

Personal Statement

As a self-taught software/web developer, I am actively seeking an opportunity with an employer open to offering newcomers a chance to prove themselves. Jumping in at the deep-end in a new career is not new to me, since my first role in my current career was a position where I was working independently, without a mentor, for an extremely fast-paced company. It was a sink or swim situation, and I not only stayed afloat, but swam – strongly! I can't wait to dive in again and tackle the new challenges a new career brings. In return, you will get a self-motivated and adaptable employee, able to work both independently and as part of a team.

My core work values are:

Meeting deadlines, motivated by upholding team morale in the wider organisation.

Creating positive working relationships with colleagues – it's a value of mine to get along with colleagues even when personal opinions and interests clash.

Working efficiently – Organising and prioritising tasks, and not making work to “look busy”. I believe in working smart, and work hard to work smart!

Certifications

CS50's Introduction to Computer Science

Harvard University – Completed on edX

Modules: C, Arrays, Algorithms, Memory, Data Structures, Python, SQL, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Flask

Assessment: 10 problem sets, nine lab exercises and one final project

Completed December 2023

CS50W – Web Programming with Python and JavaScript

Harvard University – Completed on edX

Modules: HTML, CSS, Git, Python, Django, SQL, Models and Migrations, JavaScript, User Interfaces, Testing, CI/CD, Scalability and Security

In Progress

Activities and Interests

Yoga, in particular the style of ashtanga

Swimming – in particular, wild swimming, whether it be on a rainy Yorkshire day in the River Wharf or at my favourite UK beach – Elberry Cove in Devon.

Music – from attending live gigs to learning to produce my own

Additional Information

Full, clean UK driving license

Comfortable Work from Home set up compliant with HSE DSE guidelines

Right to work in the UK and EU (Irish and British Citizenship)

Chartered member of IOSH

Interested in what I did before programming?

Employment History

Regional Health and Safety Officer at Cats Protection

The UK's leading feline welfare charity.

Regionally based, UK

October 2016 - Present

Reporting to the H&S Manager. Responsible for H&S at 25 charity shops and 8 Adoption Centres. Also provide various technical H&S advice to other departments across the charity, such as volunteering, cat welfare, branch support and admin teams.

Key Achievements:

- Undertook initial Fire Risk Assessments for all sites in my region, and implemented annual review regime
- Took active role in management system review – wrote and implemented policies and procedures for; risk assessment, legionella management, event safety and working at height
- Implemented processes quickly, with accuracy during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Support line managers in return to work procedures following sickness and/or injury. Developed the practice to include consideration of mental health and wellbeing aspects in response to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Volunteered to be a “Wellbeing Champion”, a scheme set up by the HR team to support the wellbeing of employees. The role includes leading on wellbeing initiatives such as fitness challenges, self-care workshops and sharing wellbeing stories, as well as signposting to those who require further help with mental health.

EHS Officer at BrewDog Brewery

July 2014 – September 2016

Multinational Craft beer brewery and Pub Chain
Based in Ellon, Aberdeenshire, UK

Joined the BrewDog team originally on a 3-month internship, which naturally progressed to a full-time permanent role - the first ever fulltime Health and Safety role at BrewDog.

As a standalone EHS Officer, in my first H&S position, with no experience in the field and no manager or team to offer mentorship, I embraced the challenge of working independently and took initiative to leave from scratch. Relying on my own resourcefulness, problem-solving skills, and resilience, I implemented a robust EHS safety management system, along with the following key achievements:

- Implementation of waste management procedure and recycling system to comply with local legislation and significantly reduce amount of waste sent to landfill. This not only reduced waste expenditures but attained a rebate for some materials
- Implementation of Safety Induction training for all new employees
- Oversaw construction activities for company expansion, ensuring method statements and risk assessments were compliant with the new Construction Design and Management (CDM) regulations
- Review of Contractor Management to ensure contractors receive comprehensive inductions to comply with local legislation and specific site rules
- Set up a team of "Safety Ambassadors" to improve Safety Culture and increase employee involvement
- Introduced routine internal Manual Handling training
- Application of essential Noise and Air monitoring to enable evaluation and improvement of control measures
- Improvement of incident reporting procedures nationwide
- Introduced an EHS audit scheme including Waste Management, COSHH and Machinery Guarding
- Policy and Procedure writing for various EHS aspects

Various Temporary Admin positions

December 2012 – September 2013

Leeds, UK

Filling temporary positions such as reception and order processing for various businesses in a variety of industries. Being flexible, adaptable and learning quickly on the job is essential to the role as exceptional work standards are expected from the first day of the assignment.

Various temporary jobs whilst on a Working Holiday Visa

October 2011 – October 2012

Sydney, Brisbane and Perth, Australia

Held posts in areas such as telemarketing, promotional ambassador, retail and tourism.

Academic Qualifications

MSc Environment, Health and Safety	Completed January 2015 University of Sunderland, UK
BSc Psychology 2:2 (with Honours)	Completed September 2011 Leeds Trinity University, UK
Level 2 Certificate in Principles of Business and Administration	Completed June 2013 City of Sunderland College (Distance learning)
A-Levels Media (C), English Literature (C), English Language (C), Psychology (D) 9 GCES at grades A-C including Maths, English and Science.	2001 – 2008 Saint John Fisher High School and Sixth Form