

PAUL REES

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A live events technician turned Junior Developer via Makers Academy. I've gone from teaching myself Objective-C in my parents' basement to pushing myself to acquire the skills to forge a career I enjoy.

I love to learn by experimentation and shared knowledge. I'm not afraid of making mistakes; I'd credit a lot of my learning - programming and otherwise - to doing just that.

Experience

Makers Academy
Feb-May 2016

- A 12-week intensive course focusing on OOP, TDD, pair programming and good coding practices
- Learned Ruby and Javascript, branching into Rails, Angular.js and Node.js
- Testing frameworks included RSpec, Jasmine and Mocha
- 3 group projects using agile methodologies such as daily stand up and retrospective sessions, pair programming and git flow

University of Hertfordshire
2005 - 2008

- BSc in Sound Design Technology, 2:1
- Built a basic game in Java
- One module using MAX/MSP for audio programming

Projects

VocApp Prototype
July - Sept '16

github.com/empowerhack/vocapp | vocabulary-app.herokuapp.com

A crowd-sourced, translation-style app geared towards helping foreign students understand academic terminology in English.

Technologies: Ruby on Rails, PostgreSQL/ActiveRecord, RSpec/Capybara

cinemascrAPI
Sept '16 - ongoing

github.com/rhiannonruth/cinemascrAPI

An API returning local cinema information by scraping Google Movies. Focus on building a test-driven, versioned and robust API.

Technologies: Ruby on Rails, Nokogiri/Mechanize, RSpec

Employment

Feltech
Sept '15 - Jan '16
Senior Events Technician

Half of a team of 2 responsible for the AV for the RSA's internal and external events and live streams. Lots of client liaison and last minute requests to prioritise.

ElectroSonic
March '13 - Sept '15
Events Technician

Part of the team responsible for running the AV side of Barclays' in-house presentations, broadcasts and events. An intense, often fast-paced role requiring me to adapt to changing situations quickly.

Skills

Communication

- In a team I like to voice thoughts and suggestions as I find this really gives life to new ideas for everyone involved
- Clear written communication is an asset when conveying ideas, and improves legibility and understanding in a programming environment

Learning things

- Picked up Ruby and Javascript and accompanying test frameworks over 12 weeks at Makers Academy
- Confident with new languages and technologies - 'learn by doing' is very much my approach

Dealing with things

- I hate panicking, so I try very hard not to. My career in live events gave me a degree of unflappability that allows me to remain calm in problematic situations and to address them methodically

Other info

- Enjoy table tennis, climbing, video games and most things Marvel
- Can and will play the blues for an irritating length of time
- Have had my hand in Sir David Attenborough's pocket
- No longer live in parents' basement