Supercharging Charity Livestreaming (using Python)

PyMalta Meetup
24/08/17
Show of hands!

Raise your hand if you have heard, read or been told any of the following statements
Games are:

- Waste of time
- Waste of money
- Only for children
- Unhealthy
- Addictive
- The cause of child obesity
- Promote violence, drugs, sex, <insert controversial topic here>
- Are the cause of violent tendencies
Gamers are:

• Lazy
• Self obsessed
• Entitled
• Unproductive
• Not contributing members of society
Gaming for Good

What is Gaming for Good

The use of games (video, digital, board, card, etc) for the raising of funds for charitable or philanthropic purposes
Who is Gaming for Good

Anyone and everyone who has run, has donated or has participated in a charity livestream of some sort

A movement of like-minded gaming individuals who are forming the next generation of charitable fundraiser as we speak
How is Gaming for Good happening?

Barrier to entry in terms of costs has gone down
Technology is widely available to anyone
Everyone enjoys games 😊
Cost comparison

- TV Studio
- Dedicated studio
- Professional cameras, lighting, sound equipment
- Technical staff for operation and maintenance
- Writers, producers, etc
- Licencing costs?

- Live-streamer
- Some bloke
- Half decent PC / Console
- Internet connection
- MAYBE a webcam
STORY TIME

• How I got involved...
Charitybot

- A stream in aid of the Marie Curie foundation by a streamer called Dave Selezen
- Quickly evolved to enable more than one stream
- Gameblast 2015/16 + various smaller streams
- I took it further to enable any arbitrary number of streams
- Gameblast 2017 / Frontier Developments Christmas 2016
Charitybot

• Started as a quick project to automate donation announcements by:
  • Display current donation amount on screen, without requiring any input from the streamer
Charitybot1

• Gameblast 2015
• CMDR Hughmann + TIIQ
Charitybot1

• Gamers 4 Mankind
• Kate Russell + Mahddogg
Charitybot1

• Misfits Enterprises
• Gameblast 2016
Charitybot Event
fdevchristmas16

Amount Raised: £46,670
1071 donations so far
1 donations in the last hour
Average donation: £22.07
Last donation: £18
Largest donation: £554
Charitybot Event Statistics Console

Event: test

Start Time: 01/01/1970 01:00:00
End Time: 20/11/2266 18:46:39
Duration: 2,777,777.78 hours
Time Remaining: 8,516,025,239 hours

Donations

Amount Raised: £230.5
Target Amount: £1,000

23.05%

15 donations in total
0 donations in the last hour
Average Donation: £13.92
Largest Donation: £42 at: 23/10/2016 23:40:44
Last Donation: £8.5 at: 23/10/2016 23:43:19
Charitybot 2

• Only total raised due to logistical constraints
• This confused some people
• Logs show that around 100 streamers used CB2 during Gameblast 2017
Charitybot 2 – How it works

Streamers

Overlay API

CB2 Database

3rd party fundraiser

Scraper

Operator / Streamer

Console Frontend

Statistics Frontend

CB2 API
Charitybot 2 – what is it made of

• Python 3 backend
• Javascript frontend – all clientside, currently hodgepodge of JQuery and Vanilla JS
• SQLite for persistence
 Charitybot 2 – why?

• Because I’m a student, I’m poor
• Because I’m restoring a 400 year old house, I’m poor
• Because I’m planning a wedding I’m poor
• But I have time and skills
Alternatives

• Provides various overlays
• Not focused solely on charity
• Has Justgiving integration
Charitybot 2 – what next?

• If you’re running a charity stream, get in touch! 😊
• One Special Day, Gameblast 2018 😊
• Improvements and polishing of the backend
• Better 3rd party integration
• Offering the API to other third parties
Thank you for your time 😊

Questions? Feedback?