Gary Gale

A self professed *geek with a life*, I've had a lifelong love affair with maps since discovering the **Harry Beck** map of the London Underground on the back of the London A-Z street atlas at an early age. I now live in Teddington in South West London with my family and work in London, Berlin, Boston, Chicago and Sunnyvale as the Director of **Places for Nokia**. I'm the co-founder of **WhereCamp EU**, the chair of **AGI W3G** and sit on the **AGI Council**, the **W3C POI Working Group** and the **UK Location User Group**.

Prior to Nokia, I was at **Yahoo!**, leading their **Geo Technologies** group in the UK, releasing **GeoPlanet** and **Placemaker** and providing the geo heavy lifting for **Flickr** and **Fire Eagle**; I've also been at Digicon, developing geophysical technologies to aid in the search for natural resources and at the **European Space Agency Research Institute** in Rome, Italy, participating in the development and launch of **ERS-1**, Europe's first remote sensing satellite. Outside of the location and geo field, I've been at companies including the **BBC World Service**, **Reuters**, **Factiva** and **Network Associates**.

As well as being the creator of the **WP Biographia WordPress plugin** and occasional contributor to the **Mapstraction** mapping API, I speak at a wide range of conferences including **Nokia World**, **Where 2.0**, **State of the Map**, **AGI GeoCommunity**, **Geo Loco** and **Social Loco**, **GeoMob**, **mashup***, the **BCS Geospatial SG**, **WhereCamp EU**, **the Location Business Summit** and **FOWA**.

I blog as regularly as possible on location, places, maps and other facets of geography at **www.vicchi.org** and you can find me on Twitter as **@vicchi**.