

Oliver Beck

After working as a Trust Fundraiser at Ambitious about Autism for nearly 3 years, following 2 years in Special Needs Education, in August of 2022 I decided to pursue a new challenge and change careers. I have just completed the 16-week Software Engineering bootcamp at Makers Academy. Whilst I remain passionate about helping others, I hope to find a role more closely aligned with my skill set, where I can channel my desire to make positive change into something innovative and creative. I aspire to find a position where I can build upon my coding skills in a dynamic, collaborative environment, where growth is valued and encouraged. I am a highly motivated and dedicated individual, who loves to work with others, and as such, believe I would make a great addition to any Software Development team.

Tech Experience

Graduate | Makers Academy, London | Aug 2022 - Dec 2022

A selective, 16-week coding bootcamp, designed to make graduates job ready for developer roles.

Skills Developed:

- **Test-Driven Development:** Learned to build thoroughly test-driven programs, using unit and integration tests (with RSpec and Jest).
- **Object Oriented-Design:** Can develop and structure programs in JavaScript and Ruby using objects and classes, writing easily changeable and readable code.
- **Pair programming and teamwork:** Established fantastic working relationships with peers in daily pairing sessions, utilising my empathetic communication skills to thrive in group projects, both as a team member and leader.
- **Debugging:** Learned the importance of getting visibility when faced with an error and how to follow stack trace messages to find and fix a problem at source.
- **Databases:** Used PostgreSQL, MongoDB, ActiveRecord (ORM) and Mongoose (ODM) to build SQL and NoSQL databases, designing schemas for programs that perform CRUD operations.
- **HTTP requests / APIs:** Made and tested GET and POST requests in multiple web applications and used APIs to populate web pages.
- **Agile workflow:** Followed Agile processes for iterative development, including detailed planning, tickets, stand-ups, sprints and retros.
- **Ability to learn new languages:** Able to self-teach new coding languages and frameworks quickly (learned JavaScript in two weeks after ten weeks of Ruby).
- **Full-stack development:** Built multiple full-stack programs, e.g. 'Acebook', a facebook clone built with a MERN stack, and 'Makersbnb', an Airbnb clone using PostgreSQL, Sinatra and ActiveRecord.

Work Experience

Trust Fundraiser | Ambitious about Autism, London | Nov 2019 - Jun 2022

- Managed large portfolio of donor relationships with competing application deadlines. The value of my portfolio was raised each year as I exceeded targets, eventually reaching around £100,000 per year.
- Wrote bespoke fundraising bids (up to £25,000), and reports for high-value donors. Raised over £225,000, receiving an award for Outstanding Contribution thanks to my successful application for two disability minibuses (worth £80,000+).
- Undertook extensive prospect research to identify income growth potential, which involved managing two Prospect Research volunteers.
- Project management, working with school staff, contractors and Heads of Department across fundraising and finance to ensure projects and services ran smoothly, deadlines were met and budgets were followed.

Fundraising Volunteer | World Literacy Foundation, London | May 2019 - Nov 2019

- Researching trusts and foundations that aligned with either our Sun Books project in Uganda or our UK based projects, and drafting funding applications.
- Planning, executing and volunteering at events to boost the profile of the charity and solicit donations.

Special Needs Support Staff | Albion Primary School, London | Aug 2018 - Aug 2019

- Supported autistic children socially, academically and emotionally in all aspects of their school life.
- Planned and delivered tailored lessons, focusing on speech and language development, basic Maths and English, and empathetic and social behaviours.
- Led group sessions for a small class of autistic children, practicing sharing, showing restraint and playing together, utilising a range of sensory equipment to engage the children's attention.

Classroom Assistant | Sugarman Group, London | Nov 2017 - Aug 2018

- One-to-one classroom assistant, working with children with behavioural issues and special needs.

Office Administrator | Unitemps, London | Feb 2016 - Aug 2016

- Promoted Unitemps' services through creative advertising and social media drives.
- Delivered presentations to prospective clients selling our internship scheme, resulting in our team exceeding the previous annual record of candidate placements.
- Managed and updated data spreadsheets and co-ordinated mailshots to alumni and student databases.

Office Assistant | Gee & Watson Financial Advisors, London | Nov 2010 - May 2012

- Part-time role: office management, taking calls, organising meetings, referring clients, general admin tasks.



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Education

Philosophy (Masters)

University of Amsterdam | 2016-17

Merit | GPA of 79.1% | Awarded grade Distinction for Master's Thesis

Philosophy (Bachelors)

University of Roehampton | 2012-15

First Class | Awarded Vice Chancellor's Scholarship for academic achievement

Tech stack

- JavaScript / Ruby
- React
- Node.js / Express.js
- Sinatra
- SQL / PostgreSQL / MongoDB
- ActiveRecord (ORM) / Mongoose (ODM)
- Jest / RSpec
- HTML / CSS / HTTP
- Heroku / Netlify
- Related tech: Postman, TablePlus, Firebase, Excalidraw, Trello, Miro, Excel

Interests

I love to travel, having backpacked through South America, Asia, Eastern Europe and more. Loyal Liverpool fan and sport lover, (very average golfer). Passionate about neurodiversity and helping others.

[References available upon request.](#)