


# Graham Pople

Scala // Java // Web // C++ Developer

Senior programmer with over 14 years of experience, including 4 years working on Scala, Java and web development, and 10 years C++.

Please check out [my demo site](#) to see my more interesting recent projects.

 <http://www.linkedin.com/in/graham-pople>  
 <https://programmatix.github.io/Words/projects>  
 <https://www.github.com/programmatix>  
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## Competencies

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**Backend** Core: Scala, Java, C++, SQL  
Some: Spring Boot, C#, C, Fortran, Hibernate, Python

**Web** Core: ScalaJS, Javascript, Typescript, HTML, Stylus, CSS, Thymeleaf  
Some: Angular, Grails

**Frontend** ScalaFX/JavaFX, GTK

**Devtools** ScalaTest, JUnit, IntelliJ, Mercurial, Git, SVN, Linux CLI

## Experience

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**Current**  
**April 2014**  
4 years

### Reskilling in Scala, Java & Web Development

- > Since early 2014 I have been taking a career break. Wanting to branch out from C++, I took an opportunity to both travel and find a language that better fit my goals of producing readable and well-tested code, quickly. Plus, to try out some ideas for commercial projects.
- > I have used the time productively to learn mainly Scala, Java and web development, plus Spring Boot, Grails, Groovy, Typescript, and multiple other technologies. I've put together [a demo site](#) to show the more interesting projects written in this time, please check it out.

*Skills: Scala, Java, ScalaFX/JavaFX, SQL (Postgres), HTML, Stylus, CSS, Spring Boot, OpenGL, Javascript, Typescript, Angular, Grails, Groovy, Hibernate*

**April 2014**  
**August 2010**  
3.5 years

### Senior Software Developer Bloomberg LP

- > Completed major project to rebuild and update the most-run Bloomberg function. It displays a condensed set of key info about stocks and is run 10+ million times daily. Designed and built a highly optimised low latency C++ backend to handle the load, to replace the previous Fortran system, together with an efficient Javascript UI. Delivered on schedule and with great feedback from clients (including the company director). This was a 2 person project and I was responsible for 80% of it.
- > Architected and built a highly performant, highly optimised C++ multithreaded backend on UNIX, to process millions of trades daily from 40 equity exchanges in realtime. Made key architecture decisions early that gave huge wins in performance and time to deployment, particularly the use of skiplists as the central data structure. Also architected and built the complex Javascript UI, which gets run over 25k times daily.
- > Project managed a team of 12 and was one of two lead architects and developers in a major initiative to rebuild and integrate multiple legacy trading systems into a new microservices architecture, involving 10 complex C++ backends handling millions of trades in real-time over a shared bus, plus multiple accompanying UIs in Javascript. Project was ongoing when I left, and was on-schedule and already getting great results and feedback.
- > Extensive experience with both monoliths (2GB executables) and microservices.

- > Bloomberg has a build-it/run-it philosophy, so I took full ownership of my products including providing effectively 24/7 emergency support.
- > Mentored junior programmers and was a UX Rep, helping other teams with their UIs.

*Skills: C++, Javascript, Fortran, Jenkins*

**August 2010**   **Software Engineer**  
**2003**   **Aculab Plc**

7 years

- > Worked on flagship product ApplianX, a turnkey Linux-based telecoms product that used a multithreaded C++ & Python engine to handle multiple channels of speech and fax across VoIP and regular calls. This involved a strongly test-driven development and a focus on multi-threading and optimisation.
- > Extensive use of standard C++ development techniques and libraries, e.g. STL, Boost, RAI.

*Skills: C++, Python*

## A Little More Detail

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I feel I can help your team and business as I:

- > Am comfortable doing **full-stack development** in a variety of languages, including architecting and building complex multi-threaded backends in both monolithic and microservices styles, and building dynamic UIs.
- > Am language-agnostic, always keen to learn and use whatever tools are most appropriate to solve the problem. I have a wide range of experience across a lot of languages and techs.
- > Have many times taken a product or feature through the **full software lifecycle**. From clarifying initial client/business requirements, to working out the architecture and risks, working with others to make it a reality including building parts or the whole myself, unit testing and continuous integration, following up with the stakeholders and iterating until everyone's happy.
- > Am a lover of **unit testing** and **continuous integration** – but also know when it's appropriate (while adding a feature to a stable product: good, during rapid initial prototyping: not so great).
- > Have a sensible, **business-minded approach** to software development. Keep it simple, avoid excessive feature creep, release early (when appropriate), iterate, and stay agile.
- > Have a focus on clean, readable code, using a pragmatic mix of OOP and FP.
- > Know how to fix the hard stuff. I've plenty of experience optimising with Yourkit, and I've built a [classfile analyser](#) and a [toy JVM](#) for fun so I know my way around low level JVM details. And, the experience to debug and avoid issues in the real-world.
- > Have plenty of server maintenance and devops experience, including database migrations and maintenance, managing JVMs on low-memory platforms, Linux command-line use and scripting.
- > Work great both independently and in teams. I've mentored junior colleagues and generally shared tips and tricks with colleagues – while learning from others.

## Education

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2000-2003	University of Warwick
	BSc in Computer Science, 2(i)
1993 - 2000	Helena Romanes School, Essex
	A levels - Mathematics A, History A, Physics B
	A/S Level - Further Mathematics A, English Language A