-scale/

Technologies used: node.js, react, AWS.

## Mark Stringer Consulting Ltd - NHSX (Mar '21 - Present)

As part of the same successful team that delivered projects for the Home Office, we won a bid to conduct an initial phase of alpha and prototype development of a database of health standards.

I set up all Agile ceremonies (standup, planning, retrospective, show and tell) and artifacts (planning boards, road maps).

The project delivered in its short timescale of eight weeks.

On the back of this work we have now won a follow-on bid to deliver a fully working system over the next 6 months.

## SopraSteria Ltd (Jan '14 – Dec '17)

### Agile Coach - Smith and Nephew (August '17 - Dec '17)

Coaching a team who are using innovative approaches to data warehousing on the cloud on User Story creation and Agile requirements management.

### Agile Coach - JD Williams (July'17 – Dec '17)

Coaching a group of mainframe developers, both onshore and offshore using both lean and Agile techniques. Improving communication, increasing visibility of work, improving flow of work between teams and vendors.

### Agile Coach/Scrum Master - giffgaff (Jan '16 to July '17)

Acting as Scrum Master to a team and providing coaching at executive level across six scrum teams, totaling over 100 people on the best use of an Agile approach to deliver the organization’s business goals.

Technologies used: Python, PHP, Java, AWS.

#### Phones Marketplace (Jan '16 – May '16)

Delivered the e-commerce site for second-hand phones in three months

#### giffgaff Money (Jun '16 – present)

Delivery of personal loans site and Free Credit Report site.

### Agile Coach/Bid Author (Oct '15 - Dec '15)

Providing Agile coaching and authorship on a series of successful Government bids under the Digital Services and GCloud7 Frameworks.

### Agile Coach/Scrum Master – Ministry of Justice(Feb '15 - Sep '15)

Agile Coach on an extremely high profile government project which aimed to digitize the criminal justice process. Coached the programme from “greenfield” to maturity with 10 Agile teams working to product a “steel” thread minimum viable product that allowed a transaction to be processed from complaint to sentencing.

Technologies used: open source unix stack, Java, AWS.

## Tata Consulting Services (Feb '12 – Dec '13)

### Senior Agile Consultant (Jul '12 –Dec '13) – Lloyd's Bank, London

Responsible for producing and executing an Agile coaching and transformation strategy across a cost reduction programme involving 10 projects, 150 people.

Tailoring an Agile coaching approach to a series of software development projects, stepping in to support management and delivery of projects.

Technologies used, Pega workflow management.

### Agile Coach (Feb ’12 – Jun '12) – JP Morgan Chase, Kansas City, USA

Lead a programme of Agile transformation. Responsible for the coaching of four teams, totaling 60 people, in the application of Agile, from project kick-off to final delivery. This included coaching on the introduction and implementation of a TDD and CI strategy for development teams. Also responsible for restructuring the PMO function to work with Agile development teams.

Techologies used: Java, COBOL.

## Fry-IT Ltd (Nov '11 – Feb '12)

### Scrum Master

Responsible for running all Agile aspects of software development for a team distributed across Europe.

## John Wiley and Sons Ltd, Online Library (Dec '09 – Oct '11)

Contract renewed 3 times

### Scrum Master and Project Manager

Delivered a $30m project which represented a possible $500m annual turnover for the company. Delivered against an aggressive timescale within a rigid 1 month window of opportunity for release in September 2010.

Responsible for running 6 agile development teams, totaling 80 people, running Agile process meetings, daily stand-ups, scrum of scrums, sprint planning, showcases and retrospectives.

Day-to-day management of software development by 30 developers; reporting on project progress to senior management and planning releases of future work. Development was in a Java environment using pair programming, TDD and CI all project management was done using JIRA.

Technologies used: Java.

## Agile Lab (Jun '07 – Dec '09) Own Company

### Agile Project Management Consultant

Developed training materials for Agile Project Management courses and coached new Agile teams. Clients included:

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## University of Sussex (Feb '05 - Jun '07)

### Applications Researcher and Software Development Project Manager

Managed the delivery of working software on a strict timescale that was fit for purpose and ready to be deployed in private homes as part of a research study.

## Soda Creative (Jul '04 - Feb '05)

### Project Manager:

First encounter with Agile. Lead the project for an internet bank through the full development life cycle. Met challenging deadlines with deliveries of working software against a backdrop of frequently changing regulatory requirements.

## University of Cambridge (Oct '02 - Jul '04)

UI Researcher

## Xerox Research Centre Europe (Mar '98 – Oct '02)

Researcher

## IBM (Oct '94 – Mar '98)

Software Developer

# EDUCATION/QUALIFICATIONS

## Academic

* Diploma in German - Open University ('98-'00)
* MSc in Cognitive Science – Birmingham University ('92-'93)
* MA Hons Philosophy (2:1) – St Andrews ('87-'91)

## Vocational

* ICAGILE Certified – Agile Coaching
* British Computer Society Agile Foundation Certificate
* CSM (Certified Scrum Master)
* SCJP (Sun Certified Java Programmer)
* UK Driving Licence

## Courses Recently Attended

* Liberating Structures
* Coaching Tired Teams

## Interests

Hobbies: Open-mic stand-up comedy (100+ gigs to 2021).

Currently writing a book about project management entitled “Delivering the Impossible”.