

MATT HAMILTON

Developer Advocate

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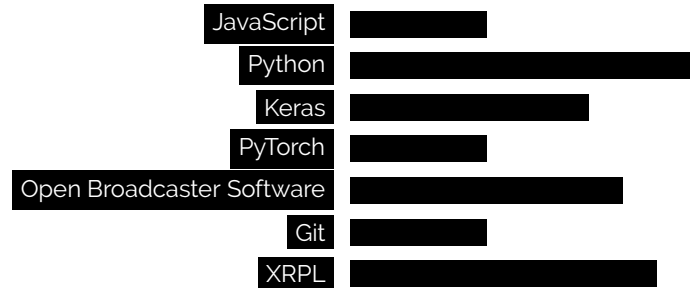
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WHO AM I?

I'm a developer and developer advocate interested in: the XRP Ledger, blockchains and cryptocurrencies in general, AI / machine learning, and Python.

As a developer, I enjoy building things, especially combining multiple different things, to produce something new.

As a developer advocate, I enjoy helping other developers to learn, understand and build. Let's learn something new together! I am also the "voice of the developer" at the table — bringing your feedback to the product team.



EXPERIENCE

2/2021 – 2/2022
Remote

Director of Developer Relations / Principal Developer Advocate

Ripple

I joined RippleX as the Director of Developer Relations and worked with others to form the overall strategy for Ripple's involvement with the wider XRP Ledger developer community. The main core of this strategy was looking at the various channels that developers were using and taking Ripple out to meet them in the wider community.

I started a weekly developer-focussed livestream on Twitch in which I invited guests on to talk about projects they were developing and dive into the code of what they were building. This ranged from web-monetized music streaming websites, to using various SDKs, to experiments with NFT-enabled secure lockers.

Notable achievements:

- hosted 43 Twitch streams, totalling 58 hours of content, reaching 13,500 distinct viewers
- I spoke at 18 external speaking engagements, ranging from public conferences such as Techsylvania and the Singapore Fintech Festival, through to university blockchain clubs and Youtube channels
- I spoke at 4 internal education events for various Ripple teams to help them better understand the XRP Ledger and crypto in general
- I planned and scripted a series of 10 short YouTube "explainer" videos on various aspects of the XRP Ledger. These were professionally animated and voiced.
- Launched a Discord community channel for developers (currently 1,000 members)
- Helped create, organise and judge two rounds of the XRP Ledger Grants program. Awarding a total of approx \$5M in funding to developers
- Helped launch and judge quarterly XRP Ledger hackathons
- Started the development of a public, crowd-sourced directory of projects in the XRP Ledger and XRP ecosystem.
- Interviewed new hires at Ripple. I was on 23 interview panels throughout the last year for a range of developer, community manager, and program manager roles.
- Attended XRPL developer community meetups
- Provided internal consultancy to other initiatives, such as the Campus Ambassador program, Apex Developer conference, Educational programs, Documentation portal

- 2/2020 – 2/2021
Bristol, UK
- Developer Advocate, AI/ML/Cloud** **IBM**
- I joined the London city developer advocacy team for IBM Cloud. This team was responsible for in-person events and workshops to help developers understand and get hands-on experience with the various products in IBM Cloud. Due to Covid, these were moved entirely online. I started a weekly Twitch livestream focused on machine learning and AI and developing interactive Python notebooks for developers to work through.
- I also hosted the IBM Think! "Hallway track" on Twitch which ran alongside the main IBM Think! developer conference. Speakers joined the Twitch livestream after their pre-recorded talk on the "main stage", to have a more interactive talk and answer questions from the audience.
- `Python / JS / Keras / Serverless`
- 3/2018 – 2/2020
Bristol, UK
- EU Infrastructure Engineer** **IBM**
- I was responsible for the development and maintenance of compliance tooling for ensuring compliance with SoC 2 and GDPR standards. I was also on the on-call rota for the support of Composes suite of databases hosted in IBM Cloud, AWS, and GCP.
- `Python / Kubernetes`
- 11/2014 – 2/2020
Bristol, UK
- Owner / Director** **Quernus, Ltd.**
- I ran my own technology consulting and development firm. My last project was the development of the Python backend for a simulation game for the UN's Global Festival of Ideas conference. This was deployed to Google App Engine and serviced a peak of 450 simultaneous mobile users and several game tables, processing approx 10,000 financial transactions / second.
- 11/2014 – 12/2017
Bristol, UK /
Los Angeles, CA
- Mobile Team Lead** **enquos**
- At enquos, my role was to build and lead the mobile development team. I recruited and built an in-house mobile development team from scratch consisting of three Android and three iOS developers to work alongside the team of two front-end developers, a graphic designer, two UX designers, and a team of six backend python developers. My responsibilities were to organise the work of the team, run the development process (loosely SCRUM-based, 2-week development cycles) and take requirements from the business to implementation. I also coordinated the work of the mobile team with the backend (Python, Cassandra, AWS) team with regards to APIs being developed. The team was geographically spread over eight countries and we utilised Slack along with a daily 'standup' meeting on Google Hangout.
- I developed the original algorithms for offline search in the enquos nutrition app. These were prototyped in Python before being coded in Swift and Java. This involved devising and testing search algorithms to replicate the capabilities of a full search server locally on the mobile device.
- I was also responsible for the establishment and maintenance of our continuous test and build system. This shortens the time between the code being written and the resultant app being in the hands of the testers and users. I built a system (using Jenkins, Fastlane, Gradle, Fabric) that automates the entire process of running the unit and integration tests on the apps, updating dependencies, building the app, signing the app with the correct provisioning profile, and uploading the app for distribution.
- `Jenkins / Swift / iOS / Android`
- 6/2000 – 11/2014
Bristol, UK
- Technical Director** **Netsight Internet Solutions, Ltd.**
- Netsight Internet Solutions was a web development company specialising in combining both creative and technical skills to design and produce fast, effective and elegant websites. Netsight has been using Plone, an Open Source web CMS, and Pyramid a lightweight Python web framework. Clients range from local SMEs to national and international corporations, education, and public sector. I helped grow Netsight from a one-man-band domain name reseller to a complete digital agency employing sixteen full-time staff.
- I was responsible for the hosting and network infrastructure at Netsight, growing the service from a single server in a broom cupboard to a small independent datacentre. Initially developed on top of Cisco networking equipment with a combination of ATM and Ethernet services, it evolved to be pure ethernet run on a combination of HP Procure switches and OpenBSD-based routers. I led the effort to gain ISO27001 (Information Security) accreditation for Netsight's infrastructure and development operations.
- `Python / FreeBSD`

EDUCATION

- 2018 **Postgraduate Diploma** **University of Oxford, Saïd Business School**
Oxford Fintech Programme. Themes covered: the digitisation of money, digital platforms and mobile financial services, artificial intelligence and algorithmic technologies in financial services, central bank digital currencies (CBDCs), blockchain and cryptocurrencies, open banking and data networks
- 1996 - 2000 **MEng (Hons) 2:1 Computer Science** **University of Bristol, UK**
I achieved a 2:1 honours degree in Computer Science at the University of Bristol, UK. I have taken modules in various subjects such as Software Engineering, Computer Architecture, Networking, Information Systems, Databases, System Integration, Safety Critical Systems, Network Security and Computer Graphics. I received the highest project mark awarded to date by the department of 84% for my final year project, a full-text indexer/search system capable of returning real-time results to search queries in an archive of over a million email messages.

MISC

Nationality - British
Languages - native English, school-level German & French
Driving Licence - Full, clean, UK license

HOBBIES

Paddleboarding, cycling, motor-bikes, tinkering with Arduinos / IoT / Home automation, Writing algorithmic trading bots.

COMMUNITY

I am heavily involved in the XRP Ledger community. Previously I was also on the board of directors of the Plone Foundation, and a STEM Ambassador to students.