

Chris Sparshott

Frontend & PHP Developer

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Profile

A highly competent and attentive developer across both PHP and frontend with more than 11 years experience. I have always sought to push myself and learn new skills.

I have a strong mindset towards working smart not hard, with a desire to iterate and improve.

Since 2014 I have worked primarily across the full stack as a PHP & frontend developer, with the last few months learning React JS. With this new found knowledge I am working on upgrading personal projects.

Technical

- HTML / CSS
- HTML Emails
- HTML5 Animated Banners
- JS / jQuery
- PHP / MySQL
- GIT
- CLI / SSH
- Photoshop

Experience

DomainSalesHistory.uk

November 2020 - Current

Full stack web developer

During the various Covid-19 lockdowns, I decided I wanted to rebuild an old personal project (seemly.co.uk) which records historic UK domain name sales.

With a searchable and filterable database of 20k+ historic UK domain name sales records, DomainSalesHistory.uk proves to be a useful tool in a domainers arsenal for both buyers and sellers of UK domain names.

I had never used Laravel before and I decided this would be a good way to gain exposure and learn. Dedicating a few hours each day and at weekends to a

complete rewrite of all code, after a few weeks I was able to launch the MVP and begin redirecting all traffic from the old website to the new.

The frontend is built using the Tailwind CSS framework, which was also new to me. As part of my learning I introduced TDD into my workflow (PHP Unit).

Harvesting domain sales records is mostly automated, using Laravel's task scheduling, with unique tasks per publishing platform.

I now have plenty of features in the backlog which I prioritise and implement over time.

Babcock International

Full stack web developer

March 2020 - Current

Portsmouth, Lakeside

Daily Tasks

I work within the web development team on planning and building new projects, implementing new functionality, maintenance and support.

- [Babcock International](#)
- [Cavendish Nuclear](#)
- [Babcock Flights](#)

The majority of projects are inherited code-bases, primarily built on Wordpress.

D3R

Web Developer

Dec 2019 - Jan 2020

Chichester

Daily Tasks

During my time at D3R I worked within the support and maintenance team, implementing bug fixes and new features.

One of the larger pieces of work I completed was for [Fine](#), a membership only website with a highly exclusive product range. I was tasked with updating the home page to promote the type of products available for purchase, and allowing prospective members to read selected featured articles to entice membership applications.

Additional Client Projects

The following is a list of client websites where I would fix bugs and add new functionality as requested:

- [Gemini Data Loggers](#)
- [The Beaumont](#)
- [Aspinal](#)
- [West Dean College](#)

21Six

Head of Digital

April 2019 - Current

Fair Oak, Southampton

Implementations;

- Mentoring a 2nd year intern from Solent University, taking into consideration his current knowledge alongside the upcoming units within his 3rd year, planning tasks and projects that will optimise his learning.
- Instigating the documentation of our current project process map to discover issues and / or bottlenecks.
- Restructuring of project management, improving visibility and scheduling to allow the Client Services team to better manage client expectations.
- Initiating project debriefs to ensure cross department internal processes are optimal, primarily to avoid repetitive issues per project type.
- Heading up internal learning lunches, whilst also promoting & planning individual staff training.
- Proactive mentality towards suggesting optimisations and improvements to client websites.
- Developing a company intranet to document procedures, requirements for project briefs, rate sheets for project types, and "How To" guides.
- Create a boilerplate containing common components and functionality for rapid development of Wordpress based brochure websites.

Projects;

The Proper Food & Drink Company

The Proper Food & Drink Company requested a web presence for each of their

brands. To maintain consistency the primary brand colours were used as emphasis, alongside some minor functional differences across each website.

Built on Wordpress using the fantastic MVC boilerplate developed by Rareloop; [Lumberjack](#)

- [Absolute Taste](#)
- [Absolute Taste Food](#)
- [Absolute Taste Inflight](#)

Morningside Healthcare - Cost Savings Calculator

Morningside Healthcare wanted a marketing tool to help their sales team generate sales for the various medications they sell nationwide and used as an online lead generation tool; [Cost Savings Calculator](#)

A bespoke PHP application built using the [Cubex MVC Framework](#), the savings are calculated from CSVs of units sold per CCG (location), product and dosage, multiplied by Morningside equivalent product price.

21six.com

With the transition and restructuring of staff, there was a desire to update an aging website with a fresh new platform to showcase our work in an eye-catching way, under the direction of the creative director.

The website is built in Wordpress using the [Lumberjack](#) framework, enabling an OO PHP methodology to development, TWIG templating for markup, alongside usage of BEM and SCSS for styling.

Advanced Custom Fields (ACF5) is used to create reusable custom components, to provide a Page Builder like interface for website content administrators.

21six

Frontend & PHP Web Developer

Aug 2018 - March 2019

Fair Oak, Southampton

Animated HTML5 Banner Development - Google Web Designer

The development of HTML5 animated banners was another regular task I undertook.

With experience of Adobe Flash at the start of my career, this helped me and my learning curve using Google Web Designer as an application when building the banners.

HTML Email Development

Being a digital agency, there is a steady stream of HTML emails that need developing.

With this in mind, and knowing that we also have freelance developers that build emails for us from time to time, I decided to take it upon myself to create and document a workflow which incorporates a task manager (Grunt) to automate a bunch of repetitive tasks, including:

- Optimising images.
- Compiling CSS and HTML through Pre-mailer API.
- BrowserSync to auto-reload changes.
- Create screenshot of email.

This workflow can be refined over time, but it has provided a solid starting point in reducing the time taken to develop quite dramatically.

All emails are tested in Litmus, ensuring the design met an acceptable consistency across all email clients.

Additional Tasks;

- Collaborate with internal teams to ensure we provide optimal solutions to the clients problems.
- Performance optimisations and some refactoring of code for new feature implementations.
- Client websites functional updates and bug fixes.

Fortifi

PHP Web Developer

Nov 2014 - Aug 2018

Whiteley, Fareham

Front-end focused PHP developer, creating reusable components and pages using PHP, HTML, CSS and jQuery for an all encompassing cloud based business solution, including: marketing, CRM, support, billing and email services.

Additional projects;

- With illustrator files provided, I built the [Fortifi website](#) based on Google Material framework, [MDL](#).
- Josh, from [AnalysisPro](#), required a new website to be built on WordPress. I developed the theme from designs that were created in-house at Fortifi, and the website was launched in June, 2018.
- Mark, from [Enjoy Fitness](#), wanted to amalgamate the 2 websites he was currently hosting/managing into one, and the new website was to be built on WordPress. I developed the theme from designs that were created in-house at Fortifi, and the website was launched in August, 2018.

Seemly (Personal Project)

June 2015 - Current

Full Stack

What started out as a website portfolio and somewhat of a coding playground, seemly has turned into the home of 13,000+ MySQL rows containing historical UK domain name sales since 2006. The records are searchable by keyword, and many filters are provided to refine search results.

Harvesting domain sales records is updated on a regular basis, and is a fully automated process using IFTTT applets and CRON jobs.

The reason behind such a project was an interest in the UK domain name space itself and the intrigue as to any statistical trends over time, including:

- Total sales by month
- Total sales by year
- Sales by month avg. price
- Sales by year avg. price
- Domains sold this month, 'x' years ago
- Sales by domain character length

The project also contains a UK specific Bulk Whois checker with CSV export.

Abacus E-media

Frontend Developer

May 2014 - Nov 2014

Gun Wharf, Portsmouth

Building and maintaining customer websites using the HTML, CSS, and in-house JS plugins of the proprietary B2B media publishing SaaS platform; WebVision.

Using WebVision, I built the responsive, cross platform and cross browser compliant company website.

Just Develop It

Frontend Developer

Oct 2012 - May 2014

Whiteley, Fareham

A solo frontend developer building and maintaining 6 customer facing, marketing focused websites with unique themes per brand, for a cloud based backup application.

Each brand had their own customer control panel for file management, built upon Bootstrap, providing a responsive, cross-platform, cross-browser UI.

A support suite was also developed per brand, with reusable components, allowing the development team to build pages as required in a modular fashion.

Mad Productions

E-commerce Frontend Developer

Mar 2010 - Oct 2012

North Baddesley, Southampton

Part of a 3-man front-end development team, building and maintaining multiple e-commerce websites using an in-house proprietary .NET store management application, including;

- onlinegolf.co.uk
- americangolf.co.uk
- rigbyandpeller.co.uk
- lights4fun.co.uk
- zeeandco.co.uk
- dephoto.biz
- jakss.co.uk

One2create

Junior Frontend Developer

Sep 2008 - Mar 2010

Droxford, Southampton

Frontend development and maintenance for new and existing intranets and extranets for Inchcape Fleet Solutions.

For the most part, this consisted of taking a default .NET template, and matching PSD designs provided by the design team, ensuring that browser support was consistent and included IE6.

I also headed up the SEO for clients with public facing websites, creating monthly reports and statistics displayed in a client specific custom-themed micro-site.

V&F Sheet Metal

Sheet Metal Fabricator

Sep 1998 - Sep 2008

Whiteley, Fareham

Machine setter / operator

Interests

1. Since Summer 2016 I have been a keen runner. In December of 2017 I ran my first marathon in Portsmouth.
2. As a member of my local running club - Gosport Road Runners - in March 2018 I created a club mascot called 'Hugh' using Adobe Illustrator. It is currently going through the process of member introduction, ready for printing on club attire and for media use.
3. I genuinely enjoy learning new skills, so I subscribe to Lynda.com and watch video courses related to my industry including; JS, PHP, Online Marketing and Illustrator.

Links

- seemly.co.uk/domains/prices
- sparshott.co.uk
- github.com/seemly
- www.linkedin.com/in/chris-sparshott
- twitter.com/seemly