

Matthew Raft

Tech Enthusiast | Jnr Coder | Aspiring UXer | Talent Specialist

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Personal Profile

I am Jnr Developer seeking to further develop my expertise across UX, HCI and Front-End Engineering. My commercial experience extends to businesses ranging from start-ups to multinational corporates in the UK and Australia.

I have robust understanding of software development including a rudimentary knowledge of Ruby, Ruby on Rails, HTML, CSS and JavaScript.

I have passion for technology, in particular Web technologies, VR and UX. The intersection of software and user adoption is what drives my passion for lean tech enterprise and innovation.

I am diligent, hardworking and resourceful. I ask questions, innovate and look for creative solutions.

Education

Coderfactory (Coding Bootcamp School)

May 2015 - August 2015

- 12 week Web App Development Course (Part-Time)
- Using Ruby on Rails to build a web app from application design and deployment.

Nottingham Trent University (Nottingham Law School)

October 2009 - August 2013

- Law LL.B (Honours) **2.1 (67%)**
- Diploma in Professional Practice (**Merit**)

Manshead Upper School (Manshead Upper School Sixth Form)

September 2004 - June 2009

- **Alevel:** Product Design (**A**) Geography (**B**) Physical Education (**B**) General Studies (**C**)
- **Alevel AS:** History (**B**)
- **GCSEs:** 11 Grades **A-C** including Maths, English and Science

Technical skills

Web technologies:

- HTML5
- CSS3
- Bootstrap
- Ruby on Rails
- RESTful approach & Responsive design
- JavaScript (basic/learning)
 - Codecademy courses in Node.js and Angular.js.
- PostgreSQL, Heroku

UX:

- Adobe Illustrator, Sketch, Photoshop (basic)
- Moqups, Protoio, Balsamiq, Invision
- Online tools used, Canva, Proto io

Software tools:

- Code editors: Sublime Text 2/3, Notepad ++
- Source control: Git (My Github account)
- Agile time management: Sprintly, Trello and Harvest
- Blogs regularly consulted: devdocs.io, stackoverflow.com, w3schools.com, codecademy.com, tutspplus.com, css-tricks.com, google.com/fonts, smashingmagazine.com, paulirish.com, lea.verou.me, webplatformdaily.org and addyosmani.com.

Professional Experience

Travelling (Working Holiday Visa Australia) Backpacker

February 2015 – February 2016

A year backpacking, working a various jobs as a recruiter, farmhand, woofing volunteer and sailor. Further travel throughout Thailand, Laos, Malaysia, Australia, Indonesia and New Zealand.

Freelance Work Jnr Web Developer

November 2015 – To Present

Developing personalised bootstrap websites for businesses and individuals.

Key responsibilities:

- Concept sketching, prototyping and wire-framing
- Ruby On Rails development
- HTML, CSS, JavaScript development
- Use of Bootstrap
- Heroku deployment

Projects:

- <https://yogawithvicky.herokuapp.com/>
 - Personal site for yoga instructor
- Matthewraft-uxdeve.herokuapp.com
 - Personal site
- BeyondGood
 - Online marketplace for charity
- RecChat
 - Employment chatroom for recruiters

Wattcost Pty Ltd Intern/Work Experience Sydney, NSW Australia

August 2015 – October 2015

An 'Internet of things' Australian technology startup empowering consumers to make intelligent energy decisions in the home by detecting and monitoring what household appliances are being used.

I completed a part-time internship with the company working on the out of the box user journey.

Key responsibilities:

- Participated in sketches and idea sessions with cofounder on unboxing and installation issues. Contributed ideas for an engaging mobile app sign-up process.
- Considered and discussed sign-up, sign-in user flow based on tech constraints and ease of use.
- Used Balsamiq and Protoio to design wire frames, low and high fidelity mockups.
- Considered user existing personas and user journey maps to determine customer journey.

Key achievements:

- Used Adobe Illustrator to design three customer journey and site maps detailing app screens and user actions from 'out-of-the-box', mobile app pairing and beacon device setup.

Xpand Group Pty Ltd
Web, Mobile and UX Recruitment Consultant
Sydney, NSW Australia

April 2015 – October 2015

A global recruitment consultancy, specialising in Digital, Technology, Media, Sales and Marketing with offices in London, Sydney, Melbourne, Singapore, Hong Kong and Kuala Lumpur.

I headed up a 360 recruitment consultant role, responsible for a portfolio of clients both existing and new business.

Key responsibilities:

- Consultancy duties including candidate screening, passive candidate attraction, face-to-face competency interviews and candidate placement.
- Pitched, negotiated and delivered recruitment solutions for various blue-chip technology brands including Yahoo7, Canva, Google, THE ICONIC, eBay and News Corp.
- Mapped, networked and headhunted leading candidates worldwide to build specific talent pools.
- Dealt directly with hiring managers, producing talent pipelines and market maps. Providing direction to senior hiring managers on strategies to better source suitable candidates.
- Represented Xpand at technology events throughout Sydney. Presenting at Meet-up events increasing brand recognition.
- Shared insights on budget constraints and timeframes with clients, advising them on the best course of action.
- Identified and headhunted specific candidates.

Key achievements:

- Worked hands on with senior developers at Gumtree and eBay to understand their recruitment and technology goals, conducting in-depth technical pre screening of candidates.
- Structured and produced a salary mapping report for Yahoo7, used by the CTO to focus talent attraction strategy and project budgets.
- Delivered an employment seminar and materials to Coderfactory graduates on interviewing and 'Getting Your First Development Job'.
- Delivered training to junior candidate managers on recruitment training and software development.

InterQuest Group Ltd (IQTech)
Software Development Recruitment Consultant
London/Berkhamsted, UK

September 2013 - January 2015

An award-winning, specialist recruitment consultancy comprising of independent recruitment brands focusing on talent in information security, analytics, digital, telecommunications, sales and change management.

A 360 recruitment consultant role focusing on mid to senior technology appointments.

Key responsibilities:

- Vacancy qualification, vacancy promotion, candidate matching and headhunting, CV submissions, candidate feedback, pre interview preparation, interview organisation, post interview debrief and feedback, client offer, candidate package negotiations, placement arrangements and candidate care.
- Desk strategy, business development, pitching for new business, negotiation of terms, market mapping and organisational strategy.

Key achievements:

- Picked up seven new requirements on an exclusive basis during my first month.

Saunders Law Ltd
Paralegal
London, UK

July 2011- July 2012

A full-service litigation and dispute resolution law firm specialising in Employment Law, Criminal Law and Commercial litigation.

A Paralegal role supporting the Criminal CDS, Employment and Civil Litigation departments.

Key responsibilities:

- Court attendance as a solicitors' representative at all stages of litigation, including, but not limited to: Crown Court, County Court and Court of Appeal matters.
- Independent drafting of legal documents including witness statements, proof of evidence statements, client comments on evidence, post court letters and litigation briefs.
- Independent legal research using a variety of online databases.
- Defence case preparation, including legal aid applications, expert witness instruction, cell cite analysis, interview transcription, CCTV analysis and evidence scheduling.
- Time recording and billing.

Key achievements:

- Scheduled probative telephone evidence and accompanying s.9 statement during an on-going crown court trial three weeks into my placement.

Cases of note:

- **R v JT** (first appeal against a trial without jury since Cromwellian times)
- **27 million pound land banking fraud**
- **17.5 million pound fraud on Swiss bank**
- **Successfully contested Albania extradition application for a Murder conviction**

3 Veralum Buildings (3VB) Chambers
Mini Pupillage
London, UK

June - June 2011

- Attended a two weeklong professional negligence matter in which £73m in damages were awarded in favour of the appellants.
- Observed legal argument and evidence from expert witnesses.
- Reviewed and examined case bundles and skeleton arguments.

Blacks Outdoor Group Plc
Sales Assistant/Supervisor
Nottingham, UK

October 2009 - May 2013

- Customer service, stock management, merchandising and independent stock takes.

Dell Farm Activity Centre
Sports Activator
Whipsnade, UK

September 2007- August 2009

- Lead group activity sessions such as archery, team building, rock climbing, mountain biking and caving.
- Worked with a variety ages and needs from young children, to families involved in government initiatives.
- Skills acquired included group control, teaching, and communication skills.

Achievements and Interests

Additional qualifications and positions of responsibility:

- British Parachute Association AFF Level 1 & 2
- CWA and SPA climbing instructor
- Nottingham Trent Climbing Club Gear Secretary/ Vice President (2010-11)
- Vrije Universiteit International Summer School, Amsterdam (2010)
- Manshead School Subject Excellence Award in Product Design (2009)
- Membership of the Sixth Form College Council (2008-2009)
- Involvement in NLS 'Lecture Capture' pilot (2013)
- FashHack Runner-up (2015)

Sporting interests:

- Squash: played to a county standard in under 17s and 19s regional leagues.
- Rock climbing: mostly 'Trad' or 'Sport' climbing, which I practice throughout the UK and Europe.
- Winter Sports: keen skier and snowboarder, both XC and Alpine skiing.

Referees

References available on request