

# Pete Williams

Web Application Developer

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## About Me

I'm an experienced and passionate **Web Application Developer** with strong Object-Oriented Design skills both front-end and back. I've been making websites for around 15 years and there's nothing I'd rather do. I'm utterly obsessed with the web and am determined to make it a little bit better every day.

## Technical Skills

| Back End  | Front End   | Software and Tools  |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PHP (4/5)</li><li>• MySQL</li><li>• XML</li><li>• Object-Oriented Design</li><li>• Design Patterns</li><li>• MVC Architecture</li><li>• Frameworks:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ CakePHP</li><li>◦ CodeIgniter</li><li>◦ Smarty</li></ul></li><li>• Database Design</li><li>• Linux/Apache Server Admin</li><li>• APIs – Twitter, Flickr, etc</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• XHTML (Strict W3C Complaint)</li><li>• CSS</li><li>• JavaScript :<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Object-Oriented JavaScript</li><li>▪ AJAX</li><li>▪ DOM scripting</li><li>▪ Progressive enhancement</li><li>▪ JSON</li><li>▪ Mootools</li><li>▪ jQuery</li><li>▪ prototype.js</li><li>▪ script.acul.us</li></ul></li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Windows</li><li>• Zend Studio</li><li>• Eclipse</li><li>• Dreamweaver</li><li>• Vi</li><li>• CVS/Subversion (SVN)</li><li>• SSH</li><li>• TestTrack Pro</li><li>• BaseCamp</li><li>• Synergist</li><li>• MS Project</li><li>• Visio</li><li>• Photoshop</li></ul> |

## Recent Employment History

### Bite CP Ltd - Digital Developer

Apr 08 – Present

As the most experienced member of a team reporting to a non-technical manager, this role gave me a great deal of responsibility with regards to the running of the department. My expertise and pro-active determination played a major role in transforming the Digital Department from a small team producing outdated static websites for local businesses, to a highly efficient and capable development team producing top-quality websites for household names such as **John Lewis, Transport for London, McDonalds, and A1GP**.

### Achievements

- Proceduralised the digital department's processes to dramatically **improve the efficiency and abilities**
- Introduced **Information Architecture** planning techniques such as card sorting and wireframing
- Reworked organisational workflow to dramatically **increase quality control**
- Responsible for conducting **usability testing**
- Responsible for ensuing adherence to the **WCAG 2.0 AA** accessibility standards
- Accelerated development cycles with use of **MVC frameworks** such as **CodeIgniter** and **CakePHP**
- Used **SEO** techniques to attract more leads

- **Client-facing** work included successfully presenting to clients at sales meetings
- Responsible for **interviewing** and **recruiting** new Digital Team members
- Responsible for **Linux system administration**, such as setting up local development server and the full migration of our dedicated production server to a new hosting provider
- Worked alongside designers, learning the **principles of design** such as typography, layout, and colour theory
- Created reusable **code libraries and frameworks** to develop common types of sites in days
- Writing successful **tender documents** for 6-figure contracts such as that for **A1GP.com**
- **Trained** both technical and non-technical staff on various web topics - from the concepts of HTML and CSS to advanced object-oriented design patterns
- Replaced use of outdated Flash techniques with progressively-enhanced, accessible **AJAX** alternatives. Making use of framework such as **Mootools** and **jQuery** where appropriate
- Introduced a **version control system** (Subversion) and trained the team on how to use it effectively
- Exposure to **Mac OS X, ASP.Net, C#, Windows Server 2003, MSSQL Server, Flash and ActionScript**

## Office-Shadow - Software Developer

Apr 05 – Apr 08

This role within an international Development Team saw me working on *Shadow-Planner*, the web-based enterprise-level Business Continuity Software suite. My time here saw *Shadow-Planner* progress from a start-up to become the award-winning leader of its market with clients such as **RBS, Santander, DHL, Boeing, and BP.**

### Achievements

- **Designing** and building new features using **Object-Oriented PHP**, such as a contact export facility allowing for integration with third-party emergency notification systems. This project involved liaising closely with external technical representatives
- Creating numerous reusable **front-end controls**. These included major features such as an AJAX-based paginated listing control which increased **speed** and **usability** whilst decreasing server load
- Using my **attention to detail** to increase the usability and accessibility of basic common elements including an advanced numeric input control
- Heavily **refactoring** existing features, resulting in **performance increases** of up to 1,000%
- Designed and built innovative, attractive and accessible **interfaces** for a variety of complex business functions, such as a Risk Matrix Configuration tool
- Helped to improve morale and **team-bonding** by organising regular social events for the team
- Producing clear, well-commented code conforming to PHPDoc specifications complete with accompanying **documentation**
- Giving **training** presentations to the rest of the team on topics such as the *Web Content Accessibility Guidelines*
- Personally deploying major, minor and maintenance **releases** to multiple servers worldwide
- Managing small development projects. This involved **project planning**, managing development and testing resources and liaising with senior management
- Encouraging the team to adopt a greater respect for **consistency** and **web standards**
- Creating and maintaining numerous departmental **procedures** and then using them to train staff

## IT Vision Ltd

Oct 04 - Apr 05

### - Web Developer

My time at this start-up saw me working on *Parago*, an online asset management and planning system. As one of only two developers, I was largely responsible for the front-end of the system, which was coded in PHP and made **early use of AJAX** to create a rich user experience.

## Coventry University

Jun 03 – Oct 04

(Part-time voluntary)

### - Web Developer

For my university dissertation I spent several months building an **online text-book trading system** to be integrated with the Student Union website. It was written in PHP using a MySQL database and was accompanied by a 40,000 word report documenting the full development cycle. The project received a **first class grade**.

Prior to university, commercial experience included work as an HTML coder for **Royal Mail**, and **StudentUK**, along with building a perl-based online quotation system for **Grayside Insurance**, a local insurance broker.

## Education

### Training Courses

2008 - 2009

- **Web Accessibility** (*Webcredible*)
- **Information Architecture** (*Webcredible*)
- **Advanced CSS** (*Clear Left*)
- **Introduction to .Net 3.5** (*JB!*)

### Coventry University

2001 - 2004

### - BA (Hons) Business Information Technology with E-Commerce – 2.1

Modules studied include:

- Human Computer Interaction
- Introduction to Java
- E-Commerce
- Object-Oriented Design
- Project Management
- Internet Technologies
- Information Systems
- Cisco CCNA 1

### City of London Freeman's School

1990 - 2000

- **4 A-Levels** : Including A in Information Technology

**9 GCSEs** : Including As in IT and Graphic Communication

I have a real passion for learning, and am constantly striving to improve my abilities. I read thousands of blog posts and at least one technical book every month and am currently studying for my **Zend Certified Engineer** qualification.

## References

*"Pete was an excellent employee for the 2 years he worked for me, he worked hard and produced excellent results. A true team player with a high level of OO skill, a very capable individual that took on board new technologies with ease. Out of the 50 or so software developers that have worked for me I consider Pete to be one of the best, would not hesitate to employ again."*

**Jon Hibbins, Development Manager, Office-Shadow Ltd**

*"Pete's excellent analytical & programming skills contributed a lot to the success we have achieved at Office Shadow. In addition to that Pete is a strong team player and I strongly recommend him."*

**Nigel Hopkinson, CEO, Office-Shadow Ltd**

## Interests

Along with an interest for just about anything technological, my hobbies include photography, cooking, gardening and travel. You can find out more about me and read my Web Development blog at <http://petewilliams.info/>