James Noble

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Education history

2002-2005 BA in Computer Science at Worcester College, Oxford University (Not completed due to illness)

2000-2002 Further education at Swindon College, Swindon

1995-2000 Secondary education at Greendown School, Swindon

Qualifications

A-levels Maths (completed two years early): **A,** Computer Science: **A,** Physics: **A,** Chemistry: **B**

AS-levels Critical Thinking: **A,** Psychology: **A**

GCSEs Maths (completed two years early): **A*,** Double Science: **2 x A*,** Spanish: **A,** English Language: **A,** History: **A,** Geography: **A,** Business Studies: **B,** English Literature: **B**

Work history

12/2006-01/2008 Part-time IT support for Technobility Ltd., a small company specialising in hardware installations, technical support, and training. Roles included setting up simple websites for small companies and installation and setup of computer equipment around the UK, as well as phone-based and on-site technical support.

10/2006-03/2007 Part-time barman at The Check Inn pub in Swindon, covering shifts for a friend while they were taking exams.

09/2000-09/2002 Part-time/Full-time warehouse operative with Batleys Plc. cash and carry. This involved interaction with customers, filling and checking orders, and teamwork.

01/1999-05/2000 Part-time/Full-time printing and finishing assistant with Stralfors Plc. This involved meeting customer demands and deadlines, maintaining complex hardware, and gaining expertise with a variety of hardware (Xerox Docutech / 6035 DocuPrint) and software (for Macintosh, Unix, and Windows).

Programming

During my time at Oxford University, a majority of my programming was in Java, and I have continued to use it since for a variety of applications. The focuses in the programs have been data structure manipulation, networking with sockets and streams, threading, basic graphical interfaces, and the application of models and paradigms such as MVC and aspect-oriented programming.

While at university I also studied many lesser-known languages like OCaml, Haskell, and Oberon. As a result of this wide exposure, I can now pick up different languages, APIs and specifications more quickly.

In the last few months I have been learning Perl, which I now use for a lot of my smaller personal projects and utilities. I have also found it very useful for prototyping; testing out ideas and approaches.

I also have some experience with using PHP and SSI for simple web content, and C and assembly for low level programs.

A lot of my free time is spent with online technical support for a variety of OSS projects. Typically this involves working with people to find the root cause of a issue and help discover a solution, or determining the best way of achieving a particular goal. I actively enjoy taking a problem description and figuring out the best solution approach. Finding bugs in software and fixing them is also a challenge that I enjoy.

During my employment I've worked on static web design, and some basic dynamic web design, and using Perl to write maintainance and utility scripts to manage the data behind the website.

I have worked with databases; optimising them and designing them to be easy to maintain and update, and customising an interface to fit a specification.

Interests and hobbies

Apart from programming, in spare time I enjoy cycling, reading, vegetarian cooking, music, and films from around the world. I have also spent a significant amount of the last few years travelling; mostly within the UK but also as far away as Australia.

Referees

Supervisor at Stralfors Plc Mark Thomas, 87 Gladstone Street, Swindon, SN1 2AX; Telephone: 01793 432 532

Tutor at Worcester College Bernard Sufrin, Worcester College, Oxford OX1 2HB; Telephone: 01865 278372; Email: bernard.sufrin@worc.ox.ac.uk