Phil Vigus

Software Developer

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PROFILE

After qualifying with a degree in Computer Science, I spent much of my career working in technology and education. A couple of years ago I returned to my roots and completed the Maker's Academy coding bootcamp. I then secured a role at Mumsnet as a Software Developer and was promoted to mid-level at the end of my first year.

SOFT SKILLS

Communication
Working across multi-disciplinary teams at Mumsnet. and in client-facing roles at OCN London, Aspire, and The National Star College.

Problem solving
Designing and implementing features at Mumsnet, and working with students and their assistive technology at The National Star College.

High emotional intelligence
Mentoring junior developers, pair programming and carrying out code reviews at Mumsnet, and empathising with diverse clients at Aspire and OCN London.

Fast learner
Learning a new tech stack and becoming day-to-day lead on a key project within three months of starting at Mumsnet. Excellent understanding of how to learn gained from teaching.

KEY PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Mid-Level Developer, *Mumsnet*
11/2021 – present
- Writing and optimising scripts to migrate large amounts of data from a legacy database, reducing runtime from five days to three hours
- Mentoring a new developer
- Maintaining and improving existing features

Developer, *Mumsnet*
11/2020 – 10/2021
- Implementing a new CMS, reducing the time taken to create an article from two hours to half an hour
- Developing the main talk forum and admin system
- Technically onboarding a developer onto the backend codebase

PROJECTS

Wibbly ⬈
A simple URL shortener I used to help me learn the basics of Java and Spring Boot.

Film follower ⬈
Designed to help my wife and I shortlist films to watch. Written using Tailwind, Alpine, Laravel and Livewire.

Weather forecaster ⬈
A weather forecasting website using JavaScript, React, Redux and Express.

External services Slack bot ⬈
A bot that keeps track of the health status of external services such as Trello, GitHub and Slack.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages (PHP, Javascript, Java),
Frameworks and libraries (Tailwind, Alpine, Laravel, Livewire, Spring Boot, React),
Databases (SQL, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Redis, MongoDB),
Testing (TDD, PHPUnit, JUnit, Jest, React Testing Library),
Dev-Ops/CI/CD (Heroku, AWS, Circle CI, Travis CI, Github Actions, Docker),
Other (Git, Agile/Scrum, OOP, RESTful APIs)

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Welfare Benefits Administrator, *Aspire*
02/2018 – 07/2018

- First point of contact for often distressed clients, using empathy to help them understand available and appropriate services
- Communicating across multi-disciplinary teams to ensure work with clients was consistent

Senior Administration Officer then Quality Reviewer, *OCNLR*
04/2007 – 10/2012

- Managing a caseload of 150+ educational centres across London, using strong interpersonal skills to develop relationships with clients and grow their business
- Working with centres to improve their quality utilising strong problem-solving skills to identify and resolve issues
- Writing detailed reports and handling complex queries using excellent communication skills
- Delivering training to colleagues and clients using teamwork and high levels of empathy

IT Access Technical Developer and ICT Teacher, *The National Star College*
09/2004 – 11/2006

- Evaluating and solving problems with learners' assistive technology needs, and training them to use their equipment
- Training staff and teaching students using my technical knowledge and understanding of how people learn

Research Scientist, *QinetiQ*
07/2000 – 08/2003

- Building computer simulations using my problem-solving and technical skills

Software Developer, *Quidnunc*
07/1999 – 01/2000

- Building e-commerce websites

EDUCATION

Software Development, *Maker's Academy*
03/2020 – 06/2020
A 16-week intensive programming bootcamp

PGCE (ICT), *Exeter University*
2004

BSc. (Hons) Computer Science (2:1),
The University of Nottingham
2003

VOLUNTEERING

Codebar, *Coach*
03/2021 – present

Noah's Ark Children's Hospice,
Various voluntary roles
05/2016 – 01/2018

LANGUAGES

English (native speaker)

Swedish (beginner)
Evening classes at City of Westminster University