







KATE RUSHTON

Community Manager with 8+ years blending open innovation and UX expertise, with recent projects focused on artificial intelligence

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TECH EDUCATION

- **Women Defining AI**, Ongoing
- **Data Science Bootcamp (Fundamentals)**, HyperionDev, 2024
- **Product Management Certificate**, Wise Scholarship Recipient, Product School, 2021
- **Responsive Web, React & Front End Development**, SheCodes, 2021
- **UX/UI Design Bootcamp**, allWomen, Barcelona, 2019

COMMUNITY & UX EXPERIENCE

AI Community Manager, Led by Community (Volunteer Role)

May 2026 - Present

Volunteer Community Manager for the “AI Useful Tools” Slack channel. Responsible for creating and posting relevant content, facilitating discussions on AI adoption, and identifying key trends and insights within the community management space.

Freelance Community Manager & UX Work, Self-Employed July 2020 - Present

A combination of self-employed projects and contract work for multiple clients including Syrup, Wolf & Badger, Brighter Future and more

- Design Architect for Kaptive, including curating a list of over 3,000 NLP experts for the Applied AI Challenge and planning the communication and set up of a GitHub community; developing proposals including AI Ready America; designing and facilitating in-person ideation workshops for the #ForwardDMV community; and creating landing pages for their open innovation offer.
- Improved the onboarding experience for Jogl (an open source science platform) by halving the number of steps required for user registration.
- Organised a series of online events for climate startups for Brighter Future.
- Launched and managed an internal marketing community for Vodafone including scheduling and hosting online events and creating content relevant to marketing professionals, e.g. an online session on gamification in marketing.

UX Manager, Hilti

January 2021 - November 2023

UX Manager for the Explorers Community (an internal community for HR software and services)

- Managed a user ambassador community, overseeing participant recruitment and activity planning; drove efficiency improvements increasing the overall NPS score by one third, liaising with product and tech teams
- Upskilled HR ambassadors on user research and industry best practices through training.
- Developed educational training materials scaled to a global workforce of over 30,000 employees.

Community Strategist, Iovia

January 2018 - June 2020

Built and managed online customer communities to drive strategic growth for companies like Unilever, LEGO Foundation, Velcro Group, and IKEA. Grew a community from scratch that produced agency-standard content and product reviews at a quarter of the cost.

Challenge Manager for Red Bull Mind Gamers, Playful Solutions

October 2017 - August 2018

Created multi-stage micro-learning challenges designed to test the player's mind skills.

Design Researcher, OpenIDEO (part of IDEO)

October 2016 - November 2017

Facilitated the end-to-end participant journey for global open innovation challenges by co-hosting design thinking sessions and upskilling participants in design thinking approaches.

Previous experience as an Energy Analyst and Teacher of Science and TEFL

SKILLS

- **Community Management, Innovation Strategy & User Experience Design**
- **Community Tools:** Circle, Mighty Networks, Slack, Discord, Reddit, Bevy, and more
- **Design Tools:** Figma, Canva, Adobe Creative Cloud
- **AI Tools:** Lovable, Claude Suite
- **Other Tools:** HubSpot, Salesforce, Airtable, MailChimp, Notion, ClickUp
- **Programming Languages:** JavaScript/React, HTML/CSS
- **Languages:** English (Native), German (B1)

ACADEMIC EDUCATION

Post Graduate Diploma Environmental Management, Distinction, University of Nottingham

MSc Toxicology, Merit, University of Birmingham

BSc Biochemistry, 2.1, University of Birmingham

INNOVATION AWARDS

- **Winning Team with GEMHACK 2020** with [Artisan Atelier](#): app to upskill artisans and connect to opportunities
- **Project Leader for DeNora's Internet of Water Idea Challenge 2021** with the winning idea: De Nora Tracking and Augmented Manual ([D-TAM](#))
- **MVP for the** Clear AI Policies Through Interactive Communication in Industrial SMEs with Hyve

OUTSIDE INTERESTS

- Volunteer English teacher for North Korean refugees through Connect North Korea.
- Develop my art skills through weekly classes in watercolours and mixed media.
- Compete in innovation challenges and hackathons.

I like to create communities around products that are connected and seamless.