

CURRICULUM VITAE

Giles Thompson
Born 30th June 1991

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Self-employed full time web developer **present**

- Developing and designing for clients on strict deadlines.
- Working on a range of websites and web services to meet client needs.
- Working flexibly for agencies, companies, and individuals.
- Maintaining client relationships and developing new business leads.

Ruby on Rails developer at One Big Voice **2012-present (1 year+)**

- Full stack web development; including front-end development, Ruby on Rails development, Linux server configuration and maintenance, and scalable web hosting using Amazon Web Services.
- Working with two other Rails developers, a designer/marketer, a scrum master, and a project owner in a lean and productive Agile team.
- Running tasks asynchronously using background jobs and redis.
- Writing and maintaining automated tests including request specs, model specs, controller specs and more.
- Developing full integration with Twitter and Facebook, along with other APIs.
- Optimising assets, content delivery, and implementing fragment caching with memcached in order to decrease page load times.
- Planning, tracking, and running sprints – including sprint reviews, retrospectives, and sprint planning.
- Strategising about direction, partnership, and feature development at a leadership level.
- Liaison with campaigners, and users of the website: providing support and suggestion via Twitter, Facebook and our own built-in messaging system.

Web developer at Welman Technologies **2010-2011(1 year)**

- Front-end development of websites working alongside a designer.
- Responsible for DNS transfers and email accounts setup, transfers etc.
- Maintaining multiple client relationships for website updates, and Content Management System and email training.
- Designing, building and sending out promotional email newsletters for key clients.
- Customising the in-house Content Management System to suit front-end development needs.
- Assisting in streamlining work processes and website project management.
- Taking care of Search Engine Optimisation on-page and off-page for client websites.
- Writing monthly SEO reports for key clients indicating current performance, goals and progress.
- Managing key clients Google AdWords campaigns and writing monthly performance reports.

Self-employed part time web developer **2005-2010**

- Developing and designing for clients on strict deadlines.

SKILLS

HTML/CSS

I am an expert at using both HTML and CSS. I hand code light, semantic and standards complaint HTML coupled with structured CSS/SASS stylesheets.

RUBY ON RAILS

Rails is my web framework of choice. I have been developing with it for six years now. It allows me to develop dynamic, database driven websites quickly and flexibly.

JQUERY AND JAVASCRIPT

I prefer to write class-based JavaScript using CoffeeScript. I am very familiar with the JQuery framework.

SQL

My database of choice is Postgres for its flexibility and widespread adoption. I am comfortable writing plain SQL and traversing a database from the command line.

PHP

I am competent at using PHP to create flexible and dynamic web applications.

PHOTOSHOP

Adobe Photoshop is my preferred tool for image optimisation, web prototyping and pixel-perfect design.

MAC OS X

I have been using Macintosh computers for as long as I can remember and am completely at home within Mac OS X.

LINUX

Ubuntu is my hosting platform of choice. I am competent at configuring a web server from scratch, and am completely at home using SSH and the shell.

WINDOWS

I am also comfortable using the Microsoft Windows operating system, and did so at Welman Technologies for a year.

MICROSOFT OFFICE

I am competent at using the entire Microsoft Office suite including Outlook and Access.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

I have an excellent phone and email manner and great customer service skills honed through both managing my own projects and liaising with clients of Welman Technologies.

ORGANISATION

I am punctual, motivated, and able to meet deadlines. While at One Big Voice I assisted in planning, tracking, and running Agile sprints.

COMMUNICATION

I believe that frequent and frank communications are key to a successful business relationship.

TEAMWORK

From experience both as a freelancer and working in a team I am flexible to my work environment and able to be a great team player or get things done by myself.

PORTFOLIO

ONE BIG VOICE – <http://onebigvoice.com>

One Big Voice is the platform for social change. Our tools make it easy to share information, enlist supporters, raise money, build awareness, and lead action. I work on One Big Voice as part of a small team, on full-stack web development and at a leadership level.

DELHI VILLAGE – <http://delhivillage.org.nz>

A simple website I created for an eco-village / co-housing project starting up in Whanganui. The site runs on WordPress with a custom template. The Delhi Village stakeholders each have an individual account that they can post news from. The stakeholders have also appointed their own administrator to edit the website content from the WordPress backend.

RICHARD THOMPSON – <http://richardthompson.co.nz>

A very simple content website for an independent consultant. The site features a clean and simple layout and a custom backend from which Richard can edit his website content.

BRIEFLY – <http://briefly.co.nz>

Briefly is a concept for a new type of news website. The site runs on a custom Ruby on Rails backend, which allows my clients to easily add, remove and reorder news as it breaks. The backend also features image-cropping functionality. Another key feature of Briefly is the keyboard navigation on the front end; users can easily move between posts using the j and k keys.

PAPAITI RECORDS – <http://papaiti.com>

I created this website for myself. It is a completely free online record label. Running in Ruby on Rails, Papaiti Records features an extensive backend for managing the artists, bootlegs, events and news.