



Name:
Cris Thompson

Dob:
September 1968

Website & Portfolio:
www.fluster.co.uk

Favourite PHP statement:
json_decode()

Skill Summary:

Cris is a confident **PHP Website Developer in the LAMP environment**, with over 12 years of **end-to-end** website and **web app development**, specialising in **PHP and MySQL**, Cris is adept with all the necessary tools to complete a project; Javascript, JQuery, Adobe tools (Photoshop etc...). His background is one of **Software Engineering** with BT where he learned to design systems from the data up. Cris relishes the challenge of the new and enjoys speaking to clients as much as getting his head into the code.

Employment History:

Cris has worked for many different clients and employers over the years and is used to drawing on his experience to satisfy a specific brief. Currently working as an application developer for a financial technology company, he has been coding in a number of **PHP MVC Frameworks** and using the **GIT** repository system as version control for complex simultaneous developments. He is accomplished at weaving together technologies to form a solution; from incorporating social media and APIs to links with external property databases and bespoke Wordpress modules.

Cris studied Software Engineering in Brighton and went to work for **Syntegra (BT's software house)** as a graduate recruit. For the next 4 years he learned the Tandem system quickly and enjoyed the challenge of working under the ISO9001 TickIT quality procedure. By the end of his time there he had completed many roles throughout the development lifecycle, was on 24 hour call to keep the main product running (BT Chargecard) and spent daytimes gathering requirements, defining and delivering new functionality as well as defining, writing and running unit tests.

As an early career break, Cris took himself to art college 1996 – 1999 (**University of Westminster**), but he worked as a Tandem analyst each summer on contract to pay for his studies. When his Fine art degree completed at the end of 1999, he disappeared off to the Panamanian Rain Forest for a couple of years. This is where he started to make websites on a freelance basis and discovered **PHP/MySQL** as well how to farm butterflies.

September 2013 – to date

Application Developer for **Tuxedo Money Solutions**

Returning to a formal work setting, Cris fitted in quickly with an existing team structure to deliver financial services products. Initially just as a front end developer, he quickly became familiar with the API system and soon assumed responsibility for API development as well as building a flexible data based registration system that can be rolled out to clients with minimal development.

Building on the breath of knowledge gained of Tuxedo's systems, Cris has been busy bug fixing since January 2015.

May – August 2013 – Fixed Term Contract

PHP Developer for **Two Way Media**

Cris was responsible for re-factoring the old Java games portal into PHP, making it clean, clear and future proof. Creating his own procedures as he went, Cris worked quickly and within timescales to produce the system that runs interactive games on the Virgin Media platform. PHP, MySQL...



January 2002 – May 2013

Freelance employed on many website projects. These ranged from single page websites for cafes, to membership sites and research tools. For each of these projects, Cris was responsible for finding the client, gathering their requirements (while assessing their technical experience and skills), documenting the initial solution, then designing front ends and coding backends as necessary. Cris designed his own content management system for his clients over this period and was always interested to see where a new client's requirements would take it.

October 1999 – December 2001

When his Fine art degree completed at the end of 1999, he disappeared off to the Panamanian Rain Forest for a couple of years. This is where he started to make websites on a freelance basis and discovered **PHP/MySQL**.

Summer 1998 - Barclays Bank.

A summer in Poole working with an amazing, tight knit team to help make and test changes to a reporting function

Summer 1997 - Dell Computers.

Cris popped over to Limerick for the summer to work on in the Dell factory. A very different environment where the systems we were coding for were on a conveyor belt the other side of the divider!

Summer 1996 - Back to BT.

He returned to Syntegra as a contractor and managed a team of my old colleagues as we specified, coded, tested and delivered a batch of minor upgrades to the BT Chargecard.

Summer 1995 - Forte Hotels.

Based at Brentford, spent the summer debugging a new release of their global bookings system.

March 1990 – March 1995

Syntegra (BT's software house)

Client Highlights:

- **STA Travel CashFlex Visa Card** - statravelprepaid.com.au/register
Working from a technical document and a single page template, Cris spun it up into a registration and online financial management tool for this global client.
PHP, MySQL, Codeigniter PHP Framework, API integration, CSS, HTML...
- **socialfirmsinfomine.org.uk**
A complex flexible question and answer engine that allows users to pick the way through resources available to them. The owners (Socials Firms UK and **Middlesex University** have full control to add questions and change the data flow. Bespoke reports can be viewed on screen or downloaded as PDF's and admin users can export user data to Excel for offline analysis.
PHP, MySQL, CSS3, HTML5, javascript



- e17arttrail.co.uk**
The website for an **annual arts festival** in Walthamstow, north east London. Primarily a membership and listings site, it also takes payments, sends newsletters and exports data for the print version of the listings magazine (To InDesign via CSV)
PHP, MySQL, CSS3, HTML5, javascript
- artsinwalthamforest.com**
A membership and arts **listings site** for London Borough Waltham Forest
PHP, MySQL, javascript (waiting authorisation for CSS3 upgrade!)
- voluntaryaction.net**
A large drupal site. Cris designed the specification, then interviewed and appointed a company to deliver and maintain. He was responsible for the initial design, oversaw the implementation and ran it for 3 years.
Drupal, CIVI-CRM
- loveslikeus.net**
An ambitious online relationship game / tool. Project development currently stalled due to lack of funds. Membership system, question and answer system, flash games.
PHP, MySQL, Flash
- Global Security Challenge**
A sophisticated question and answer engine and membership system that allowed start-ups to enter their ideas into global competitions to compete for capital. This project was bought out by Onmi Compete 3 years ago (website replaced) and again acquired by InnoCentive in 2012.
PHP, MySQL, javascript, Google charts

EDUCATION

Ba(Hons) Mixed Media Arts, Grade: 2.1	University of Westminster	1996 - 1999
BTEC ND General Art & Design, Grade: Merit	Northbrook College, Worthing	1994 - 1996
BTEC HND Computer Science, Grade: Merit	Brighton University	1987 - 1989
'A' Level Computer Studies	Uckfield Community College	1985 - 1987
9 'O' Levels, including Maths, English, History, Physics, Statistics, Pure Maths, French...	Uckfield Community College	1984 - 1987

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Health & Safety - Risk Assessments,	2003
Advanced Microsoft Access,	2003
Database Design,	2005
Choosing a Legal Structure,	2005
Drupal,	2010 – 2013
Business Analysis (Lynda.com)	2014
Agile 101 – From May 2014,	ongoing.



EXPERIENCE

Managerial

- E17 Art Trail (2005 – 2012)
Jointly Responsible for creating, coordinating and managing the E17 Art Trail, with over 3500 creative people taking part in 2012.
- Walthamstow Festival (August 2003 to 2005)
Initially its website designer, Cris went on to act as secretary for over a year while we selected people from the local community to fill the committee officer roles.
- Risk Assessment Coordinator for ETHA (Dec 03 - Mar 04)
Responsible for compiling and coordinating Health and Safety risk assessments for the large Community Housing department.
- Lettings Project designer for ETHA (Jul 02 - Apr 03)
Responsible for turning a new Lettings policy into an active project. Project co-ordination, data validation, manipulation and conversion. Database and workflow design.
- Customer Relations Manager for ETHA (Feb 02 - May 02)
Responsible for ensuring that all complaints received by ETHA were dealt with and responded to fully and sympathetically. This involved close departmental links at all levels.

Teaching & Training

- 'Blog Taming' (January 2013) – a surgery for creative to explain how to take control of Wordpress.
- One to one sessions with Artists "Web technologies and how to go online" (various, ad-hoc)
- Course Designer & Teacher (May 1999 - Nov 1999) Cris was engaged by the University of Westminster to devise, schedule, promote, and co-teach a short course entitled; 'Web Design for Professionals and Designers'

Other Experience

- May 2013 Cris ran HackJam.it, a local project start-up to get kids programming using Scratch...
- Lettings IT Officer for ETHA (Jan 03 – Jun 04) Responsible for all IT issues surrounding the new Choice Homes lettings project; database design and maintenance, print magazine production, mail-shots and form generation. A major task was also the development, interpretation and maintenance of statistics reporting structures.
- Field station coordinator and visitor liaison for Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá (Mar 2000 - Dec 2001)
- Butterfly Farmer for Imperial College London in Panamá
- Location Assistant for BBC (Panamá July 01) Wildlife on One; 'Iguanas: Living like Dinosaurs'