



Sharing the pivotal lessons and moments
that can help you navigate your career

Episode 2 Highlights with guest

Matthew Carver

Technology Engineer @ GlaxoSmithKline



“ **Jump at the things that you don't know how to solve, because that forces you to learn** ”

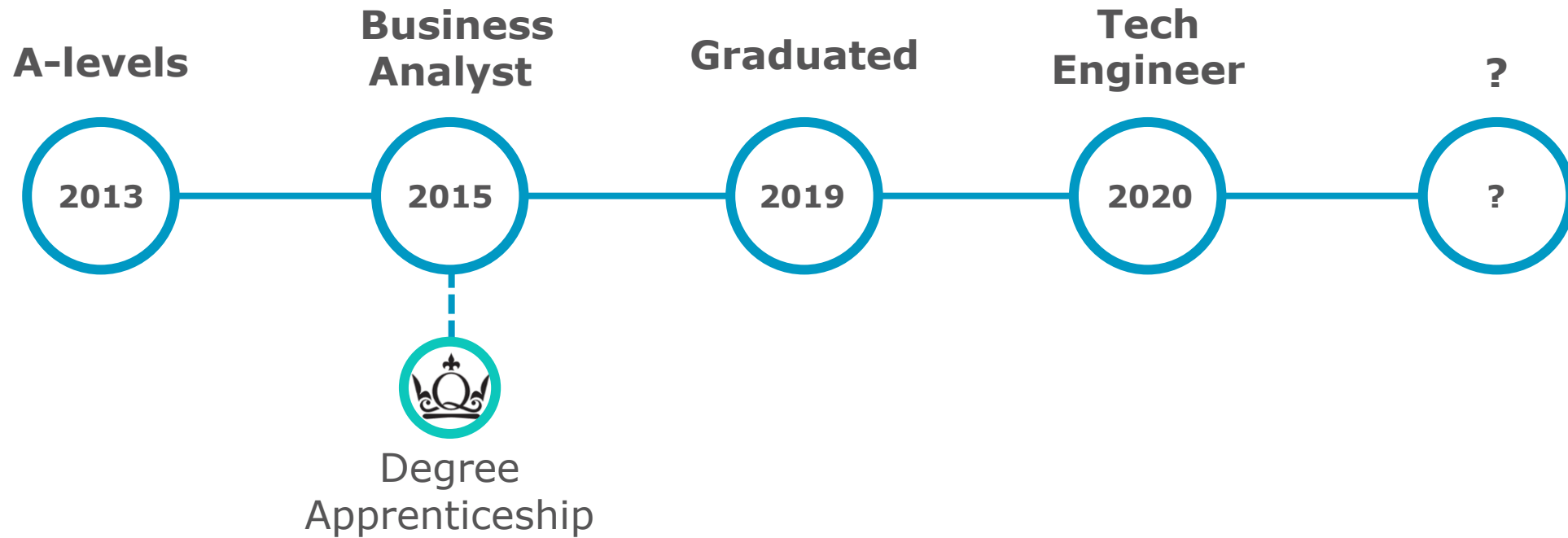
- Mr. Matthew Carver, 2020
Finding True North Episode 2



Profile | Matthew is a Technology Engineer at GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), where he builds technical solutions that support the research and delivery of cell and gene therapies to patients. Matthew joined GSK straight out of school almost 5 years ago as a Degree Apprentice, and graduated from Queen Mary University, London in July 2019. He's a real computer nerd who loves any technical challenge that is thrown at him.



MATTHEW CARVER





PIVOTAL MOMENT



Luck is when an opportunity comes along and you're prepared for it.





3 TAKEAWAYS



1

DO SOMETHING YOU LOVE

2

LEARN TO SPOT THE OPPORTUNITIES

3

TRULY BE THE DRIVER OF YOUR OWN DESTINY



BREAKING INTO SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

1

MAKE TIME TO PLAY

2

JUMP AT THE PROBLEMS YOU DON'T KNOW

3

BECOME THE PROBLEM SOLVER



MATTHEW'S RECOMMENDED SKILLS TO SUCCEED IN TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING

Emotional Skills & Traits	Practical Skills & Knowledge
Communication	Software Development
Collaboration	Cloud Technologies
Problem Solving	System Architecture
Learning Agility	Data Handling & Analytics
Proactive attitude	UX Design
Customer/Stakeholder Focus	Information Security



Q&A

Matthew asked...

Do your current career plans line up with your interests?

Yes, absolutely



Kind of, maybe?

0%

Not at all!

0%

Matthew was additionally asked...

Question: How did you approach the conversation to pivot from Business Analyst to Technology Engineer, and convince the other that you were the right person for the job?

Matthew's answer: I am fortunate to have a good relationship with my manager. As a result, I found it relatively easy to start the conversation and be really clear about what I wanted to do. I think it helped that I never completely stopped being hands-on and 'techy', despite my 'Business Analyst' job role. This meant that when discussing a formal job role change with my manager, it was clear that not only would the new role be true to my interests, but that I also demonstrated some of the skills that suit that Tech Engineering role. Exposing my techy side up until that point also meant that it wasn't too much of a shock to my manager.

Question: What was your Degree Apprenticeship structure like and what did you learn about yourself going through it?

Matthew's answer: The degree apprenticeship was a 4-year course and followed the normal semester timetable. During semester time I spent 2 days a week at University in London, and then the other 3 days a week in the office. Outside of term time, I was working 5 days a week. It was quite a nice balance! One thing I learnt about myself when I started was that I would get nervous about being a nuisance to people by asking too many questions. Also, I learnt that I do get stressed sometimes, and that I wasn't organised at all. Most importantly, I learnt was that I could actually conquer these kinds of things. The degree apprenticeship was as much about me developing as a person as it was about giving me the skills and knowledge to perform a certain role.

Want more Q&A? Watch Matthew's Finding True North episode [here](#).



The Tech Allies Network immensely thanks

Matthew Carver

for being a guest on Finding True North!



Tech Allies Network



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