



# PHIL VIGUS

Software Developer

## PROJECTS

**WhatStack** - A cross between Stack Overflow and WhatsApp with real time messaging.

**Trailers** - A website to help my wife and I shortlist films to watch. The project that started it all, making me realise I wanted to be a software developer.

**Bowling Card** - A client-side blowing card with automated scoring.

**Bank** - A bank account simulator with a command-line interface.

## EDUCATION

**Makers Academy** (2000)  
A 16 week intensive programming bootcamp

**Exeter University** (2004)  
PGCE - ICT

**Nottingham University** (1999)  
BSc Computer Science (2:1)

**Hertford Regional College** (1995)  
A-Levels - Chemistry(A), Physics(A), Maths(A)

## CONTACT DETAILS:

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## 'A driven, dedicated full stack developer with a hunger to learn'

After qualifying with a degree in Computer Science, I have spent much of my career working in education. I am now returning to my roots in technology, and recently completed the Makers Academy coding bootcamp. I am seeking a role as software developer as I love the blend of creative and analytical skills required.

## SKILLS

- **Methodologies** - OOP, MVC, TDD/BDD, Agile/Scrum/XP, remote working, pair programming, RESTful APIs, code reviews
- **Languages** - JavaScript, Ruby, CSS3, HTML5
- **Frameworks/libraries** - React, Express, Rails, Sinatra, Node.js, jQuery
- **Testing** - Jest, Jasmine, RSpec, Capybara, React testing library
- **Databases** - SQL, PostgreSQL, MongoDB
- **Workflow** - Git, Github, Travis CI, Heroku, VSCode, Ubuntu, OSX, Windows

**Communication** - I excel with verbal and written communication.

- After a particularly challenging visit to a client at OCN London, I wrote a long, detailed report summarising my findings. It clearly laid out my concerns, and despite being highly critical of aspects of their work, the client supported my views completely. This allowed us to work together constructively to improve the quality of their provision extremely quickly and effectively.

**Understanding how learning works** - This helps me to learn quickly, independently and effectively, and allows me to facilitate the learning of those around me.

- Before starting at Makers Academy I taught myself how to create and deploy a full stack website to solve a problem my wife and I were having.
- I taught myself React at Makers alongside the standard curriculum, and went on to help my final project team understand how to write and test simple functional components.
- I mentored two members of a later cohort, helping them issues ranging from explaining technical concepts they were struggling to understand, through to how to effectively manage their time while on the course.

**High emotional intelligence** - I am extremely self-aware, and able to empathise effectively with others.

- My first client at Aspire was extremely emotionally volatile. I spent over an hour talking with them on the phone, calming them down so that I understood how Aspire could help them. My work was recognised by Aspire when I won Employee of the Month, even though I was on probation and not eligible for the award.

**Leadership** - I have excellent leadership skills.

- At OCN London I led a moderation team visiting a Further Education college. I ensured the visit was completed to a high standard, on time, and coached several moderators who were new to the role and lacked understanding of their responsibilities.

**Determination and persistence** - I don't know how to give up.

- During the final project at Makers Academy we could not work out how to test the WebSocket-based components of the code. I refused to give up, and finally managed to write a successful test on the morning of the last day of the project.
- I spent four years unable to work due to ill-health. Recovery was a long, difficult path but I never once thought that I would not be able to make it back to full-time employment.

# EXPERIENCE

## HIGHLIGHTS

### **Independent learning** (Oct 2019 - Feb 2020)

- Coding, general computer science principles
- Deployment of a full stack javascript-based website using Express, and MongoDB

### **Quality Reviewer** (Oct 2009 – Oct 2012)

- Managing a caseload of 150+ centres across London, developing relationships with clients in order to grow their business and improve the quality of their provision
- Writing detailed reports and handling complex queries
- Delivering training to clients and colleagues

### **IT Access Technical Developer/ICT Teacher** (Sep 2004 – Nov 2006)

- Evaluating learners' assistive technology needs, training them how to use equipment
- Training staff to support students
- Teaching students

### **Research Scientist** (Jul 2000 – Jan 2002)

- Carrying out defence research using computer simulations

### **Software Developer** (Jun 1999 – Jan 2000)

- Implementing eCommerce sites

## SUMMARY

### **Independent learning** (Oct 2019 – Feb 2020)

### **Freelance Audio Transcriber and Captioner** (May – Oct 2019)

### **Exploring career options** (Aug 2018 – Oct 2019)

- Investigating routes to becoming self employed
- Looking at options for retraining into various careers
- Relearning how to code

### **Aspire** (Feb 2018 – Jul 2018 fixed term contract)

#### *Welfare Benefits Administrator*

- First point of contact for clients engaging with the service

### **Noah's Ark Children's Hospice** (May 2016 – Jan 2018)

#### *Voluntary roles*

### **Unable to work due to ill health** (Nov 2012 – Apr 2016)

### **OCN London** (Apr 2007 – Oct 2012)

#### *Senior Administration Officer, then Quality Reviewer*

### **Various temporary roles** (Dec 2006 – Mar 2007)

### **The National Star College** (Sep 2004 – Nov 2006)

#### *IT Access Technical Developer and ICT Teacher*

### **QinetIQ** (Jul 2000 – Aug 2003)

#### *Research Scientist, then New Business Support Administrator*

### **Quidnunc** (Jun 1999 – Jan 2000)

#### *Software Developer*

## FREE TIME

**Composing music** – I love writing classical music and using computers to synthesize live performances of my work

**Roleplay games** – I play in and run collaborative storytelling games, and enjoy creating and telling stories with others

**Films** – From Christopher Nolan through Amelie all the way to Up! and Monsters Inc., movies are one of the main ways I relax

**Travel** – I enjoy experiencing other cultures, and have so far visited Canada, Sweden, Norway, Holland, South Africa and Uganda