Tom Cant BSc (Hons)

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Personal Profile

Enthusiastic with an extreme hard work ethic and a keen interest in the software development industry. Studied for a **BSc** in **Computer Science & Mathematics** at the University of **Sheffield** and attained a **2.1** classification with honours. Very quick learner with natural team lead mindset and ability to work in fast paced team oriented environments, or with initiative when working alone. Honest and reliable who always has a positive attitude towards others and the task at hand.

Education

2006 – 2009: Class 2.1 with honours for Computer Science and Mathematics

2004 – 2006: 3 A-Levels (Maths, Further Maths, Computer Science), 1 AS-Level (Physics)

1999 – 2004: 12 GCSE's, 2 GNVQ's (including Maths, English Lit/Lang, Science, Electronics, Business, I.T.)

Key Skills

- Excellent knowledge of several languages including **PHP**, **ECMAScript** (JS) and **Python**

- Vast knowledge of PHP framewords including **Symfony** and **Drupal** (6 years, community contributor)

- Evangelist of good architecture; promoter of concepts such as **MVC**, **REST** and separation of concerns

- Solid understanding of advanced concepts, from **OOP** and **BDD**, to algorithm design and areas of AI

- Expert use of version control software; highly proficient with **Git**, working knowledge of **SVN**

- Experience with **DevOps**; automated task scripting and **continuous integration** (**Jenkins**)

- Thorough understanding of database design and configuration (**MySQL**, **PostgreSQL**)

- In depth knowledge of **Linux** server administration; **Redhat** / **CentOS**, expert use of **CLI**

- Clear communicator with ability to rigorously specify functionality in a complete and concise manner

Employment History

Employer: HouseSimple Ltd.

Position held: Lead Developer   **From** May 2015 **to** Present

Currently co-leading an in-house team of 6 to 8 developers for this online estate agent. Taking the lead on all technical aspects of development from system architecture to server administration. I first set out to create a more stable development workflow using automation to perform all day-to-day tasks such as backups, regular project builds and environment synchronisation (e.g. from live to stage).

Completed a rewrite of the user signup to incorporate a subscription based offering, integrating with the Stripe API for all eCommerce transactions, creating a 4-times increase in conversions.

Employer: Greene King PLC

Position held: Lead Developer   **From** May 2013 **to** May 2015

A founding member of the web development team at this FTSE 250 pub and brewing company. Undertook

line management responsiblities for a team of developers. Involved high level planning to ensure targets were met, often not only managing downwards but also upwards to ensure realistic expectations.

Used the Drupal CMF to build a platform to serve as the basis for all web projects, including the following high profile brands: Hungry Horse, Loch Fyne Seafood & Grill, Greene King IPA and several other smaller commercial websites: GK Gift Cards, GK Leisure Spend Tracker, GK Season Ticket and Farmhouse Inns.

Extended the framework to handle multiple domains in order to use it as a platform from which to serve large numbers of individual pub websites under a single installation. For example, two of ~70 websites for Metropolitan Pub Company: The Florence and The Bald Faced Stag, and two of ~60 websites for Premium Locals Pubs: Old Suffolk Punch and The Bushel.

Built a reward/referral system for all pub and restaurant websites as a means of capturing user data in return for food/drink vouchers, competition entries and other prizes. This helped grow the customer database to around 1.2 million unique entries in 2014.

Integrated 3rd party software to facilitate web based interaction with the Hungry Horse Gold Card loyalty scheme. Built a bespoke suite of Drupal modules for managing food/drink menus as content. Built a pluggable, automated data export system that makes it possible to take any data, transform/encode it in some arbitrary way (CSV, PDF) and transport it using one of a range of methods (FTP, SSH, email, output to file, etc.). The system was used to automatically export customer data captured through brand websites to an external system on a daily basis.

Was also responsible for managing the entire hosting infrastructure of around 14 virtual machines using Puppet, including all SSL certificates and DNS for ~1200 company owned domain names.

Employer: NetXtra Ltd.

Position held: Senior Developer   **From** November 2011 **to** May 2013

Involved developing and maintaining a very broad range of client websites, from small to medium to large organisations in the not-for-profit and membership sectors. Regarded as a "go to" member of a medium to large sized development team.

Most notably contributed to the company's open-source offering by steering the technology into the path of the Drupal CMF. Worked as a key member of a team to build a platform from which Drupal sites could be built quickly with a set of reusable modules and without compromising on client requirement/specification.

Proudly built the NetXtra company website from the ground up using the company's proprietary CMS. The site now serves as an excellent resource not only from a sales/marketing perspective, but also from the point of view of developers who regard its inner workings as an example of how to do things properly.

Developed a website for The Academy of Experts and contributed to the website for The Royal College of Radiologists, both of which are built on the aforementioned Drupal platform. Also contributed to proprietary CMS based websites including Cambridge Network, Equity and British Waterski & Wakeboard.

Employer: Phoenix London UK Ltd.

Position held: Developer   **From** February 2010 **to** November 2011

Involved designing, developing and maintaining web-based systems using PHP and the Drupal CMF.

In September of 2010 I embarked on an 11 month project working closely with Colchester based company The New Homes Group. I designed and developed a system to help streamline the company's business processes with a feature-full intranet style management system. Capable of tracking all manner of entities from house builders to properties, estate agents to customer applications, the system has helped their business save on time and therefore money. I continued to provide regular updates to features and worked on the project on an ongoing basis during my time at Phoenix.

Also acted as lead developer on several other projects including the development of an e-Commerce product aimed to be used by photographers and artists to showcase their work as a portfolio. My clients have the ability to upload images into galleries and present them as either free or paid-for products. An example can be found at Sophie Ziegler Photography.

Other projects worked on include the online presence and content-management/e-Commerce solutions for Suffolk shop The Shiny Bow, fashion magazine i-D Online and UK/Dubai aircraft sales company Viation.

Employer: CORE Development Services Ltd.

Position held: Developer   **From** 2009 **to** February 2010

Involved using PHP to maintain the company intranet and developing bespoke solutions for clients.

Acted as lead developer for the last 3 months of a medium to large sized project involving Colchester based company Paul & Co. Developed a system designed to be used by both office staff and mobile operatives. Consisted of an online web interface for managing and reviewing content, and a mobile phone application to be used remotely for taking photos and sending them back to the office across a secure connection.

Interests

Much of my spare time is consumed by my passion for programming. I enjoy investigating new technologies so as to expand my potential and keep my knowledge fresh. Right now I am exploring a recent addition to web-server technology: [NodeJS](#), an event based web-server built entirely in JavaScript.

Computer programming

- Software; problem solving ([Project Euler](#), [CodeFights](#)), community participation ([C++ Home](#))

- Internet; content management frameworks ([Drupal](#)), web applications, the semantic web

- Areas of artificial intelligence including two player game engines and pattern/text processing

Mathematics

- Topics in number theory including modular arithmetic and the sought for large primes

- The [Clay Mathematics Institute Millennium Prize Problems](#) (and in particular [P vs NP](#))

- Areas of abstract algebra including group theory and algebraic topology

Additional Information

- Own a full U.K. driving licence

- Enjoy solving Rubik's cubes of all sizes