

# James Amner

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## Personal Experience & Projects

I started web-development as a hobby during my teen years, initially learning how to use SSI directives in Apache to load HTML around indexes, and growing from there into using PHP once hitting the limits of Apache's SSI. Once learning the basics of PHP, I used these skills to help friends and family with personal projects, whilst continuing with my day-job. I experimented with a number of CMS solutions such as Drupal and WordPress, where I came to realise that WordPress is a powerful framework that can be used to deliver surprisingly complex projects. I continued to use WordPress personally and for friends to maintain my knowledge and improve my skills. My **Employment Experience** details how these skills became employment and how they've grown since!

### Project - #colorBar macOS App <https://colorbar.app>

I have developed a simple utility for macOS that puts the colour under your cursor in the menubar. Written in Swift and released on the Mac App Store. I enjoy writing in Swift due to it's type-safe nature, and having released this as a product has exposed me to the nature of needing to support an active product on a desktop platform.

## Key Skills

### Technical

- HTML
- CSS
- SASS
- Bootstrap
- JavaScript
- jQuery
- React
- Node
- PHP
- Composer
- OOP
- MySQL
- WordPress
- Laravel
- REST APIs
- WooCommerce
- CI/CD
- Git
- Unit Testing
- Pull Requests

### Personal

- Diary Management
- People Management
- Coaching and Training
- Problem Solving
- Relationship Building
- Attention to Detail
- Written and Oral Communication
- Remote Working

## Employment Experience

### Spindogs Web Development Agency

**PHP Team Leader** August 2021 – Present

**Backend WordPress Developer** August 2020 – August 2021

In Spindogs I currently manage a team of 8 developers. Our team specialises in development of Laravel, WordPress and a number of fully bespoke PHP solutions for our existing clients. My core responsibilities involve providing technical support and leadership for the team, being a point of escalation for support tickets that cannot be resolved within the team, and delivery of solutions for complex requirements. I'm also responsible for enforcing our coding standards and quality reviews to ensure the team developers reusable code that's well documented and efficient.

Within this role I have also developed an object-oriented framework that works in conjunction with WordPress to help our developers work efficiently, including a bespoke form-building framework, pre-built classes that handle breadcrumbs and paging effortlessly, and provide a method for creating Models, Migrations and Controllers that behave like Laravel's Eloquent ORM but integrate seamlessly with WordPress. These frameworks drastically have improved the efficiency of our bespoke builds.

Other key areas of experience is in developing API integrations for WordPress where I'm comfortable both consuming an API or creating one. I have extensive experience working with WooCommerce, and have developed bespoke payment gateways, created unique product types, shipping integrations and connections and

integrations to third party services such as Sage ERP. We also have a number of purely bespoke commerce solutions that are actively developed by myself and the team with interesting features that wouldn't be available without the bespoke nature of the sites.

During my time at Spindogs I've also consistently used templating languages such as Twig and Blade, Javascript frameworks such as jQuery and React, build-tools such as web pack and other services with node, and also automated deployment and testing pipelines. I've also had good experience with front-end frameworks and tools such as Bootstrap and SASS. We use Roots Bedrock and composer to aid our development cycles too.

## Peter Alan Estate Agents

### **Mortgage Services Consultant** *February 2019 – August 2020*

My main responsibility as a mortgage adviser is to deliver on key performance objectives relating to mortgage sales in estate agency branches, such as number of mortgages and cross-sold product sales, whilst delivering fair and transparent advice with relaxed down to earth service for clients at a tone and pace that suits them. To achieve this I used key skills such as time and diary management to meet my goals and targets in a self-managed process. I needed to build great relationships with lead generators and provide training and coaching to improve quantity and quality of leads. I also used these skills to maintain relationships with potential clients and managing business opportunities with my own systems and processes for tracking my clients. I developed these processes with my skills as a web-developer to make work easy to manage in a way that made sense for me. Another key area within this role was compliance within the FCA Regulations, which includes writing suitability reports and letters amongst other checks. My skills in written communication and attention to detail were key in ensuring my compliance record was 100%.

## Glue Digital Studio Ltd

### **Full-Stack Web Developer & Managing Partner** *December 2017 – January 2019*

During my time at Glue Digital Studio I created and managed our hosting and backup infrastructure and process using git version control for CI/CD processes with GitHub Actions for testing and deployment. As a full-stack developer I made use of PHP, JavaScript, HTML, SASS and CSS where primarily we developed bespoke plugins and themes for WordPress to meet our clients needs. As our agency was fairly small, I needed to be adaptable to take on any project or site, so during this time I also gained experience working with Symphony, Laravel and framework-less PHP. I developed a few sites using NoSQL databases with React front-ends or static site generators such as Hugo and Jekyll. We had a few sites on the Shopify platform, where I developed bespoke themes/styles and custom functionality for subscription products with complex variability. I developed and maintained a few iOS and Android apps making use of ReactNative for cross-platform development.

Ultimately a differing opinion on how best to grow the company resulted in my decision to leave Glue Studio and return to my prior employment.

## Peter Alan Estate Agents

### **Mortgage Services Consultant** *Oct 2016 – December 2017*

As per above duties. I left this employment in December 2017 to take an opportunity to pursue a career in web development.

## Halifax

### **Customer Adviser** *Oct 2006 – October 2012*

### **Banking Consultant** *October 2012 – Feb 2016*

### **Counter Manager** *Feb 2016 – October 2016*

At Halifax my duties included complaint handling and coaching to prevent re-occurrence, communication skills for deep fact-finding conversation and staff management. I gained skills in Time and Diary Management to complete tasks to my own schedule, compliance within a Regulatory Environment. I used my attention to detail to carry out compliance auditing and deliver coaching and support to the team to maintain compliance. I was also

responsible for Bereavement and Power of Attorney servicing for customers in moment of truth situations. I used my technical skills developed outside of the job to become the key person in ATM servicing and fault fixing which often included a number of technical processes to resolve issues.

## Education

### **Certificate in Mortgage Advice and Practice** *December 2015*

CeMAP is an industry wide qualification to obtain a licence to give mortgage advice.

### **Certification in Retail Banking Conduct of Business** *February 2013*

*CertRBCB* is an industry qualification to prove knowledge within the Retail sector of Financial Services.

### **Brynteg Comprehensive School** *October 2006*

I achieved the following grades at GCSE level. **A\*** in IT, **A** grades for Math and Double Award Science, and 6x **B** grades.

## References

### **Spindogs Ltd**

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3 Sovereign Quay  
Havannah Street  
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CF10 5SF

### **Peter Alan**

Cumbria House  
16-20 Hockliffe Street  
Leighton Buzzard  
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### **Glue Digital Studio**

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