Andy McDonald

Software Developer

I am a London-based software developer, a graduate of the Founders and Coders bootcamp and a former tech journalist. Currently seeking a full-time dev role.

Email: andy.william.mcdonald@gmail.com
Portfolio: https://www.andy-mc-donald.com/
GitHub: https://github.com/andy-mc-donald

Skills

Languages
JavaScript (ES6), HTML5, CSS3

Frameworks, Libraries and Technologies
React (inc. Hooks), Node.js, Express, Axios, REST APIs, Styled Components, Sass, Material UI

Version Control
Git, GitHub

Methodologies
Agile, TDD, Functional Programming

Design
Figma

Software Development Experience

Furloughed / Self-Guided Learning
MAR 2020 - PRESENT, LONDON

During the Covid19 pandemic I have gone back to studying during a period of furlough. Over this time I completed the following projects, certifications and courses:

<> React Projects

- Meet Up Again

React, Material UI, Axios, Geolib, JavaScript, HTML, CSS

- Portfolio

React, Styled Components, JavaScript, HTML, CSS

- Pomodoro Clock

React, JavaScript, CSS, HTML

- JavaScript Calculator

React, JavaScript, CSS, HTML

- Drum Machine

React, JavaScript, CSS, HTML

- Markdown Previewer

React, JavaScript, CSS, HTML

- Random Quote Generator

React, JavaScript, CSS, HTML

<> FreeCodeCamp Certifications Earned

- Responsive Web Design
- JavaScript Algorithms and Data Structures

- Front End Libraries

<> Further Study - Courses, Books and Podcasts
- JavaScript: Understanding the Weird Parts (Udemy Course)
- Crash Course Computer Science (PBS Digital Studios, YouTube Course)
- Introduction to Networking - Charles Severance (eBook)
- Code: The Hidden Language of Computer Hardware and Software - Charles Petzold (Book)
- Syntax (Podcast)

New Statesman / Junior Front End Developer (Freelance)
NOV 2019 - JAN 2020, LONDON

Freelance contract for the New Statesman, working with their marketing and digital teams to create targeted front-end campaigns for the NS website. Experience gained using jQuery, HTML and CSS to edit banners and pop-ups and working with the magazine's digital subscription platform.

Founders and Coders / Student
JUL 2019 - NOV 2019, LONDON

Full-time peer-led coding bootcamp focused on modern web development using front- and back-end Javascript. During the course I worked with frameworks and libraries including React, Node, Express, Sass and Styled Components, as well as PostgreSQL databases and testing libraries like Tape and Supertest. Emphasis on Agile development, TDD methodology and version control using Git and GitHub.

<> Selected Projects:

- UpSkillMe

React, Styled Components, Airtable, JavaScript, HTML, CSS

- Food Miles

HandlebarsJS, Sass, Node.js, Express, PostgreSQL, JavaScript, HTML, CSS

- Bugbears

JavaScript, HTML, CSS, Node.js, PostgreSQL

- Project Fear

JavaScript, HTML, CSS, Node.js

- Wikipedia Country Lookup

JavaScript, HTML, CSS, Node.js

- Trainspiration

JavaScript, HTML, CSS

Self-Guided Learning / Student
AUG 2018 - PRESENT, LONDON

Before joining Founders and Coders I taught myself the fundamentals of HTML, CSS and JavaScript, while working full time, using various online resources, including W3Schools, CodeAcademy, FreeCodeCamp and CodeWars.

Tech Journalism Experience

Freelance Writer / Moire Media Ltd (Director)
OCT 2017 - PRESENT, LONDON

Freelance journalist and copywriter for clients including Viacom / Channel 5, Broadcast, Videonet (Mediatel), Television Business International (Informa Tech), K7 Media and various PR agencies. All work was conducted through my limited company, Moire Media.

Digital TV Europe (Informa Tech) / Deputy Editor
FEB 2013 - OCT 2017, LONDON

Full-time role as deputy editor of DigitalTVEurope. At DTVE I interviewed a number of high-profile industry figures from the TV, video and broadcasting space and covered emerging tech like virtual reality.

C21 Media / Senior Reporter
APR 2011 - FEB 2013, LONDON

Senior reporter contributing online and print articles for TV trade magazine C21. I was the lead contributor for C21's FutureMedia title and worked across C21's sister website TechCityInsider.

StrategyEye / Reporter, Senior Reporter
NOV 2007 - APR 2011, LONDON

Covered the digital media space and interviewed executives at companies like Spotify and Songkick when they were still in their infancy.

Education

Founders and Coders / Software Development Bootcamp
JUL 2019 - NOV 2019, LONDON

Founders and Coders is a UK-based nonprofit organisation offering a full-time 18 week web development course in JavaScript, Node, Express, React, PostgreSQL, Handlebars, HTML, and CSS.

The University of Sheffield / MA Web Journalism
SEP 2006 - OCT 2007, SHEFFIELD

The University of York / BA English Literature (2.1)
SEP 2002 - OCT 2005, YORK