

# SIMON PUGNET

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*I have worked as a professional programmer and website designer for 9 years now, but I have been interested in computing and technology from an early age. I started programming on my Amstrad CPC464 when I was 8, copying programs from the manual and Type-Ins from Amstrad Action magazine. From there I learnt machine code and assembler, C, C++, Java, Perl, PHP, Python and more. The ability to make a computer do exactly what I wanted it to do was very enticing and I knew a career in programming was what I wanted.*

*So far I have been lucky enough to have just such a career. I have also been able to develop my creative side recently working for a design company, creating websites and developing my graphic design skills with Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. It was at this point that I decided to return to education and pursue both programming and design aspects of computing. I found the perfect course in the perfect university -- Games Technology at Bournemouth University.*

## Education

### **2011-present Bournemouth University, BSc Games Technology**

- Software programming: C and C++ programming.
- Media Device Architecture and Networks: fundamentals of computer systems and networks.
- Creative Technology Fundamentals: electronics, embedded programming.
- Change and Opportunity: business, marketing.
- Games Production Techniques 1: Level design with UDK, 3D modelling with 3D Studio MAX, mathematics.

### **1999-2001 Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor Dolgellau, BTEC GNVQ Advanced Diploma in IT**

Gained a merit grade and an extra GCSE in Business Enterprise

### **1994-1999 Ysgol Uwchradd Tywyn**

Gained 9 GCSEs (5 A grades, 4 B grades)

## Other Interests

I also have an interest in the following: -

- Digital photography (I currently own a Canon EOS 5D digital SLR)
- Running, weight-lifting, kick-boxing and generally keeping fit
- Playing the guitar (both acoustic and electric)
- Art and design in general
- Cycling and mountain biking
- Travelling -- I have visited many countries over 7 years
- Reading (fact and fiction)
- Learning in general
- Socialising with friends and family
- Listening to and creating music
- Watching films

## Interests and Skills

I have had a very strong interest, and fascination for, computing and information technology since my early teenage years, although I have had experience of computers and programming from around the age of 6. My particular fields of interest are: -

- Programming (applications, games, graphical techniques etc.)
- 2D and 3D graphic design and 3D modelling
- Hardware engineering
- Teaching computer skills
- Open Source Software - I am a big supporter and I primarily use Linux at home and whenever possible at work.

I currently use C, C++, C#, Perl, Python, PHP, shell scripting and JavaScript as my main programming languages, but I am also experienced in Borland Delphi (Pascal), Java, x86 assembly, Visual Basic and various other application-specific scripting languages (like Flash ActionScript).

I have undertaken a few programming projects in each of these languages and also have created over a hundred programs (either written as I am learning something new or written as a useful utility). These include: -

- Various simple physics simulations
- 3D modelling environments written from scratch
- 3D modelling libraries
- A drawing/painting package
- A Commodore 64 emulator (all components written from scratch)
- A media player with a plug-in system similar to WinAmp
- Various games
- Various other simulations (e.g. graphics simulations)

These were written in either C, C++, Java and Delphi. I have also been learning how to use Microsoft's DirectX API, OpenGL and also how to program using the Win32 API. More recently, I have been using Linux regularly both as a desktop system and for a server. I currently use Debian for the server and Ubuntu for the desktop machine. I have a strong knowledge of the Unix environment for administration, both graphical and command-line. I have also created several programs, mainly to learn various libraries (like X, Qt, GTK etc.). I also use Git for version control on many projects.

I have also spent a lot of time learning to use 2D and 3D design packages. These include: -

- Adobe Photoshop (versions 4 to CS2)
- Adobe Illustrator CS2
- Inkscape
- The GIMP
- Blender
- Unreal Development Kit (UDK)
- 3D Studio MAX
- Adobe Flash (versions 4 to CS2)

**Employment details overleaf...**

## Employment

### Genesis-UK . com Ltd. (October 10th 2005 to July 2011)

A screen printing, transfer printing and embroidery business that produces printed garments, mugs, pens, documents etc. to the wholesale market. Genesis UK . Com Ltd also has a sister company, TeeshirtsDirect, that sells printed garments to individuals (via its website).

During my employment, I worked as the IT manager (my full title was "Web Technician and IT Specialist"). My job included running all aspects of IT in both companies, including building and maintaining up to 4 websites (using PHP and ASP.NET), general maintenance of the computer system, network administration, physical set-up (computers, network installation, telephone system etc.) My job also included a large amount of design work using Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator and Windows and Unix system administration.

I used a wide range of technologies to do my job, including Microsoft Exchange, MailEnable, Sage Line 50, Perl, Python, PHP, ASP.NET, JavaScript, HTML, MySQL, Adobe Flash, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Apache, Microsoft IIS, SSH and Cygwin (to provide a Unix environment under windows to help me with various tasks). I also made extensive use of the Git version control system to control various projects.

Altogether I built three websites - www.genesis-uk.com, www.teeshirtsdirect.com and www.theverylatest.net.

I built the main Genesis-uk.com website myself using PHP and MySQL and hosted it on a Unix server initially. The Genesis-uk.com website was the company's main wholesale site. It allowed customers to browse the product range and to place orders (using a basket and checkout system). All updates were performed by updating our local products database (created using Microsoft Access) and then running a custom script to sync the website database (in MySQL) to this.

The TeeshirtsDirect website was built using ASP.NET and Adobe Flash but a third party company, but they were unable to complete the site to our requirements, so I completed it. During 2010, I completely rewrote this site as our requirements for it had completely outgrown the initial design. This was a retail site used to allow our customers to design their own t-shirts, polo shirts etc and to collect their details together in an order. The main design element of the site used a Flash front-end (to allow the customer to move, rotate and generally manipulate the designs) and an .NET assembly on the server that did the processing (rendering the garment with its designs). The site allowed customers to choose from stock designs, their own text and their own images (which could be uploaded). I also designed the site so that it could track any customer (without registering) so that an individual could come back a week later, for example, and still have their garments exactly as they had left them.

I had the idea for theverylatest.net in late 2010 and I completed it by Christmas 2010. My idea for this site stemmed from the fact that my manager wanted me to create a new website purely for plain garment sales. I decided, already having this domain name, that it would be a good idea to create a network of sites all under the "theverylatest.net" brand. For example, we supplied Spar shops with their uniforms, so I wanted to be able to have a site specific to Spar stores at www.theverylatest.net/spar. Also, we supplied The Outward Bound Trust, so again, I created www.theverylatest.net/outward-bound. All of these "micro-sites" were running off the same master site, but had their own product range, styles, ordering systems etc., independent of each other. My design goal was to be able to set up a new "website" specifically for individual organisations with the minimum amount of repeated work. Once the site was created, I was able to create a new site within the space of a few hours rather than weeks. These websites were hosted on a Windows 2003 dedicated server in the docklands in London. I subsequently set this machine up to handle all of the company's e-mail (including writing a MailEnable script to interface with SpamAssassin to address the company's spam problem). I also wrote scripts to interface with the various systems on the server using secure channels created with SSH (under Cygwin). As TeeshirtsDirect was also taking credit card payments, I also made this server PCI compliant. Since then I have also set up an office Linux server which handles everything from files shares, user logons, databases, printers, websites and e-mail. I still administer this server remotely using SSH when necessary.

I also wrote a number of utility programs and scripts (mainly to help me) using C, Perl, Python, C#, Visual Basic and shell (Bash) scripting. These included database utilities, backup scripts (using RSync under Cygwin), e-mail marketing systems etc. I also created Microsoft Access databases to help to maintain the growing list of products that we supplied, which also provided data to the websites and to produce PDF price lists (using XSLT-FO). I have also been involved in marketing, both on-line and print to promote the company websites. This has included pay-per-click advertising and also optimising the sites to be indexed and ranked in the natural listings of Google, Yahoo, MSN etc. I also worked in the design studio, which meant that I was able to increase my knowledge and experience using Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator. I used these programs to design the websites and also to produce artwork for customers. Again, as Genesis is a small company, I have been asked to perform various other duties. These include screen printing, transfer printing, vinyl cutting, accounts, reception, purchasing, stock control, garment folding and dispatch.

### Mr-Office.com (February 18th 2002 to July 22nd 2005)

Mr-Office.com was an office supplies company that sold exclusively on the web. I worked in the Tywyn IT office for about 6 months (while the main warehouse was in Wolverhampton), then when the warehouse was moved to Machynlleth, I went to work there.

During my employment, I worked as the IT manager which involved building and maintaining an e-commerce website (in ASP) and various back-office programs (mainly written in Pascal). I managed a number of staff whose roles included data entry, design and programming. I designed a number of programs to automate routine tasks and others that interfaced with the site, accounting system, parcel couriers etc.

I also used Sage Line 50 extensively to keep track of stock levels, purchasing options etc. I wrote auxiliary programs that transported this data to and from my other programs (for reporting purposes etc.).

I was also heavily involved with marketing the Mr-Office.com website through pay-per-click advertising with various search engines, affiliates etc. I wrote various programs and scripts to keep track of the various keywords, as we had nearly 40,000 products, each with, on average, 10 keywords.

As Mr-Office was a fairly small company, I was also required to perform other duties. These included accounts, reception, sales, purchasing, warehouse and general admin.