

mattrayner

full-stack polyglot tech lead in london



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About Me

I'm Matt Rayner, a talented and dedicated full stack, polyglot Tech Lead. I'm looking for a challenging environment to test and improve my skills. I love learning new things and am an early adopter of bleeding edge technologies. Outside of work I'm involved in volunteering and a number of side projects. Everything from training students in multimedia and design skills, through to [GiveCat](#) - a bookmarklet that replaces all the images on a website with pictures of cats (what more could you want, right?).

I'm a massive geek at heart, anything that goes 'bleep bloop', I'm all over it. In the past, I've acted as an IT Consultant for the Citizens Advice Bureau, Head of IT for a community radio station, and Tech Lead for multiple digital agencies. I've got a passion for products that make people's lives easier; whether they take the stress out of a task or are

accessible to everyone, that's my sort of thing.

In the past, I've been a graphic designer and a front end developer so I have extensive experience with both front end technologies and back end solutions (Wordpress CMS, MySQL, PHP, Ruby, Rails, HAML, Responsive websites, Javascript, JQuery, Node, CSS, iPhone, Android - all the usual suspects). I've also had exposure to accessibility and web standards, ensuring the code I write is semantic and cross browser tested.

At the age of 17 I wrote my first content management system in two weeks as part of a college project and my love of back end has grown from there. I'm interested in everything from speaking at events to new job opportunities - get in touch and we'll see what epicness ensues.



Employment

Lead Back-end Developer (Ruby)

Houses of Parliament 9th January 2017 - Present

Working as Lead Back-end Developer for the Parliamentary Digital Service, I'm focused on the development of a new data driven website and API for the houses of Parliament.

Tech Lead

Design Portfolio 25th July 2016 - 6th January 2017

Working as Tech Lead for Design Portfolio was an interesting challenge. I was appointed to help bring the digital team's internal work into the 21st century, introducing CI/CD along with updated disaster recovery and High Availability setups.

Digital Tech Lead

BD Network 1st Feb 2016 - 20th July 2016

Working as the Digital Tech Lead at BD, my role was a diverse and challenging one. I was involved with projects at every point from conception through to final delivery, managing a team of multi-skill, full stack developers, prioritising workload and training.

Full Stack Developer

BD Network 20th Apr 2015 - 29th Jan 2016

Working as interim Tech Lead for the digital team within BD, I was responsible for delivering a wide array of projects for their diverse client base. Everything from NFC powered promotions to augmented reality applications, single page websites to PHP and Ruby driven web apps.

I managed a team of developers, ensuring they are given the most appropriate and productive tasks. Alongside this I mentored a digital intern, balancing the business need against our responsibility to provide training and long term benefit during their time at the company.

Ruby on Rails Developer

Springer Nature 20th Oct 2014 - 17th April 2015

As a Full Stack Ruby on Rails developer at Macmillan I was responsible for everything from Unix server administration and monitoring, to

Volunteering

IT Co-ordinator

InQuire Media 10th May 2013 - 29th Aug 2014

In this role I stepped away from design and concentrated on server management and technical support for InQuire.

I basically kept the lights on and the network working so that the other volunteers and readers of InQuire received the best possible experience at all times. I continued to deliver regular training sessions on the philosophy of design for both print and online, with additional practical sessions covering InDesign and Photoshop.

IT Co-ordinator / Head of Design

InQuire Media Sep 2011 - 9th May 2013

When I first joined the InQuire team they had no designer or anyone in charge of their out of date and inaccessible website.

During my time volunteering for InQuire I taught the newspaper and web editors basic design and layout theory as well as providing practical hands-on training for each of them.

I rebuilt their website, moving it from an outdated and inaccessible Drupal solution to a semi-responsive WordPress site, the base of which is still in use to this date.

Head of IT

CSRfm 22nd Oct 2009 - Apr 2010

As head of IT I was expected to continue the work I had been doing as a tech team member, working on a new website and attending bi-weekly committee meetings. I was the first person in the history of CSR to be elected to a position unanimously.

Tech Team Member

CSRfm Jun 2009 - 21st Oct 2009

I was responsible for redesigning and redeveloping the CSR website using Joomla. This was my first foray into open source content management systems, having previously only worked with my own bespoke system.

writing front end JavaScript and everything in-between.

Working on a RESTFUL webservice, I practiced Continuous Deployment as part of an Agile Scrum team and managed our servers and applications using a combination of Puppet, Jenkins and Webistrano. Our development team tracked errors and performance using Nagios, Graphite and Airbrake, tying it all together with Dashing and Grafana for live monitoring across our server and application cluster.

Full Stack Developer

BCSG 18th Jan 2014 - 17th Oct 2014

I worked as a Full Stack Ruby on Rails developer for BCSG, creating a new international SaaS cloud app designed to make starting, running, and managing a small business a piece of cake!

I worked as the Tech Lead for this development. The app was being developed using Ruby 2 and Rails 4, along with a whole host of custom gems and functionality.

Web Developer

BCSG 25th Nov 2013 - 18th Jan 2014

As a web developer, my focus was largely on improving on the front end and back end technologies used within some of BCSG's legacy projects as well as working on a new platform that the business could use to grow.

3

This responsibility was given to me at the age of 17 before I had been accepted at the University of Kent as I had shown a lot of interest in CSR. I was solely responsible for both the look and functionality of the website.

IT Consultant

Citizens Advice Jun 2009 - Sep 2010

I was responsible for maintaining the Swale Citizens Advice Bureau's IT network across their three sites; Sittingbourne, Faversham and the Isle of Sheppey. I had to maintain their Active Directory and File Servers whilst also supporting their mostly elderly staff with their computing issues.

See case studies, social profiles and more at:

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Education

Computer Science with a Year in Industry - BSc (Hons)

University of Kent Sep 2009 - Jul 2013

Classification 2:1

BTEC National - IT Practitioners

Mid-Kent College Sep 2007 - Jul 2009

Grade Distinction, Distinction, Merit
(A,A,B)

GCSEs

New Brompton College Sep 2002 - Jul 2007

15 GCSEs 6 Bs, 7 Cs, 2 Ds

Languages

Over my years in development I've collected a number of different languages, I truly believe in always picking the best technology for any given project. I have a thirst for knowledge and self improvement, always trying to broaden my horizons with new languages and techniques.

Great at:

Ruby
HAML
RSpec
Capybara
HTML
CSS
JavaScript
jQuery
Gulp
Java (Android)
PHP
Objective-C (iOS)
*NIX Bash
SparQL
TypeScript
Windows Batch

Still learning:


Haskell
C++
C#
Go
Rust
Swift
VBScript
ASP.net
PostgreSQL
Redis
Actionscript 2 & 3 (Before Flash was dead)
Alexa Skill Kit
Rust

Applications I use

Working hand in hand with my love of languages and belief in using the right tools for the job, I have had exposure to number of technical applications. Below is just a small example of my repertoire:

Photoshop CC	Illustrator CC
InDesign CC	Docker
TravisCI	WebStorm
RubyMine	Postman
SequelPro	XCode
Android Studio	Slack
Git	OmniGraffle

Thanks for reading, please don't hesitate to get in touch

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