

Becky Rush

Inquisitive individual currently working as a software engineer in BBC News Visual Journalism, tinkering with code to make engaging and inclusive, interactive content.



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Based in London, UK

EXPERIENCE

Visual Journalism, BBC News — *Software Engineer*

August 2018 - Present

I work alongside designers, developers and journalists to create interactive content to make complicated data easier to understand and engage with. Assignments range from small general interest pieces to large global data projects, translated into multiple languages and viewed by hundreds of thousands of users.

Using JavaScript (ES6), HTML, Handlebars, SASS and Webpack, I have led development on a number of projects, including [Falling through the gap](#), the [NHS Tracker](#) and [Freedom Trash Can](#).

I mentor junior members of staff, regularly provide code reviews for my peers and liaise with management to assign projects amongst the development team.

As an accessibility champion, I advocate for making web content as inclusive as possible, often in short time limits.

I am also a member of the Visual Journalism Youth Panel, who aim to promote content better aimed at the underserved audience.

Visual Journalism, BBC News — *Junior Software Engineer*

September 2017 - June 2018

Worked remotely and part time, whilst completing my final year at university. Responsible for improving internal tooling and working on the technical backlog. Contributed to the Photoshop extension which allows designers to translate graphics into multiple languages.

Visual Journalism, BBC News — *Trainee Web Developer*

August 2016 - September 2017

Worked on numerous projects as a trainee, including leading development on 'What has Trump said about your country' described as 'one of our best examples of progressive enhancement'.

Regularly gave presentations during our monthly Town Hall gatherings.

Rushlet — *Freelance Developer and Designer*

Feb 2013 - Present

Worked on a variety of projects, including redesigning and developing a website for a local community event, [Kemp Town Carnival](#), and designing and building a website for romance author [Liz Eeles](#). Both

ACHIEVEMENTS

Excellence in the Use of Creativity in Data - BIGGIES 2019

Awarded for the BBC News [Climate Change Calculator](#)

University of Brighton Governor's Award

Wired Sussex prize for 'Best Final Year Digital Project'

LanciaConsult Award for Excellence in Computing Placement Year Completion

PROJECTS

A Visual Analysis of UK Number 1s

I gathered and analysed UK chart and Spotify data which I presented as a website of data visualisations for my final year university project discussing trends in music history.

https://rushlet.github.io/ci301_data-vis/website/index.html

Falling through the gap

Lead developer on this innovative new format - animating and visualising over 10,000 dots for a 'scrollytelling' article.

<https://bit.ly/bbc-scrolly>

Green Diet

Co-developer on building the Climate change calculator,

were produced using WordPress, so clients could easily update them, but with custom code to add the bespoke features requested.

University of Brighton — Student Ambassador

December 2014 - Present

Open Days - Answering questions from potential students and parents about my experience of the course. Speaking at both course specific and computing-wide talks given by faculty staff about the work I did whilst studying at Brighton University and on placement.

Widening Participation - Promotion of higher education to young people by running interactive sessions and delivering talks at local schools and colleges.

Student Learning Technologies - Supporting academic staff and students in their use of learning technologies in the classroom. Working with the eLearning team on classroom technology pilots and providing support for events.

Claude Nicol Clinic & Lawson Unit (NHS) — Patient Access Clerk

July 2011 – October 2015

Worked as part of a large multidisciplinary team in a busy hospital clinic. Mainly responsible for reception duties, sensitively handling often scared or upset patients whilst abiding by strict confidentiality protocols in a pressured environment.

EDUCATION

University of Brighton — Digital Media Development (BSc)

September 2014 - August 2018

First Class Honors Degree (BCS accredited).

Achieved 94% for Final Year Project *A Visual Analysis of UK Number 1s*. Course Representative for Digital Media throughout degree - responsible for diplomatically voicing and defending concerns of the students in semesterly meetings of module leaders.

BHASVIC, Brighton — A-levels

September 2011 - July 2013

A-Levels: AAA | AS-Level: B | Extended Project: A*

Varndean High School, Brighton — GCSEs

September 2007 - July 2011

Equivalent of 15 GCSEs A*-B including Maths, English and ICT.

featured on the 6 o'clock news.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-46459714>

What has Trump said about your country?

Lead developer on this project marking Trump's first 100 days in office. Featured on the front page of BBC News, it was viewed by over 1 million people in the first day.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-39732845>

Flight Delays

Lead developer on this Visual Journalism project which displayed the average flight delays per airline for a variety of routes. It had almost 1.5 million hits in the first day.

<http://bbc.co.uk/flightdelays>

HOBBIES & INTERESTS

Samba Drummer

I have been a member of Barulho, a 40 piece community samba band, for over 7 years, performing at events both locally and internationally - including Bestival 2016.

Escape Room Conqueror

I relish the challenge of solving puzzles to try and escape from a locked room in 60 minutes!

Gig goer

I love watching live music, whether it's my favourite band *again* or discovering something new.

Traveller

With friends, family or flying solo, I want to see as much of the world as possible.