Reuben Hawthorne-Jensen

Full Stack Developer | Te Whanganui-a-tara

(Wellington), Aotearoa

New Zealand Citizen

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Kia ora! I'm Reuben, a full stack developer based in Pōneke. My journey into tech has been one of incremental immersion. I wrote my first 'Hello world' application at the age of 8 years old in C++ with the help of my dad and now, two decades later, I have just completed the Dev Academy software developer bootcamp in April 2023.

I have spent most of my career in the sales, communications and marketing space but I have always had an interest in tech. This natural curiosity inveitably lead me to start seriously learning to code around two years ago, starting with simple tweaks to websites for marketing and SEO purposes. Now, with a strong foundational skill set that has been boosted with the heavily collaborative experience of bootcamp, my energy and focus is now on building cool software and solving some complex, real-world problems with tech.

Experience

Full stack developer (student) | Dev Academy Aotearoa
Jan 2023 – April 2023

- A 17 week intensive bootcamp where I learnt a modern web development stack in an environment that mimicked a 'real-world' development team
- Building with a JavaScript/TypeScript stack to build responsive, full stack applications (React, Redux, Node.js, Express, SQLite3)
- Working collaboratively with a mix of pair-coding and small group work to work through challenges and solve problems.
- Maintaining clean, human-readable code with industry best practice version control (Git/GitHub)
- For our final project we built an app for community sports clubs to manage their memberships, subscriptions and payments. I took the lead on the Stripe integration and as a team we managed to get the app functional with a test environment checkout. You can view the application here.

Website Development | Freelance
Jan 2020 - Present

- Design and build websites for clients (Wordpress, Craft CMS)
- Deploy websites to cloud hosting providers.
- Manage DNS records, support with domain authentication for email and third party apps.

Web & Social Media Advisor | NZEI Te Riu Roa
November 2021 – February 2023

- Project management of the development of NZEI Te Riu Roa's new, consolidated website – merging seven distinct web properties into one cohesive website.
- Collaborative problem solving to support organising and campaign activities with digital tools and solutions.
- Development of minor front-end features, such as responsive header layouts, template modifications, and simple calculators (JavaScript, PHP).
- Maintaining and updating content across NZEI Te Riu Roa's existing web properties.

Marketing Executive | Storbie
May 2020 – October 2021
- Maintenece work for the old Storbie website (ASP.NET framemework, CSHTML and SASS)
- Project management of Storbie's new website build (Umbraco CMS)
- Development of front end features for the new site including the pricing page, feature grid and automated pop-up for lead capture.
- End-to-end management and implementation of Storbie's marketing strategy.

Marketing Coordinator | Creative HQ
May 2019 – June 2020
- Website management for Creative HQ's three main brands (CHQ, Lightning Lab and GovTech).
- In-depth engagement with agile processes through supporting workshops and design sprints for CHQ clients.
- Planning, implementation and training (internal and external) of digital tools to enable the delivery of digital workshops during the level 4 lockdown in 2020.

Account Executive | Isentia
January 2018 – May 2019
- Providing technical support and guidance to maximise the value of Isentia's products.
- Working with clients to understand their needs, optimise their service.
- Strategic relationship managment with a view to grow oppotunities within client accounts.

Qualifications

- **Certificate in Applied Software Development**
  Dev Academy Aotearoa
  Jan 2023 - April 2023
- **Bachelor of Commerce in Marketing**
  Victoria University of Wellington
  2014–2017

- **Bachelor of Arts in Media Studies and Theatre**
  Victoria University of Wellington
  2014–2017
- **IC Agile Certified Professional**
  Awarded May 2022
- **Certificate in Te Reo Māori (level 3)**
  Te Wānanga o Raukawa

Community Involvement

- **Executive Board Member** | Wellington Thai Boxing
  2021 - Present
  I work with the two other ELT members to handle club logistics and admin, including updating the website and social media profiles, ordering new gear and organising events.
- **Volunteer Muay Thai Trainer** |Wellington Thai Boxing
  2020 - Present
  Teaching Muay Thai classes to students with a range of skill levels from beginners to fighters.

Hobbies and Interests

When I'm not behind a keyboard or holding pads for an up-and-coming fighter, you will likely find me with a spanner in my hand, working on my latest mechanical project (most recently, rebuilding an old motorbike). I also love to spend time with my one-year-old dog, Bellamy, taking her for walks and keeping on top of her training.

References available on request