

JOHN BURN-MURDOCH

SENIOR DATA-VISUALISATION JOURNALIST

Personal summary

A skilled, driven and ambitious data journalist specialising in finding stories through data analysis, and presenting them visually. Constantly seeking more effective and creative ways to make consuming the news an enjoyable and rewarding experience. Equally adept at producing first class visual journalism from inception to publication and at bringing the best out of diverse groups of talented designers, developers and reporters

Contact details

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Professional experience

August 2013 – present, SENIOR DATA-VISUALISATION JOURNALIST, THE FINANCIAL TIMES

- Leading the FT's data-driven analysis of [major political](#) and social phenomena using techniques including multiple regression analysis
- Designing and building [creative](#), [immersive](#) and [eye-catching](#) graphics across a variety of topics to better serve the FT's existing audience and attract new subscribers
- Managing teams of designers and developers, ensuring delivery of [high quality projects](#) on deadline

October 2013 – June 2016, VISITING LECTURER IN DATA/VISUAL JOURNALISM, CITY UNIVERSITY

- Setting the syllabus for data and visual journalism modules on City University's master's degrees, [teaching students](#) how to obtain, clean, analyse and present data to find and tell stories

March 2012 – August 2013, DATA JOURNALIST, THE GUARDIAN

- Launch editor and lead-writer for [Guardian Big Data](#), a weekly column covering the interplay between society and large-scale data mining
- Wrote more than 200 data-led news stories across a variety of topics, including multiple front-page pieces
- Delivered presentations and chaired roundtables at numerous national and international events
- Worked with the commercial team to secure partnerships around data journalism and related content

Key skills, competencies and technical knowledge

- Creating static, interactive and animated graphics in SVG and canvas using **d3**, **ggplot** and **Adobe Illustrator**
- Highly competent in **HTML**, **CSS** and **Javascript**, and familiar with a range of Unix command line utilities and libraries including **imageMagick**, **gifsicle** and **ffmpeg**
- Accomplished user of **R** for a range of tasks including scraping, cleaning, analysing and visualising data
- Comfortable working with digital mapping tools and utilities including **QGIS**, **gdal** and **topoJSON**

Awards

- [Best individual portfolio](#) – Data Journalism Awards, 2017
- [Statistical Excellence in Journalism \(data visualisation category\)](#) – Royal Statistical Society, 2017

Education

2011 – 2011	City University (London), UK	MA Interactive Journalism (merit)
2008 – 2011	Durham University, UK	BSc. Geography (2:1)
2000 – 2007	McAuley Catholic High School, UK	Grade A in Maths, Economics, Geography, Philosophy

Languages – French (intermediate)

References – Available on request