MARK W. FIRTH hello@mark.wf +44 (0) 7482 315084

Entrepreneurially-minded, resourceful and driven creative problem solver with 5+ years experience as an operational leader in early-stage. Oxford science MA (Hons) and Smartly MBA (Hons). Smart generalist and excellent people manager with experience working in international teams and across multiple operational functions utilising technical, creative and analytical skills. Intellectually curious, highly organised and detail-oriented; excels at process improvement and efficiency. Selected (1% acc. rate) to join the NEF Fast Track 2020 scheme, which develops and supports entrepreneurial talent with a 12-month part-time learning programme, executive coach and business mentor. Currently searching for a full-time interim placement opportunity at a tech startup as part of the requirements for the programme, with the intention to launch a full-time business after completion in 2020/21.

CROSS-FUNCTIONAL STARTUP OPERATIONS LEADER

- Operations Mgt
- Strategy

- Delivery Ops
- Agile Project Mgt

- Mgt Accounting
- Startup Legals
- People / HR
- Office Mgt

- Events Mgt
- Digital Marketing
- FE Web Dev
- Photo / Video

EXPERIENCE



mark.wf

Startup consultancy providing strategic and operational support

Startup Consultant

Feb 2018 - present

Remote

- Acquired multiple clients by understanding problem areas, pitching solutions and negotiating contracts
- Continuously working with 1 client for 9+ months helping her launch her new book, websites and startup
- Increased Instagram following >1000% by expanding knowledge in photography and digital marketing



The Family

Pan-European startup network, service provider and shareholder

Head of Events (London)

Nov 2018 - Apr 2019

London, UK

- Worked closely with C-level entrepreneurs to create educational and entertaining content for 13 events
- Organised a biotech enterprise innovation conference featuring 10 senior life sciences speakers
- Sourced over 1000 emails and managed a targeted cold email campaign to advertise the conference



Invisible Technologies

Worldwide on-demand virtual assistant platform and service

Director of Operations (Contract)

May 2018 - Aug 2018

Remote

- Successfully managed a global team of 50 people (5 direct reports) across numerous time zones by employing strong management skills
- Increased operational efficiency by 30% and client billable time to 1400+ hours of direct labour per month by introducing new revenue streams and improving load balancing across teams
- Improved client experience as measured by qualitative feedback by supervising quality and providing constructive feedback to operators



DWYL

Web app development agency and coworking space

Co-founder & COO

Jan 2017 - Dec 2017

London, UK

- Significantly strengthened brand position with minimal cost (£250) by enforcing trade mark rights to acquire highly valuable 4-letter .com and .co.uk domains as well as social media marketing handles
- Improved efficiency of financial administration by 300% by creating and implementing an automated contractor invoicing system
- Delighted clients and successfully managed numerous projects by employing strong communication and project management skills



Hack Partners

RailTech innovation accelerator, hackathon and consultancy

Founding Partner

Jul 2016 - Jan 2017

London, UK

- Promoted to partner status after 3 months due to competence, diligence, zealousness and significant contributions to the business
- Contributed to pivoting the business model in a new direction by evaluating customer feedback and working closely with the founders
- Bolstered the closure of several major partnership deals collectively worth over £100,000 by communicating and working with senior stakeholders across the industry

Head of Operations

Apr 2016 - Jan 2017

London, UK

- Managed accelerator programme featuring 11 tech startups, organised a 300-person conference and 120-person hackathon featuring senior stakeholders from across industry by employing strong project management skills
- Successfully acquired Tier 2 license and joined Tier 5 intern scheme allowing the sponsorship of 2
 international candidates without professional legal advice by thoroughly researching guidance and
 executing the process with detail
- Managed creation of a legal procurement framework for startup-TOC software and hardware trials by assessing the contract landscape and working closely with a law firm



Entrepreneur First

Deep tech company builder and venture capital fund

Operations Manager

Sep 2015 - Mar 2016

London, UK

- Diligently managed **investment operations for 33 startups** on the programme by using strong organisational skills
- Successfully managed over 30 visa applications including Tier 1 Entrepreneur and Tier 1 Exceptional Talent by utilising strong project management skills and detail-oriented nature
- Organised and ran several high-profile events including a 300-person Demo Day attended by top investors by using strong organisation and event management skills



University of Oxford Department of Widening Access

Widening access academic summer school programme

UNIQ Operations Manager

Jul 2013 - Aug 2015

Oxford, UK

UNIQ Academic Mentor

Jul 2012 - Jul 2013

Oxford, UK

- Managed college sites with teams of 4 staff and 50 residential students by using strong management skills
- Successfully resolved a number of sensitive incidents requiring pastoral care by using empathetic communication and knowledge of child safeguarding
- Increased competitive applications from state school students to the university by encouragement, mentoring students about the university's application processes and the academic content of the courses



Medopad

Mobile health platform for medical professionals

Operations Intern

Sep 2014 - Oct 2014

London, UK

- Acquired valuable insight into the challenges that startups face in the digital health sector
- Gained exposure to multiple areas of the business and as a result improved generalist skill set and problem-solving skills
- Created an internal customer support interface by working closely with developers and utilising project management skills

EDUCATION

Centre for preneurs **Centre for Entrepreneurs** Foundation supporting entrepreneurial talent (1% acc. rate)

NEF Fast Track 2020 Fellow Sep 2019 - Aug 2020 London, UK

Highly-selective learning programme that supports participants in launching a startup by providing a startup work placement, support network, executive coach and business mentor



Smartly School of Business

Elite online remote MBA programme (6% acc. rate)

MBA (Hons) Feb 2018 - Nov 2018

Remote

2 projects and 8 concentrations:

Accounting project Marketing project

- Accounting
- Markets & Economies
- Data & Decisions
- Leading Organisations
- Marketing & Pricing
- Finance
- Supply Chain & Operations
- Strategy & Innovation



Udacity Google Scholarship

Mobile Web Specialist Nanodegree Challenge (5% acc. rate)

Mobile Web Specialist Scholar Oct 2017 - Feb 2018

Remote

Offline First • Service Workers • Caching • ES2015 • Destructuring • Promises • Proxies



Founders & Coders

Highly-selective 8-week web development course

Full Stack JavaScript Web Dev

Jan 2015 - Mar 2015

London, UK

HTML • CSS • JavaScript • Git • GitHub • Jekyll • Markdown • APIs • Node • Hapi • D3



University of Oxford St Edmund Hall

Ranked #1 academic institution for biomedical sciences in 2011

MA (Hons)
Cell and Systems Biology

Oct 2011 - Jun 2015

Oxford, UK

Major: Cardiovascular, Renal and Respiratory Biology Minor: Cellular Physiology and Pharmacology

Project: Varying enzymatic digestion to improve pancreatic islet isolation yield and clinical outcomes for type-1 diabetes

OUSU OF COO LIFE EGYT CLUSSES UNCO.	Oxford University Student Union	Student representation for communication with the university	
	MedSci Division Representative	Oct 2013 – Jun 2014	Oxford, UK
OXFORD UNIVERSITY SPORT	Oxford University Sport	University sports society and dodgeball club (OUDbC)	
	Founder & President (OUDbC)	Mar 2013 - May 2014	Oxford, UK
	Finance Executive	Mar 2013 - Mar 2014	Oxford, UK
œ	Oxford Entrepreneurs	Events and programmes supporting entrepreneurship in Oxford	
	Executive Committee	Oct 2013 - Mar 2014	Oxford, UK
O.U.S. B.M.S.	OUSBMS	Learned community of Oxford biomedical scientists	
	Founder & President	Jan 2013 - Mar 2014	Oxford, UK
	Various Startup Programmes	Sep 2012 - Feb 2014	Oxford, UK