

Nicholas M Turner

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An accomplished Software Engineer specialising in Internet client / server solutions with extensive experience in the full life cycle of the software design process including object-oriented software design, problem solving, implementation, testing and maintenance. I perform effectively either as sole developer or in a team and have a proven track record in delivering robust software on time.

Key Skills & Achievements

PHP / HTML

I have over 10 years experience in PHP / HTML design, implementation and maintenance on both Windows and Unix Apache platforms, including such technologies as WAMP, LAMP, XHTML, JavaScript, AJAX, JSON, XML, XSLT, SOAP.

I have created everything from simple static HTML websites to full multi-server object oriented gaming systems with multiple simultaneous user transactions.

C / C++

I have over 20 years experience of C / C++ design, implementation and maintenance on both Windows and UNIX environments, including interfacing to internet clients via a variety of protocols.

Frameworks

I developed my own MVC based PHP framework and in doing so extensively researched many of the existing .NET, Unix and PHP frameworks and packages such as, .NET 4 MVC, Qt, GTK+, wxWidgets, Zend Framework 1 & 2, Symfony 2, Lithium, Doctrine, Drupal, Mambo, Joomla, Concrete, Xoops, PHPNuke, Gallery 1 & 2, WebObjects, EZSystems, Typo 3 plus many more.

Design Concepts

I am familiar with Object Orientated design concepts such Model-View-Controller (MVC), Front End Controllers, Page Controllers, Delegates, Signal/Slots, etc. I am familiar with the work of the Gang of Four (GoF) and Martin Fowler in their documentation of common design patterns.

SQL / Databases

I have over 12 years experience in using Oracle and MySQL. I am proficient in schema design and SQL usage to implement storage requirements for multi-user systems.

Project Design

I enjoy the challenge of receiving a basic requirement and producing technical designs and specifications to realise that requirement in a timely manner. I am equally at home designing a small application or webpage or a full multi-user client/server system. I like to take full opportunity of object oriented design techniques and patterns when appropriate for the job in hand.

Teamwork

I enjoy the challenge of either being the sole developer or leading a team on a project. I prefer a more hands-off leadership approach, trusting in oneself and one's colleagues. I believe myself to be a team player.

UNIX

I have over 20 years experience of UNIX developing many C/C++ applications. I have worked on many flavours of UNIX including Linux, BSD, Sys5, OpenVMS etc., developing cross platform code. I am proficient in UNIX shell scripting, makefiles, source code control etc.

MS Windows

I am experienced in most versions of Windows and a competent user of Microsoft Office applications. I am equally at home developing on Windows or UNIX based platforms. I have developed cross platform software and applications using MFC and Win32 APIs.

Strengths

I adapt to new projects quickly and I am respected by management and peers for my technical designs and consistently high quality and volume of work.

I have a clean driving licence, which I have held for 21 years.

Career History

Software Developer – Datatote Ltd.

2002 – date

- Designed, implemented and maintain a LAMP based skinnable betting portal which allows the users to bet into the pools at the main Greyhound stadiums in the UK and Ireland.
- Implemented an extended PHP Smarty API allowing full web page block caching.
- Implemented an XML based web API into the betting system to allow third party interaction.
- Worked closely with the Irish Greyhound Board to replace their existing internet betting system.
- Maintained and enhanced the companies Linux C++ based betting applications, including enhancing them to support communication to and from the internet betting systems, language translations etc.
- Maintained and enhanced the interface between the betting applications and the ontrack tote systems via RESTful web interfaces.
- Maintained and enhanced the company's legacy internet portal (<http://www.24dogs.co.uk/>).
- Produced portal skins to allow the betting portal to sit seamlessly in third-party betting sites for clients such as BET24, LoveTheDogs, PaddyPower, Irish Greyhound Board, SkyBet, and Digibet.

Web Design Consultant – Self Employed

2002 – 2003

- Designed and development a PHP based CMS to implement community based portals for various clients.
- Designed and developed Joomla based sites (for example <http://www.wellingtonscouts.org>)
- Designed and developed dynamic web sites using HTML and Javascript (for example <http://www.tntdisco.co.uk>)
- Helped smaller businesses to gain web presence including domain registration, simple content sites and email.

Senior Software Engineer – Passgo Technologies

1996 – 2002

- Worked as a team leader on various PassGo, Axent and Symantec security products.
- Maintained Symantec AntiVirus on mid-range systems.
- Maintained and modernised Axent's UNIX based central administration and security products.
- Designed an SQL test harnesses for the company's web based security product.
- Designed and developed Single SignOn products for Windows NT, UNIX, Linux, OpenVMS and AS400 using single cross platform code base.
- Designed and developed a configuration utility, running on both Windows and Novell NetWare, for the company's security agents.
- Extensively researched Novell's Directory Services, X500, LDAP, Active Directory Meta-Directories to see how they could be integrated into the company's products.

Senior Software Engineer – Cray Communications Ltd.

1990 – 1996

- Helped design and develop network management software in C/C++, running under UNIX X/Motif and Windows MFC.
- Used proprietary protocols and SNMP to manage LAN and WAN network devices.
- Team leader for small team of engineers in charge of LAN management software.
- Demonstrated proficiency in leading and mentoring individuals into a cohesive team environment.
- Responsible for the design and implementation of core project libraries.
- Maintained and enhanced existing X25 management system, including extensive ergonomic overhauls.
- Designed and developed a Tektronics graphic emulator for VGA based PCs.

Other career experience

Placement Student Software Engineer – Cray Communications Ltd.

1988

Trainee Domestic Electrical Engineer

1987

Placement Student Electrical – North Eastern Electricity Board

1986

Portfolio

eBetting Portal

While working for Datatote I developed a tote betting portal system called eBetting which ran over multiple servers using an Oracle database, C++ application servers and PHP front end. The PHP front end was based upon the Model-View-Controller design pattern and used the PHP Smarty package as its View component.

The portal could run standalone handling all the navigation, user accounts, credit transferring etc, or as an embedded system running in an iFrame on a client site where the client can provide the navigation and user accounts etc. if required. When running embedded the portal would communicate with the clients existing sports book system using custom HTTP requests, XML, SOAP etc.

The portal was fully skinnable allowing all HTML templates, CSS files, Images etc. to be customized for each client. The portal was based on a block system where individual blocks of content could be positioned as required by the client. The majority of clients chose to re-skin via simple CSS changes rather than a new HTML templates.

Examples of standalone eBetting sites are:

<http://www.e-tote.com/gg/>

<http://www.e-tote.com/thedogs/>

<http://www.e-tote.com/yarmouth/>

<http://www.e-tote.com/drumbopark/>

<http://www.e-tote.com/jersey/>

Examples of grey label sites are;

http://www.paddypower.com/bet?action=go_ETOTE

<http://www.digibet.com/> (then click on Greyhounds to get to the embedded eTote site)

24dogs Portal

In addition to the eBetting portal I have been in charge of the maintenance of Datatote's main Greyhound betting portal 24dogs. This portal was initially developed by a third party for Datatote and then brought in house and mainly rewritten before I joined the company. It is a long term aim of the company to finally move 24dogs to use the eBetting system.

<http://www.24dogs.com/>

TNT Disco

TNT Disco is my mobile disco company and as such I have developed a website to market the company and allow clients to fully manage their booking via the website. At the moment I am using an externally provided booking and management package to handle the bookings side of the website but intend to develop my own as time permits. The web site is a classic example of using Hash based URLs and history management. IT used jQuery to a large extent.

<http://www.tntdisco.co.uk/>

Wellington Scouts

I am a leader with 1st Wellington Scout Group and naturally produced a website for them. The brief was to have a site which could easily be updated by other group members and have some sort of social networking aspect and private content areas. Although I was currently developing my own CMS/Social Network package which was running other sites (which are no longer running), I chose to use an existing well developed and supported CMS package for this site. The website uses a Joomla CMS/Gallery combination. Although the website is easy to update actually getting people to produce new content to update it with has been difficult.

<http://www.wellingtonscouts.org/>

Education & Qualifications

1994	Project Management Course, Learning Tree International.
1991	CASE/OOD Course, Cray Communications Ltd.
1990	NMC3000 Users & Toolkit Course, Network Managers Ltd.
1987 – 1990	HND Computer Studies, Nottingham Polytechnic. Distinctions in module: Final year project Merit in modules: Programming II, Architecture II, Advanced Systems Techniques, Management Science, Common Skills
1985 – 1987	BEng (Hons) Electrical and Electronics Eng., Newcastle Polytechnic. Transferred to HND Computer studies after 2nd year.
1978 – 1985	Ossett Comprehensive School, Ossett, West Yorkshire. GCE 'O' Levels (10): Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Latin, English Language, English Literature, French, Geography, Electronics, and General Studies. GCE 'A' Levels (4): Mathematics, Physics, Geography, General Studies

I have various Scouting qualifications including leadership training and 1st response first aid which are useful in both my scouting and professional careers.

Interests and Activities

I am an active member of the Scout Association and currently run the Explorer Scout Section (14-18yo) in 1st Wellington Scout Group. I currently hold both Assistant Explorer Scout Leader and Assistant Scout Leader warrants. I also previously held an Assistant Cub Scout Leader warrant and used to run the Cub Scout section. I enjoy the leadership challenges that this incurs. I am a keen walker and have done many long distance walks in England and Wales. I enjoy working with children and young adults and find it rewarding to see them progress through the Scout movement.

I have a keen interest in music and run my own mobile entertainment company <http://www.tntdisco.co.uk>. The disco allows me to incorporate my love for electronics with music. I have a group of loyal helpers who help me with this endeavour. Running my own mobile entertainments company gives me a broader knowledge of accounting and general business management skills.

My interest with computers started at home with a Sinclair Spectrum. I then began to find the computing areas of my BEng course very interesting and decided to transfer to a computing course. I find computing very rewarding and specialise in user interfaces. I have coded everything from full AJAX enabled web based interfaces to simple ANSI VT100 user interfaces. I am ambitious but the traditional promotional path is through management, while I wish to retain hands on programming.

References

Work: Mr Paul Corke
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DataTote Ltd
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Personal: Mr Steve Altria
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