

# Ground Zero

# Welcome

- Jack "Wolf" Jeffress
- Sherif Gamal
- Kane Mott

The facts of life without any nonsense and with illustrations.

# “WHERE DID I COME FROM?”

Peter Mayle



FIRST-AID FOR  
PARENTS

# It's me

Whatever the hell that means

- J.C.R. Licklider - "The Galactic Network"
- [jack.jeffress@ga.co](mailto:jack.jeffress@ga.co)

# Things I have done for \$\$\$

- Pre-web work
- Tiny boutique sites (portfolios etc.)
- Online stores and auction sites
- Giant sites that will never be finished
- Junior grunt work
- Regular grunt work
- Independent projects
- Lead developer
- Managed projects
- Teaching - this is my 8th WDI

# Why do I teach?

- I want to create developers that I would want to hire
- I am a web proponent
- It's insanely rewarding

*"Software literacy is the new literacy"*

***Joel "The Blade" Turnbull***

# How I teach?

- I make lots of incredibly bad jokes
- I'm very open about my methods
  - For example, I always wait ten seconds
- Respectful interruptions are always welcome
- I try to keep it interesting
- I always want to keep learning
- I have done this a fair few times now...

# You know me now

- Guilty pleasures time

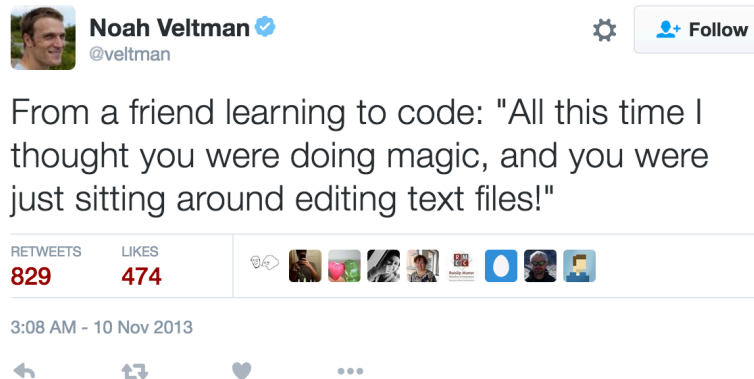
"I love the smell of body odour"

"I like popping the pimples of strangers"



# What is web development?

The management of both websites, and web-based applications



# But really...

Jenn'eral Assembly Web Development Immersive

# What have you gotten yourself into?

To be a good developer, you ought to:

- Have a high capacity for frustration
- Not mind reading documentation
- Be comfortable with imposter syndrome
- Enjoy solving problems and the little wins
- Be comfortable editing text
- Be comfortable knowing there is always more

# A typical day

09:00 - 09:30      Emails, news

09:30 - 09:45      Standup meeting

09:45 on...      Coding

*40% writing code*

*60% figuring out why it doesn't work*

Basket weaving

Geeking out

# A typical day here

09:00 - 10:00	Warmup
10:00 - 01:00	Lecture / Break / Codealong
01:00 - 02:00	Lunch
02:00 - 02:30	Review
02:30 & beyond	Labs / Codealong / Homework

# The structure of the course

## **Week**

One and two

Three

Four and five

Six

Seven and eight

Nine

Ten and eleven

Twelve

## **Content**

Front End

Project 00

Back End

Project 01

Advanced front end

Project 02

Advanced back end

Project 03

# The structure of the course

We follow the development of the web itself

- We start by learning development
- Then we create pages by hand
- Then we get the back end to create our HTML for us
- Then we get into Single Page Apps
- Then we get into lots of other fancy stuff

# What is this course really about...

- Learning to learn and code
- Web browsers
- Text editors
- Writing
- Design (system, not visual)
- Stickers
- Normally animals
- Normally the Marx Brothers



# Traditions

- Dreaming in code
- Hating M.T.A
- Margaritas
- The Spit to Manly
- Burning Airlines
- Bowling
- Terrible tragedy
- Trying to be the best WDi ever
- Getting Gigi in as many photos as possible

# Maximising Value

"Immersive" is right, immerse yourself!

- Ask thousands of questions and get help
- Go to meetups
- Embrace the culture and the jargon
- Treat everyday like a job opportunity
- Get some good headphones

# Maximising Value

$$\Delta U = q + w$$

# Maximising Value

- Communicate!
- Slack
- Keep a blog (Wordpress, Tumblr etc.)
  - Or vlog (for the trendy ones - <http://giveit100.com/>)
  - <http://tiddlywiki.com/>
  - WDI.txt
- Love the alumni community as much as we do
- Avoid Facebook and (cancel your social life)
- Fail early and often
- Don't always think in code

# **You are WDi14.**

You'll always be known as that.

# That's when I reach for my revolver...

Our class is like yoghurt

As WDi14, what do you want to bring to the table?

- "No rejecting high fives"
- "Everyone has to hug in the morning"

# Gigi's Interlude

# Geek and Hacker Culture

- Sharing and enjoying
  - Books
  - Movies
  - TV Shows
  - Memes
  - Gifs
  - Articles
  - Anything...



# The Tao of Programming

## The Jargon File

# Larval Stage: N.

"Describes a period of monomaniacal concentration on coding apparently passed through by all fledgling hackers. Common symptoms include the perpetration of more than one 36-hour hacking run in a given week; neglect of all other activities including usual basics like food, sleep, and personal hygiene; and a chronic case of advanced bleary-eye. Can last from 6 months to 2 years, the apparent median being around 18 months. A few so afflicted never resume a more 'normal' life, but the ordeal seems to be necessary to produce really wizardly (as opposed to merely competent) programmers."

- ***The Jargon File.***

# Book 2.1

*"After three days without programming, life becomes meaningless"*

# Sign up / Bookmark / Attend

- [Twitter](#)
- [Stack Overflow](#)
- [SydJS](#)
- [RORO Sydney](#)
- [The Javascript Weekly](#)
- [The Ruby Weekly](#)
- [Versioning](#)

# How to get help

- Have the relevant files / links open
- Be ready to explain:
  - What you expect to happen
  - What seems to actually be happening
- Raise your hand

# How to ask questions

- Be specific
- Don't paste lots of code into Slack, use a [Gist](#)
- Don't use private messages for things that aren't private
  - Collaborate so everyone can benefit!
- Here is a rather [patronising article](#)

# How to ask questions

*"What we [developers] are, unapologetically, is hostile to people who seem to be unwilling to think or to do their own homework before asking questions."*

**- Eric S. Raymond and Rick Moen**

# The Wolf Pack

Help each other out!

- Move faster
- Mastery
- It's common practice



# What is going to go wrong?

**Everything.**

*"If debugging is the practice of adding of removing bugs from software... Then programming must be the practice of adding them"*

- Edsger W. Dijkstra

As a programmer, the best skill you can learn is how to debug.

# Brutally frank advice

- Pause your social life
- Stay off Facespace, whatever it is now
- Ask every question possible
- Write and fix as many bugs as possible
- Do way more than is asked
- Make this the most intense 3 months of work you've ever done
- But also the most fun

**Let's get into it!**