Ashley Hylton

Founder & Full-Stack Software Engineer · React, TypeScript, Node

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PROFILE

Self-taught founder-engineer who has spent eight years taking a real product from idea to production as the person responsible for all of it. At BublHub, an event ticketing and community platform, I own the product, architecture, delivery and customer experience across web, mobile and backend. I work best in small, high-autonomy teams where engineering decisions shape the product, and I am comfortable going from a customer conversation to a shipped feature. I communicate clearly with technical and non-technical people, and I use AI-assisted development workflows to ship faster without lowering the bar.

EXPERIENCE

Founder / Lead Engineer — BublHub Ltd

2018 – Present

- Built and own the whole platform end to end: Next.js web app, React Native (Expo) mobile apps and Node-based serverless backend, in TypeScript.
- Launched v1 in 2023, then took it offline on purpose to rework the infrastructure and add features ahead of a 2027 relaunch.
- Shipped the core product journeys: authentication, profiles, organiser onboarding, event publishing, ticketing and payments foundations.
- Integrated Stripe onboarding and account status handling, and built payout-ready foundations for organisers.
- Migrated backend foundations away from Firebase to reduce vendor lock-in and improve long-term control, while keeping the product coherent.
- Designed a reusable UI component system and interaction patterns shared across web and mobile, so the product stays consistent as it grows.
- Tightened service boundaries, data model clarity, permissions and workflow ownership to keep the codebase maintainable as a solo owner.
- Test and ship with discipline: around 475 automated test files (Jest and Vitest), Playwright end-to-end specs for the web app and about 50 Maestro journeys run on real devices, CI in every repo, a staging environment and Sentry monitoring across web, mobile and backend.
- Hardened the platform for launch: a server permissions lockdown, a payments audit and a staging rehearsal before going live, and handled live incidents such as an email-provider suspension.
- Run product and go-to-market as well as engineering: organiser onboarding, local partnerships and a Nottingham-first launch strategy, making decisions directly from user feedback.
- Use AI-assisted development workflows (agent-driven builds with shared context and review loops) to increase delivery speed and keep quality consistent.

Stack: TypeScript, Next.js 15, React 19, React Native (Expo), Node.js, Appwrite, Stripe Connect, Jest, Vitest, Playwright, Maestro, Sentry, CI/CD, Figma (Firebase/GCP early)

Full-Stack Software Developer — Tea Powered Projects

Sep 2024 – Dec 2025

- Delivered production work across multiple client sites with strong engineering discipline and delivery standards.
- Worked on 12 projects for 11 clients, from local trades to Langley Holdings: the Shopify store for Reader Cement Products, e-commerce for Peak Dinghy Spares, on-demand platforms for Humanatees Home Tutoring and Navigate Neurodiversity OT, and websites for local businesses and a charity.
- Built an internal React Native app for booking and tracking warrant runs, with forms completed on the device (built, not yet launched).
- Built and extended a PHP-backed CMS with a Next.js frontend using reusable blocks and clean separation of concerns.
- Migrated sites onto the CMS while protecting SEO, performance and content structure.
- Worked beyond the UI: ecommerce, booking flows, integrations and database-backed delivery.
- Improved release reliability through CI/CD work across GitLab pipelines and GitHub Actions.

- Worked directly with stakeholders to clarify requirements and explained technical decisions to non-technical clients.

Stack: Next.js, React, TypeScript, Tailwind, React Native, PHP, MySQL, Shopify, GitLab CI, GitHub Actions

Telesales Executive — Domestic & General

Aug 2026 – Present

- Hands-on, customer-facing sales role: qualifying leads, handling objections and converting calls, which keeps me close to how real customers describe their problems.

TECHNICAL FOCUS

- **Frontend:** React, Next.js, React Native (Expo), TypeScript, Tailwind
- **Backend:** Node.js, serverless functions, REST APIs, PHP, MySQL
- **Platforms & services:** Appwrite, Stripe, Firebase (early), GCP (early)
- **Testing & quality:** Jest, Vitest, Playwright, Maestro, Sentry, CI/CD
- **Workflow:** Git, GitLab CI/CD, GitHub Actions, AI-assisted development
- **Design:** Figma, Adobe Creative Suite, UX-led system thinking

HOW I WORK

- Own significant product areas from idea to production, then keep improving them.
- Treat UX decisions as system decisions.
- Prefer maintainable patterns over clever shortcuts.
- Stay close to customers and the problem being solved.

PROJECTS

- **BublHub:** event ticketing and community ecosystem across web, mobile and backend workflows. ashleyhylton.com/projects/bublhub
- **Tea Powered Projects:** client websites, Shopify stores, web apps and a React Native app for 11 clients. ashleyhylton.com/projects/tea-powered-projects
- **OnlyNotts quiz app:** a two-screen live quiz-night app for a Nottingham charity, stage display and quizmaster panel synced on one laptop (Next.js, Tailwind, no backend).

EDUCATION

LLB Law, Sheffield Hallam University. Self-taught developer, with continuous learning driven by production work.

References available on request