

James Harris

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SUMMARY

Technically capable problem-solver with a background in telecommunications, entrepreneurship and hands-on project work. Experienced in diagnosing complex network faults, working independently in demanding environments, building businesses from the ground up, and learning unfamiliar technologies quickly. Strongly oriented towards problem-solving and implementation, with a track record of becoming highly capable in new environments through practical, hands-on learning.

Currently developing practical knowledge and projects across artificial intelligence, automation and digital systems while preparing to study Computer Science and Philosophy. Particularly interested in developing a deeper understanding of the relationship between technology, people and society, and in exploring how technology can be designed and applied in ways that support human flourishing rather than simply maximising efficiency or productivity.

EDUCATION

UTC Reading

GCSEs, Mathematics — A, Science — C, English — D, English — D

2016

EXPERIENCE

Independent Technology & AI Development

2026 – Present

Currently taking time away from telecommunications to develop technical knowledge, explore AI and automation, build independent technology projects, and prepare for university study.

- Developing practical experience with modern AI systems, automation and digital technologies.
- Building AI voice agents, chatbots and AI-assisted systems.
- Creating and experimenting with workflow automation using n8n and Make.
- Working directly with APIs and exploring how AI models, web technologies, databases and automation systems can be combined.
- Developing web-scraping tools to interact with poorly designed or limited online interfaces.
- Building the foundations of JamesOS and developing these ideas towards a unified AI assistant called Art.
- Developing a personal portfolio website at JBSH.me to document projects, learning and practical work.
- Using AI-assisted development and rapid prototyping to explore technical ideas despite not coming from a traditional software-development background.

Telecommunications Engineer

January 2023 – March 2024; August 2024 – August 2026

MJ Quinn

Worked as a Telecommunications Engineer on contracts involving the UK Openreach telecommunications network, primarily specialising in the legacy copper network.

- Diagnosed and resolved faults across the copper telecommunications network, from the customer's premises through the external access network and back to the telephone exchange.
- Carried out fault finding and resolution involving cabling, signalling, DSLAMs, PCPs and other network infrastructure.
- Worked across the full fault path from the customer's handset and internal equipment through to exchange-side infrastructure.
- Typically completed approximately 6–8 jobs per day while working independently in the field.
- Worked across the UK, primarily around Reading but regularly travelling to other areas according to operational requirements.
- Took on complex or unresolved jobs that other engineers had been unable to complete and identified working resolutions.
- Assisted other engineers with difficult faults and technical problems.

- Trained and supported trainee engineers on multiple occasions.
- Communicated technical problems and solutions clearly to customers, including non-technical users.
- Worked across both routine maintenance and complex fault-resolution scenarios.
- Gained qualifications and experience across the Openreach copper network and fibre network.

Fibre Telecommunications Engineer

April 2024 – August 2024

Grain Connect

Worked on Grain Connect's fibre telecommunications network, gaining experience within a dedicated fibre network environment.

- Installed, maintained and troubleshot fibre telecommunications infrastructure.
- Diagnosed and resolved fibre connectivity and network faults.
- Developed experience across a different network architecture from the Openreach copper network.
- Built cross-network experience across both fibre and copper telecommunications environments.

Founder & Operator

2020 – 2023

MrQuickFix

Founded and independently operated a general handyman business, taking responsibility for the entire operation from customer acquisition through to project completion.

- Founded the business independently and developed it from part-time work into a full-time source of income.
- Personally managed customer acquisition, advertising, quotations, scheduling, purchasing, project delivery and customer service.
- Carried out a wide range of repair, renovation, maintenance and improvement work.
- Learned new practical skills independently in order to solve unfamiliar problems and complete projects.
- Managed the business as a completely solo operation, with no employees or subcontractors.
- Developed strong independent decision-making, practical problem-solving and project implementation skills.
- Completed more substantial renovation work, including the conversion of a garage into a fully functioning home office.

Bar Manager

December 2019 – March 2020; May 2021 – May 2022

The Market House

Managed the venue in the absence of the General Manager, including responsibility for day-to-day operations and teams of up to approximately 10–15 staff.

- Managed day-to-day operation of the venue when the General Manager was not present.
- Managed and supported teams of up to approximately 10–15 staff.
- Responsible for opening and closing the venue.
- Managed stock and ordering.
- Assisted with recruitment and training.
- Handled customer complaints and day-to-day issues.
- Helped organise and manage events.
- Managed rotas and staffing requirements.
- Worked across a fast-paced customer-facing environment requiring judgement and operational responsibility.

Bar & Restaurant Manager

July 2019 – November 2019

The Oxen Bar & Grill, Tidworth

Held a senior management position within a hotel environment, overseeing the day-to-day operation of the bar and restaurant.

- Managed day-to-day bar and restaurant operations.
- Worked within a senior management structure in a high-standard hotel environment.
- Oversaw staff and service delivery.
- Responsible for maintaining operational standards and customer experience.

PROJECTS

Art / JamesOS — Founder & Creator | Developing an evolving AI-assisted personal system designed to help structure daily life around individual priorities rather than simply maximise productivity. The project began as a

collection of separate AI conversations and systems for different areas of life, which exposed problems around fragmented context and integration. The concept is now being developed towards a unified assistant called Art.

- Defining system architecture and breaking complex problems into manageable components.
- Prototyping systems through AI-assisted development.
- Exploring the integration of AI models, APIs, web technologies, automation, databases, calendar systems and voice interfaces.
- Building practical understanding of how these technologies interact within larger systems.
- Iterating rapidly between ideas, prototypes and working implementations.
- Exploring the broader question of how technology and AI can support human decision-making, organisation and personal development.

VLNT (Valiant) — Founder & Creator | 2025 – 2026 | Pre-launch project. Developed a minimalist apparel brand built around the message “I’m trying”, designed as a quiet behavioural reminder rather than conventional mental-health messaging. Created approximately 20–30 prototypes and distributed them to others for feedback and use. Developed the brand to a pre-launch stage with international print-on-demand manufacturing and fulfilment arranged. The commercial launch did not proceed after a trademark opposition prevented the brand from launching.

- Concept development
- Product design
- Fabric and print selection
- Prototyping
- Branding
- Website development
- Photography
- Pricing
- Supplier and manufacturer relationships
- Social media
- Launch infrastructure

Tipsy Panda — Founder & Operator | Created and developed a direct-to-consumer cocktail-kit business designed to provide everything required to make high-quality craft cocktails at home. The concept was positioned as the “HelloFresh of cocktails”: a complete kit containing the ingredients and resources required to create expert-level cocktails without customers having to source everything individually.

Camper Van / Mobile Workspace Conversion | Ongoing. Designed and built a camper van conversion from scratch, with the longer-term aim of developing it into a technology-enabled mobile workspace. Personally designed and built the majority of the conversion with help from family members, rather than using a standard conversion kit. The conversion is currently paused but is substantially complete and usable.

- Interior structural design and construction
- Insulation
- Sound deadening
- RPET insulation
- Ply lining
- Electrical/leisure systems
- 100Ah lithium leisure battery
- Diesel heating
- Furniture and interior construction
- Reusing and adapting existing materials where appropriate
- Designing around the irregular geometry of a vehicle rather than a conventional square room

Garage-to-Office Conversion | Converted a domestic garage into a fully functioning home office.

- Constructing a wall to replace the original garage door
- Insulating the ceiling
- Installing electrical cabling
- Installing power and lighting
- Fitting furniture and cabinets
- Building a kitchenette
- Converting an unfinished garage into a functioning office environment

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Copper telecommunications networks
Fibre telecommunications networks
Openreach infrastructure
Network fault finding
Signal diagnosis
Cabling
Customer-premises equipment
DSLAMs
PCPs
Telephone exchange infrastructure
Fibre network troubleshooting
Independent field engineering
ChatGPT
Claude
Perplexity
Google Gemini
AI voice agents
AI chatbots
AI-assisted development
n8n
Make
API integration
Workflow automation
AI systems design and prototyping
Web scraping
Digital systems development
WordPress
Elementor
Shopify
Wix
Squarespace
Weebly
Website development and configuration
Basic HTML
GitHub
Problem solving
Rapid learning
Technical troubleshooting
Independent working
Project implementation
Customer communication
Entrepreneurship
Business development
Practical design and construction
Team support and training
Operational management

CERTIFICATIONS

Openreach / BT copper telecommunications qualifications

Fibre telecommunications qualifications

Smart Awards telecommunications qualifications

BT / Openreach internal technical training and workplace qualifications

Level 3 Personal Training

Level 2 Gym Instructing

Level 4 Personal Training — currently in progress

CompTIA IT Fundamentals: completed, evidence/certificate currently being located.

INTERESTS & ACADEMIC DIRECTION

Interested in the intersection of computer science, artificial intelligence, philosophy and human behaviour, particularly how technology changes the way people think, work and live.

Preparing for university study in Computer Science and Philosophy, with a long-term interest in developing a deeper understanding of both the technical foundations of technology and the philosophical questions surrounding its impact on people and society.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Full UK driving licence - Comfortable working independently across different locations - Extensive experience working with members of the public - Experienced in taking responsibility for projects from initial idea through to implementation - Portfolio: JBSH.me