

Ben Aston

I am a Certified ScrumMaster looking to put my experience to use helping cross-functional teams develop high-quality software sustainably and incrementally. I have experience working within, leading, and facilitating agile software teams; including a year spent working with Thoughtworks. I am currently following a self-directed MBA syllabus on Coursera and working through the Advanced Certified ScrumMaster certification process.

Aerohead Founder, Product Designer (product development, market analysis) 06/2020-present

Developed and brought to market a range of bicycle accessories. Covered conception, prototyping, testing, and commercialisation.

National Political Party Campaign Manager (leading a team, public speaking) 7/2019-11/2019

Coordinated the campaign for a parliamentary candidate in the 2019 UK General Election. Developed a voter model to efficiently target campaign effort.

National Activist Organisation Regional Organiser (leading a team, collaboration, public speaking, developing a shared mission) 02/2019-09/2019

Recruited and coordinated a political activist group to deliver grassroots campaigning goals.

Hive Consultant Dev. (JS, HTML5, CSS3, Node.js, React) 7/2017-12/2017

Component-oriented web application development for controlling household devices and sensors.

HSBC Investment Bank Consultant Dev. (agile facilitation, teaching, public speaking) 6/2016-6/2017

DevOps-based development of modular HTML5-based FX salesperson analytics system. Ran JavaScript tutorial series. Developed high-performance counterparty selection component.

HSBC Investment Bank Consultant Dev., Pod Lead (leading a team, agile coaching) (6 extensions) 6/2014-06/2016

DevOps-based development of modular HTML5-based FX single dealer platform delivering real-time pricing information. Implemented price streaming, spot, forward and swap booking, dealer intervention, dynamic component loading to support decoupled multi-team development, performance analysis and optimisation. Led process improvements. Pair programming. Co-developed technical recruitment approach.

ADP Consultant Dev. (JS, HTML5, CSS3, Node.js, MongoDB) 1/2014-03/2014

Human capital management application. Developed authentication and search sub-systems.

Reed Elsevier Technical Lead (project inception, story writing, agile facilitation, organisational development and change catalyst) (continued) 02/2013-12/2013

Technical lead for team distributed between London and Shanghai. Mentored junior members of the team. Delivered *ICIS Live*, an HTML5-based real-time price messaging platform using WebSockets. Presented technical analyses and architectural options to the board. Delivered tutorial sessions for both internal and external stakeholder groups (including offshore partners in India and China) on topics including agile estimation, TDD, CQRS, and acceptance testing. Conducted technical interviews.

Introduced internal code sharing initiative. Internationalisation. Weekly demonstrations and releases. Facilitated agile ceremony in a distributed team environment including estimation sessions, retrospectives, stand-ups, demonstrations and prioritisation sessions.

Reed Elsevier Sr. Developer (C#, JS, HTML5, full-time pair programming) (5 extensions) 03/2012- 02/2013

Worked with Thoughtworks to deliver a commodities pricing system. Full-time pair programming in multidisciplinary team. Pull-based development (Kanban). Achieved a five-fold improvement in system performance. Ran project inception, knowledge acquisition workshops, retrospectives. Performed business analysis, formed initial product backlog. Weekly demonstrations, releases. Ad-hoc estimation sessions and status briefings including burn-up charts and risk log highlights. Worked with offshore partners to define release process, testing approach (unit, integration, acceptance) and story lifecycle. Developed RESTful inter-system connector.

Other companies that I have worked for include JustGiving.com, LateRooms.com, System C Healthcare, and BAE Systems.

Education

Computer Science BSc (Hons) 2:1 - University of Southampton, 2003

Certified ScrumMaster - Scrum Alliance, 2023