

Dan Garland

for expanded information on the content of this C.V., please visit me at

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Date of Birth: 04/04/83
Dual Nationality: British and New Zealand citizen and passport holder
Location: Forest Hill, London

Objective

To express creativity through innovative web development.

Current Status

Self-employed web developer with seven years of commercial experience, looking for short-term contract work to expand my portfolio. I specialise in Ruby on Rails agile web development, requirements analysis with user stories and e-commerce payment gateway integration.

Technical Skills

Ruby on Rails, Cucumber / Selenium, HTML (XHTML, HTML 4 & HTML 5), CSS, Javascript, XML, SQL, AJAX, Java, C, UML and Design Patterns, MySQL, SQLite, MongoDB, Linux, Tomcat, Apache, Subversion, Git, Capistrano.

Experience

Libertrip **Travel** **Developer** **October 2011 - Present**
libertrip.com

I am the back-end Ruby on Rails developer for Libertrip, a new start-up that specialises in travel. I am solely responsible for new Ruby on Rails features, data retrieval and the API, upon which the company relies.

Since my arrival, I have introduced a system of Agile and I created a test suite. Using cutting-edge technology, I have created a system that uses EventMachine to greatly enhance the speed of data delivery and enhanced the user experience of Libertrip.

Most Rated **Music Discovery /** **Director,** **Jan 2011 - Present**
mostrated.com **Streaming** **Developer**

I am the director of a new music technology start-up company, which has developed a music discovery service called Most Rated. In conjunction with live music events, the website promotes material submitted by artists, organised around local music scene.

- The website is a distributed web application comprising of Ruby on Rails, HTML5, MongoDB, EventMachine and RESTful API integration (Facebook, Mixlr).
- The site has a complex mechanism to automatically select tracks from the pool of artist's submissions, and collates the content into a continuous stream, like a radio station.
- I devised a business plan for the project, including a marketing strategy and fund-raising.
- I work with local venues, artist managers and creative suppliers to source the locations, the artists, creative and video for the project.

Phatnights **Showcase / PR** **Freelance RoR** **March 2011 - Present**
www.phatnights.com **Developer**

I was approached by Phatnights to take over the management and development from a failing web agency project and to take it forward.

- I assumed control of a large Ruby on Rails codebase, which had zero test coverage and add new features based on the client's pressing requirements.
- Working to a tight deadline and budget, I developed the software to fix critical issues and provide the basis for on-going development.
- I now host the website from my own dedicated hardware in the UK.

TouchLocal
www.touchlocal.com
www.wefinda.co.uk

Business Directory

**Freelance
Frontend
Developer**

Aug 2010 – Sep 2010

I assumed the role of freelance front-end developer in the recent redesign of the TouchLocal business directory website.

- I was responsible for the HTML, CSS, cross-browser support and accessibility of the new templates.
- I also worked on the wefinda.co.uk project, which used HAML for its template mechanism. I was responsible for updating copy, altering forms and improving user journeys.

Oxford University Press
ukcatalogue.oup.com

Education

**Contract RoR
Developer**

Jan 2010 – March 2010

Head
www.headlondon.com

Following the success of the previous work I had done on the Hubbub launch, I was tasked by Head London to work on a classroom presentation tool for interactive whiteboards commissioned by Oxford University Press.

- I instigated a user-story agile development process using story cards, a points system and burn-down charts, which is now in use for all new Head London projects.
- Amongst a team of four developers, I developed a XUL-supported HTML/CSS application that is dynamically generated from a RoR content management system.
- The project was comprehensive in the technology used, from MVC Javascript, to CD-ROM ISO generation on the Linux platform. Throughout a test-driven approach was used based on Cucumber, Selenium and Shoulda with 100% coverage and 2:1 test to code ratio.

Hubbub
www.hubbubdeliveries.co.uk

E-commerce

**Contract RoR
Developer**

**August 2009 – Dec
2009**

Head
www.headlondon.com

I joined the Hubbub project after the requirements phase had been completed and development had begun, and saw it through until launch.

- Amongst a team of 3–4 developers, I developed using a test-driven approach using Cucumber, Selenium, Shoulda unit tests and RCov.
- I debugged and verified the payment gateway integration with the SecureTrading network.

Westfield Stratford City
uk.westfield.com/stratfordcity

Retail

**Contract RoR
Developer**

May 2009 – July 2009

Delete
www.deletelondon.com

I worked on a large Ruby on Rails project for the Westfield group, developing front-end features on a large legacy codebase.

- I worked with the Teamsite CMS system, integrating XML data into Rails views.
- I developed a moderated comments system and associated administrative screens, using AJAX.
- I developed using a test-driven approach using RSpec.

Titan Entertainment
www.forbiddenplanet.com
www.titanmagazines.com
www.titanbooks.com
www.dwscifi.com

Publishing / Retail

**Lead Web
Developer
(permanent)**

April 2005 – Sep 2008

- I created the forbiddenplanet.com on-line megastore, an e-commerce website that promotes over 14,000 product lines from graphic novels to über-cool art toys. The website takes hundreds of orders a week and is visited by over 50,000 people each month.
- I am accustomed to relaying technical concepts in plain English; I held meetings with the senior directors to establish the requirements and embodied them into formal use case documents.
- I planned the entire software project: I drafted UML diagrams for the structure of the system and identified the software tools and services to be utilised. I defined milestones and deadlines for the project.
- I designed an XML-schema for the business' metadata relating to product categorisation, effectively designing how Forbidden Planet's vast and diverse stock range would be categorised and navigated.
- I implemented a sophisticated Java web application that runs on a fault-tolerant Tomcat cluster. The website is a Java / Tapestry / Hibernate / Spring application. I also used HTML, CSS and XML.
- I created the titanmagazines.com subscriptions website using Java / Tapestry / Hibernate / Spring. The site handles 70-80% of the business' subscription orders. The site uses a MySQL database to store a publication schedule, which is interrogated by the front-end to determine which magazines are to be displayed in the user's locale. I developed a content management system that allows non-expert users to administer content, based on XML / XSLT.
- I know how to work under pressure and to challenging deadlines. I created the dwscifi.com news website using Ruby on Rails in under two weeks, yet the site now hosts several hundred articles and allows the editors to manage the content themselves.
- I was responsible for all of Titan's web servers and websites, which are hosted in-house on hardware that I procured and configured.
- I introduced several concepts and technology to the business, in particular I introduced an agile / XP methodology which is now adopted for all web development within the organisation. I developed a project planning tool in Ruby on Rails, which tracks the requirements for projects on an intranet website. This tool allows the business to define requirements for projects and to assign values to them, while developers give estimates for the requirements and plan iterations. This tool has been adopted and is used for day-to-day development at Titan.
- I was responsible for the creation and maintenance of Titan's web development environment. I installed and maintain a subversion repository and cruise control, Apache and Tomcat servers.

Gamcom Ltd.
www.gamcom.com/

I.T. Consultants

Developer

Aug 2004 - Apr 2005

- I worked as a developer on the society's mortgage point-of-sale system (MPOS). MPOS uses proprietary in-house software technology based upon a vast and complex systems architecture. I was swift to learn and adapt to this new environment, including learning a new language called Process Author. Within a month of joining, I was deemed capable of taking responsibility for writing new software modules.
- I have gained invaluable experience unique to working in a large software project; MPOS has around fifty developers. I am adjusted to handling the necessary communication and cooperation required for such a team to function. I am aware of the critical human factors that influence the outcome of large software projects.

Mathias & Sons Ltd.
mathiasandsons.com

Workwear Distributors Project Leader July 2003 - Feb 2004

- Through analysis of existing workplace systems, I identified a requirement for a new Internet based ordering system, called MUMS (Mathias Uniform Management System), which is still used today. I outlined the various solutions to the management via a written report and a presentation. I eliminated the man-hours spent processing orders, saving £15,000 a year.
- The project was entered for the regional Shell Technology and Enterprise (STEP) award, and I won a local and regional heat. Based upon my performance in both the project, demonstration and my presentation, I was named "the most enterprising student in the South West of England 2003".

- I conceived, designed and implemented an Internet-based ordering system that interfaced with existing Sage Line 50 accounting software using Active Server Pages (ASP), Visual Basic, HTML, SQL and Access databases.

Education

2:1 BSc Computer Science

University of Bristol

Bristol, UK 2001–2004

- I attained an Upper Second–Class Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Bristol; consistently within the top five computer science departments in the UK.
- I led a group of five students working on a group project to design a software front–end and device driver for a digital MP3 player written in C. In addition to programming, I was responsible for time management and milestone setting, task allocation, administration of the group website and version control.
- I wrote a thesis as a proof of concept for networking middle–ware in computer games. It was an individual project to design a client / server network application that explored advances in next–generation market trends such as cloud computing. Used Java and X3D, a cutting–edge graphics standard for the Internet.

3 A–Levels

Beacon Community College

E. Sussex, UK 1999–2001

- A in Computer Science, A in Business Studies and B in Mathematics.

Interests

I play piano, keyboards and synthesizers, and enjoy composing my own music. I am working with several musicians on original projects and have spent many months working with a top record producer on song–writing and session playing. I am currently studying for Grade 8 piano, after winning the Sheila Mossman Award for the highest mark in the country for Grade 6 piano, 2008.

I am actively learning French and study regularly. I particularly enjoy reading in French, especially translations from English authors. I have a tutor who helps and its important for me to able to reach a standard of French that would permit me to live and work abroad.