Andy Byers

Full-Stack Developer

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I'm a web developer who likes to code in Python and Golang. I like to iterate quickly, a sticker for writing succinct, understandable code. I aim to have a product mindset and understand creating value, not features. APM qualified with a background in project management and startups. I am not married to any coding language or technology, choosing the right tools for the job. A proponent of open source software and open sourced thinking.

Work Experience

FREELANCE DEVELOPER: Maykind.com, Jan 2020 - Present

Freelancing in the web development space producing tools and websites for SME's. Including project management, time management and financial management.

- Process timesheets to produce wage reports using Python automation tools and basic data engineering techniques using Pandas and Jupyter Notebook
- Developing company documentation and compiling into a hugo document management system.
- Monitor corporate internet connection and report dropouts.
- Delivering static websites for local business using HTML, CSS, Hugo, Jekyll and Bootstrap.
- A JavaScript bug tracker (CRUD application in the browser).
- Working with MySQL and MongoDB databases.
- Linux basic sysadmin tasks.
- Comfortable in and a preference for working in the command line.
- Git and GitHub for version control.
- Deploying projects to the web using the JAMstack, Netlify, Heroku and GitHub Pages.

WALL OF TEXT: February 2021 - Present

I am currently working on an accessibility app for people working on study and exams who suffer from ADHD and have issues focusing on large blocks of text for prolonged periods of time. The app converts the text into succinct readable lines using Natural Language Processing.

- Backend Stack: Python, Flask, nltk, regex
- Frontend Stack: JavaScript, Bootstrap, HTML, CSS.
- Developing test modules to identify bugs and edge cases.
- Project Managing the product throughout it's life cycle creating detailed roadmaps and product analysis.
- Producing comprehensive user and developer documentation, deployed to a standalone Hugo site.

RECENT OPEN SOURCE PROJECTS:

- I am a maintainer for the open source Dracula organisation, developing dark themes for software developers. Working specifically in the Obsidian branch.
- Developed and deployed a personal knowledge management site notes.ajb.app.
 Overcoming the challenge of how to link connected notes, organise information associatively and weed out segmentation. The site works on top of a local folder of plain text Markdown files. Deployed with Jekyll & Netlify.
- A News Aggregator RESTful Web service, built and deployed using Go's standard library.
- Built several text editors in Python (Tkinter), C, and Javascript (web based) to compare implementations.
- Basic web scraping, Numpy, Pandas
- Building blogging platforms in Django
- HTML Sign-up forms with client-side form validation.

GENERAL MANAGER: Stella's Voice UK, May 2019 – Aug 2020

Responsible for a team of 15 in the day to day running of the warehouse and retail operations.

- Overseeing web development operations such as design, decision making and architecture for the build of the new website and online store.
- A driving role in securing contracts with local councils increasing turnover by 30% (7% net).
- Overseeing operations, business planning, stock control and supply chain management.
- Conducting employee inductions and training and daily/ weekly team briefings.

GENERAL MANAGER: Venturas Exotics & Aquatics, April 2017 - May 2019

Developing entrepreneurial skills and a comprehensive knowledge of the marketplace in a startup environment. Development of business plans and financial forecasts in order to secure funding.

- Overseeing development of the company web presence.
- Mentoring junior staff members.
- Working closely with local authorities to ensure licensing conditions are met.
- Management of local accounts, procurement, supplier relationships and stock control.

CONSULTANT: Strategic Corrosion Management, March 2010 - Feb 2011, June 2013 - July 2014

Providing third-party R&D support in the development and deployment of RISCm, which uses Microsoft SQL databases and an in-house GUI. The software monitors corrosion levels to dynamically analyse risk factors and generate a corrosion management and maintenance programme in real time, monitored and managed through a cloud-based software package which recommends the most efficient workscope execution strategy.