

# Olly Spooner - CV

## Contact info

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## Professional Summary

I am an experienced Developer and Development Manager with over 20 years of experience in software development and IT management. Skilled in Mendix, Web apps, and project management. I have lead my team to deliver innovative solutions that have improved efficiency and user experience in many areas.

## Skills

### Management skills

- Line management experience
- Project management

### Analytical skills

- Problem solving
- Systems analysis and architecture

### Technical skills

- Mendix, JavaScript, Java, C#, PowerShell, XSLT, XProc, HTML/CSS
- CI/CD, Docker, Linux & Windows servers, NGINX
- Systems integration, APIs

### Data skills

- Database management
- SQL (Postgres, MS SQL, MySql etc.)

### Other

- 3d modelling and CAD

## Employment

**Development Manager @ ShelterBox Trust**

November 2013 - Present

- Specialised in software development, started as part of a much smaller IT team.
- Developed applications using SharePoint and later Mendix.
- Developed a donation system that reduced processing time by over 75%.
- Contributed custom modules and widgets to the Mendix community.

#### **Shop Manager @ Sea Kayaking Cornwall, Falmouth**

April 2012 - October 2013

- Managed bookings, customer service and payments, coaches and equipment.
- Managed the accounts, sales and stock for the shop.
- Occasional guiding.

#### **I.T. Manager @ Philip Whear Windows & Conservatories Ltd., Redruth**

March 2004 – March 2012

- Managed IT hardware, telephony systems.
- Managed window and conservatory software.
- Managed the paintshop.

#### **Artwork @ Eden Project, St. Austell**

May 2003 – December 2003

- Painted a mural and various "hidden" messages around the site.

#### **Building work in Aveyron, France**

February 2003 - May 2003

- Assisting in converting a derelict barn into a habitable dwelling.

#### **I.T. Manager @ General Pattern Co. UK, Basildon, Essex**

July 1999 – February 2003

- Managed rapid prototyping machinery (SLA/SLS).
- Repair and processing of 3d CAD.
- IT support.
- Programmed CNC milling equipment using gcode.

## **Education**

#### **BA (hons) Three-dimensional design**

Kent Institute of Art & Design, Rochester - Sept 1996 to July 1999

#### **BTEC Diploma in Foundation Studies**

Falmouth School of Arts - Sept 1995 to July 1996

### **A-levels**

Truro College - Sept 1993 to July 1995

- Art & Design, Design Technology and Computing.

### **GCSEs**

Penair School, Truro - Sept 1988 to July 1993

- English Language, English Literature, Design & Realisation, Art & Design, Combined Science (Dual), Mathematics and History.

### **Other interests**

In my spare time I enjoy the outdoors: walking, camping, kayaking, canoeing and climbing. I am a Scout leader with the Stithians Scout Group and a long-standing member of Falmouth Canoe Club.

## Olly Spooner - Personal statement

With extensive experience in small and medium-sized organisations, I have developed a strong ability to identify and execute tasks independently, often with minimal support. I also relish working with and sharing ideas with others, inside and outside a formal team. My diverse background has equipped me with a broad perspective, allowing me to avoid tunnel vision and provide well-rounded and sometimes novel solutions.

Balancing user-driven and developer-driven approaches has enabled me to deliver optimal solutions to prioritise performance, security, functionality, and usability. My experience working with both internal and external stakeholders has honed my skills in gathering and defining user requirements, even for those not actively engaged in the project. While at ShelterBox, I have successfully developed solutions for very different areas of the business, namely Fundraising and International Programmes.

I am adept at communicating with users of varying levels of technical understanding, helping different stakeholders define their needs and constraints. My ability to visualise processes and translate them into more digestible forms ensures a collaborative and engaged project environment. I also work closely with external technical teams, advocating for software systems with integration and extensibility features to avoid future limitations.

I have developed applications using low-code (Mendix, PowerApps) and traditional programming platforms (Java, JavaScript, PHP, C#). Using a blend of compatible technologies has allowed us to take advantage of low-code speed while adding extended functionality that would not be achievable using only that approach.

Our team employs Agile SCRUM methodologies for Mendix development, and I have recently obtained Prince2 Foundation certification to enhance my project management skills. Our development process follows a standardised cycle, including requirements gathering, implementation, testing, and release stages. We utilise two-week sprints to plan and review our progress, continuously improving our processes. This approach to development allows us to be extremely flexible as we can quickly pivot as needs evolve.

As a growing organisation, ShelterBox had strategic ambitions such that scaling up the existing aid delivery management would not work. To deliver 10 times the aid, they could not simply hire 10 times the staff. There was a clear need to improve and standardise processes, automate tasks and increase the quality of record keeping. After investigating options from ready-made solutions to writing our own from scratch, I found Mendix. We began using Mendix in June of 2017, and I formed part of the negotiation and the initial development team.

Since producing the "Operations App", I and my team have developed several more large-scale apps including a self-service portal for our volunteers, a donation system for the website and a suite of logistics apps for our Supply Chain team. We have also used Mendix for numerous quick tasks and utilities.

I have seen the Microsoft Online platform evolve over the last 11 years and have a proven track record of administering and developing applications and integrations with it (M365, Azure, SharePoint, PowerPlatform). My expertise includes creating Model-driven and Canvas PowerApps, connecting systems to reduce data duplication and task repetition, and creating middleware solutions using tools like PowerQuery, PowerAutomate, PowerShell, Python, and XProc.

With over 20 years of experience administering various relational database systems (including MS SQL, Firebird, PostgreSQL, and MySQL), I have provided everything from data entry services, querying and reporting for data retrieval, to writing the entire database from scratch. Often these database systems provided the backend to a CRM (CARE NG, Blackbaud CRM) or ERP and financial systems (Access Dimensions), so I have learned to query and correlate data across some very different systems. More recently, we have begun the move to Dynamics CRM and Business Central, allowing me to broaden my technical capabilities.

I am passionate about working closely with users to develop data models and processes that form the foundation of effective solutions. This collaborative approach fosters a shared understanding of issues and solutions, leading to successful project outcomes. I greatly enjoy meeting and working with new people, always trying to be a positive influence in any workplace.