Monty Daws on

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About Me

I'm an extremely creative and motivated professional looking to move into full-time web development.

I have a high level of proficiency in web development, including experience of writing production-ready HTML, CSS, and JavaScript, as well as knowledge of back-end frameworks and languages: primarily NodeJS, but also some experience in PHP. I am an extremely quick learner and thoroughly enjoy picking up new technologies and building on my understanding. My experience has taught me the importance of being organised, of always thinking through problems before going about tackling them, and of efficient communication – both between team members and with clients. I'm very excited about the prospect of getting further into web development, extending my skills, and producing more efficient and effective code.

Employment History

Victoria Forms - eForms Consultant (2014 - present)

My time at Victoria Forms sparked my interest in web-development. My role initially involved working closely with clients (mainly local governments) to develop and maintain their online forms - working to a very high level of precision and guarantying that all work signed-off was production-ready. As I developed my skills I began to get involved in maintaining and developing the JavaScript and CSS of the company's main product – ensuring usability and good design. I was also tasked with updating the branding of key clients' online forms interfaces – ensuring the efficiency of front-end code and that clients were happy with the look and feel of their forms.

I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to develop my skills at Victoria Forms, as well the opportunity to gain experience of project management and working directly with clients. During my time at the company I worked incredibly hard and spent considerable time learning outside of the office in order take on new responsibilities within my role.

Freelance Work - Web Developer (2015 - present)

Outside of work I have made sure to keep learning and developing my skills by working on personal projects as well as taking on non-paid work as well. The best example of this is thewellhopton.org.uk, which I developed for a local Christian coffee shop. In order to learn as much as possible in the process, I didn't use a front-end template, writing all JS and CSS from scratch. The site is hooked up to the PHP CMS Silverstripe, and hosted on AWS – all of which I implemented. I really enjoyed the challenges of this project – having to ensure that the website matched the existing branding of the coffee shop and also the efficiency of all code. My other work includes developing a number of personal projects – most recently a fully-featured real time todo list webapp, built on NodeJS, Angular and Postgres, and utilising WebSockets.

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Employment History (continued)

The Whitworth Co-Partnership - Temporary Admin (2014)

This temporary role allowed me to gain experience of working in a professional office environment. I was tasked with typing up architectural reports, answering calls, proof-reading and providing ad-hoc administrative support. This role certainly helped me develop a keen eye for detail and an enjoyment of working within a small team – attributes that I was able to apply in my later work.

Education

BA (Hon.) History, First Class

Queen Mary University of London (2011 – 2014)

The two most important lessons I learnt from my degree were how to process information effectively, and how to communicate myself efficiently. I quickly learnt the importance of picking out the key information whilst researching, and how to then take this information and use it to make a succinct and successful argument. These skills have been vital in my work life and have allowed me to learn new skills very quickly and communicate efficiently with clients and team members. I am very proud of the work that I produced during my degree and and am grateful for the opportunity it gave me to live and study in London.

Hartismere High School (2005- 2010)

At Sixth Form I gained three A Levels – History (A), Music (B), English (B) – and an AS level in Photography (A). Previous to this I achieved nine GCSEs, seven of which were A grade (including Maths and English), and two at B grade.

Volunteering

The Well Coffee Shop Hopton - Volunteer Barista (2015 - present)

This monthly volunteer role has given me the great opportunity to learn how to use a professional espresso machine, as well meet and have a chat with people from the local community. It's a very fun and rewarding way to spend one Saturday each month.

The Big Issue London - Street Team Volunteer (2013 - 2014)

This role involved training and supporting Big Issue sellers as they started to sell the Big Issue magazine on the streets of London. I was tasked with leading training sessions, and carrying out on-street visits to ensure that sellers were happy and safe in their environment. This was a very challenging role but helped me learn a lot about the problems of homelessness and the state of life in London for the disadvantaged.