



KIWI PYCON
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Proceedings of the First Kiwi PyCon

Christchurch, New Zealand
7–8 November 2009

Hosted by
Canterbury Innovation Incubator

Organised by
New Zealand Python User Group Incorporated

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Preface

What do 150 software developers, a two day conference, and a programming language called Python add up to? Kiwi PyCon 2009, which was held in Christchurch on 7–9 November at the Canterbury Innovation Incubator. PyCons are held annually throughout the world, but this was the first time the event had been held in New Zealand.

The main keynote speaker, Joel Burton – who was flown from the US courtesy of both the Python Software Foundation and the Plone Foundation – gave his presentation on the Saturday morning entitled “Why Python Web Frameworks are Changing The Web.” His presentation looked at some history of the development of Python Web Frameworks and also why Python is becoming the language of choice for many web developers.

The conference had two main tracks, with delegates enjoying presentations on project management, science and maths, games and animation, and web development. There were also more interactive sessions with conference attendees participating in short presentations (Lightning Talks) and open discussions (Open Spaces) on a specific topic.

Tim Penhey, the conference’s second keynote speaker, presented his talk on Sunday morning entitled “Launchpad: The Good, the Bad, and the OMG How Does That Work.” His presentation took a look at the lessons learned from building and running the `launchpad.net` project by Canonical.

“The feedback we’ve received from the attendees has been really positive,” commented Tim Knapp, the conference’s Director. “Everything went really smoothly thanks to all involved and I’m so happy that we could set a high standard for future Kiwi PyCons.” Preparations to hold Kiwi PyCon 2010 in Paihia are already underway. For more information go to <http://nz.pycon.org>.

A lot of thanks go to our sponsors, without them this event would not have been impossible. This conference was organised by the community, for the community. It was important to “break the ice” and get as many Pythonista from New Zealand and beyond involved. We were able to attract many attendees due to low attendance prices and a well balanced programme.

Organising Committee

Steering Committee

- Tim Knapp
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- Brian Chatterton and Andrew Turner (wireless network)
- Natalia Tyan and Jane Hill (venue management)
- Michael Hope and Marek Kuziel (video recording/post processing)
- Michael Dunstan (programme design)
- Danver Braganza (attendance fee processing, NZPUG treasurer)
- Michael Hudson (registration photos)

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