

Martin Young

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PERSONAL STATEMENT

I'm an experienced web professional who operates around a core belief that the internet should make people's lives easier. I'm keen to build fast, intuitive websites which help clients and users achieve their goals.

I also provide technical support and site management which allows clients to focus on their business rather than becoming web professionals themselves.

EMPLOYMENT

Senior Developer

Fission Creative

Paisley, Scotland

September 2013 – September 2015

Fission Creative is a small graphic design agency in central Scotland where around 80% of projects are web based. As senior developer I was responsible for the full website build cycle, from user experience input in design, through development approach and coding. I contracted with Fission for a year before being offered a permanent position.

Key Responsibilities:

- Overall responsibility for web projects; I advise designers on accessibility and usability issues, work with them to build the website and then work directly with clients on refinements
- All back end and around 80% of front end development
- Website maintenance and support.

Key Achievements:

- Refined the agency's approach to building websites, developing a consistent codebase and toolset that can be used on every project. This allowed us to build all of our websites in house, with very limited third party code
- Developed the agency's WordPress maintenance and support service which has improved stability and security of the hosting environment
- Educated colleagues on web security and accessibility issues so that they can better communicate technical issues to clients plainly.

Examples of work:

- [Fission Creative](#) – full build
- [Headtorch](#) – full build
- [Renfrewshire 2023](#) – full build

Web Consultant

Digital My Way
Glasgow, Scotland
April 2011 - Present

As a freelance web consultant, I provide project and contract based WordPress development services alongside user experience and performance consultancy. I have recently set up Press Up, a WordPress maintenance and support service.

Key Responsibilities:

- Working directly with end clients to design, build and manage their websites
- Contracting at agencies to provide WordPress expertise and/or user experience
- Providing on-call support and maintenance for a variety of websites, from small local businesses to the UK Government

Key Achievements:

- Formulated, developed and launched my WordPress support service, [PressUP](#), now with 23 clients
- Gained experience in a number of working environments while developing my skillset

Examples of work:

- [Albannach](#) – full build (freelance)
- [BeChilled](#) – age gate, front end build (contract)
- [Tennents Lager](#) – back end build, front end work includes block layout, header and menu (contract)

Web Co-ordinator

Department for International Development
East Kilbride, Scotland
September 2009 – March 2011

DFID is the UK Government department responsible for overseas aid and disaster response. As part of the web team I had a wide range of responsibilities.

Key Responsibilities:

- Lead WordPress developer for the organisation
- Day to day management of web content, including quality assurance
- Technical support for a distributed network of over 100 publishers using 3 CMS

Key Achievements:

- Developed a prototype intranet using WordPress; alongside my line manager I oversaw the full project lifecycle from user research and conception, to beta testing with real content and users
- Worked with policy communications teams to redevelop DFID's consultation platform based on the results of extensive user testing. The first consultation on the redesigned platform increased engagement tenfold.

Information Management Support Assistant

Department for International Development
East Kilbride, Scotland
December 2008 – September 2009

Key Responsibilities:

- Provided second line technical support for DFID's Electronic Document and Records Management System
- Day to day management of electronic records.

Key Achievements:

- Volunteered as a digital evangelist; running workshop sessions to train staff to engage better with stakeholders and the public through social media and blogging
- During EDRMS upgrade project I started as a test user and later took over responsibility for writing tests scripts and liaising with suppliers to analyse results.

Freedom of Information Assistant

Department for International Development
East Kilbride, Scotland
July 2008 – December 2008

Key Responsibilities:

- Creation of a new section of DFID website to detail, explain and publish information as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

Key Achievements:

- Carried out initial research into legal requirements, consulted with internal stakeholders on data formats and eligibility for publishing and worked with the website team to design the templates.

Public Enquiry Assistant

Department for International Development
East Kilbride, Scotland
January 2008 – July 2008

Key Responsibilities:

- When the new DFID website was being developed I was loaned to the website team to help migrate content from a static HTML site into Episerver CMS

Key Achievements:

- Moved over 220 news stories, harvesting content, metadata and imagery from HTML files and inserting them into the CMS.

Sorting Operative

Royal Mail
Glasgow and Wishaw, Scotland
October 2007 – January 2008

General Assistant

University of St Andrews
St Andrews, Scotland
May 2004 – September 2007

KEY SKILLS

Technical Skills:

- WordPress development
- PHP, HTML(4 and 5), CSS (2&3)
- User experience design
- Website performance optimisation
- Documentation and training

Personal Skills:

- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Problem solving and analysis
- Desire to learn from those around me and share my experience

EDUCATION

University of St Andrews
St Andrews, Scotland

CertHE Astrophysics

My background in science and maths gives me great strengths in problem solving and understanding the workings of code. It also taught me the value of constant testing and how we can improve systems that seem to work just by trying to understand them better.

Girvan Academy
Girvan, Scotland

Advanced Higher A. Higher A, B, B, B, B.

I studied Maths, Physics, Chemistry, English and Computing.

PERSONAL INTERESTS

Outside work I love to spend time outdoors. I'm a keen recreational cyclist, both on the road and off. Recently I've taken up adventure cycling and bikepacking, which allows me to push my boundaries while enjoying the countryside. I also blog about outdoor activities and am a professional cycling photographer in my spare time.

REFERENCES

References are available on request.

RIGHT TO WORK IN NEW ZEALAND

I hold a 23 month working holiday visa, allowing me to work for up to 12 months between October 2015 and September 2017.