**Kristabel Hilton**

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**Personal Statement**

Having recently decided to return to work following a break to raise my family, my recent study has enriched my previously self-taught skills, providing background understanding to support those skills and allowing me to gain up-to-date knowledge of current practices. Varying levels of technical experience and theoretical understanding were gained during my education, previous employment, and personal projects. A fundamental grasp of object-oriented and procedural programming combined with my proven ability to independently and rapidly acquire and develop new skills puts me in an ideal position to apply myself to a variety of roles. Additionally, the soft skills developed during my time parenting, volunteering, and studying will no doubt be invaluable during my future career.

**Skills**

* Attention to detail
* Time management & organisation
* HTML
* CSS
* JavaScript
* Java (inc. Netbeans IDE)
* Python
* SQL (inc. MySQL, PostgreSQL, MariaDB)
* Git
* PHP
* JQuery
* Wireframing
* Command line (Windows/Linux/Git)
* Microsoft Office Word, Excel, Outlook
* ASP
* VBScript
* Entity Relationship Diagrams (ERDs)
* Unified Modelling Language (UML)
* Object Constraint Language (OCL)
* Algorithms (inc. complexity)
* Cordova (for Android hybrid webapp)
* Cloud technology (understanding of AWS, pros/cons, scalability, elasticity, reliability, availability zones, security)
* Open Stack (practical experience)
* REST APIs, SOAP, web services (theory & some practical experience using Postman)
* Understanding of security inc. encryption, confidentiality, GDPR
* Machine learning and AI (inc. Keras Tensorflow and Jupyter)
* Agile development (theory)
* Software engineering (understanding of architecture, design patterns inc. MVC/factory/adapter, testing inc. black/white box, UAT, system)
* Requirements analysis (FR/NFRs, producing analysis/object/class  
  /sequence/state chart diagrams)
* Project management (inc. Gantt charts)
* Project Lifecycle (theory and practical)
* UI/UX (inc. accessibility/ARIA standards, quality attribute scenarios)

**Education**

* The Open University (09/2018-12/2023) BSc (hons) Computing and IT (software), First-class
* University of Wales, Aberystwyth (09/1996-06/1999) BSc (hons) Genetics, 2:2
* N.E.W. College, Worcestershire (09/1994-06/1996) A-levels: Biology, Physics, Chemistry
* Studley High School, Warwickshire (09/1992-06/1994) GCSEs: 8x A\*-C, 2x D

**Volunteer Experience**

* **Age UK (01/2017-08/2020)**

Visited older people in their homes as part of Home from Hospital team, supporting clients with regaining their independence after a hospital stay by performing varied tasks as required

* **Home Start UK (01/2017-08/2020)**

Looked after children in a group setting so parents could receive support from staff/other parents and visited assigned family, offering varied support depending on their needs

* **Parents and Friends Association, St Luke’s First School (~2011-2014)**

Worked within a team to plan and carry out craft activities, sponsored/charity events, and fetes with children, teachers, and families. Took on leadership role as PFA Chair in 2013/4.

**Work Experience**

* **Festive Colleague, Tesco (11/2023-12/2024)**
  + Temporary part-time role working nights to replenish stock during the busy festive period
* **Systems Developer, Wrox Press (01/2002-12/2002)**
  + Full project lifecycle development of internal and external websites
  + Worked as part of a team to complete integration of e-commerce application
  + Individual projects included creation of a new internal content management system where I worked alone to gather requirements, design, build, and test the solution, liaising with the editorial team throughout
  + Used HTML, CSS, JavaScript, ASP, and SQL skills (self-taught from existing code, internet, and textbooks) to create database-driven dynamic content
* **Support Developer, Wrox Press (05/2001-12/2001)**
  + Built and maintained internal and external websites as part of IT team supporting editorial and customer service groups
* **Internet Developer, just-sites.com (08/2000-05/2001)**
  + Performed basic networking, technical troubleshooting, and software installation as part of IT team
  + Created and maintained website using HTML and CSS, employing version control to ensure integrity of data
  + Learned Visual Basic from existing code and applied knowledge to relevant tasks
* **Website Operator, just-sites.com (06/2000-07/2000)**
  + Performed internet searches for relevant content and entered findings into web form, adding HTML links and formatting
  + Maintained website pages using HTML with Dreamweaver 3 for version control (learnt on the job)
  + Optimised images for enhanced site performance using Adobe ImageReady 2.0
* **Casework Support Secretary, The Law Society (12/1999-06/2000)**
  + Audio typing of varied correspondence as part of a team
  + Requested by one caseworker to be the sole typist assigned to their work due to my efficiency, accuracy, and initiative
  + Worked beyond the scope of the role to help colleagues with IT problems and work with inhouse 'ROAD' database
  + Presented with 'Customer Focus Award' (02/2000) for exceeding expectations

**Interests / Achievements**

* Carbon Literacy Project course, October 2022 (cert.no. 00045670)
* Distance running / ultra hikes (since 2017), including London2Brighton 100km hike, May ‘23
* Listening to audiobooks (particularly sci-fi/thriller/horror)
* Camping and outdoor pursuits such as ‘Go Ape’
* Playing PC and mobile games (favourite genres are simulation, MMORPGs, and puzzles)

**References available on request**