

The Resume of Alastair Cooke BSc.

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Profile

I am a hardworking and dedicated individual, committed seeking areas of personal and industrial improvement, and keen on learning new and interesting things. Furthermore I am also forthright, honest and to the point, allowing for free communication and an easy exchange of ideas.

Although my skills are mostly as a web developer, I am also interested in System administration, particularly interesting integration problems. I rather enjoy the Unix Administrator's obsession with Automating any task he ever has to perform.

- Exposure to Catalyst, CGI, Tk, Template::Toolkit, CGI::FormBuilder, Module::Starter, DBI, DBIx::Class, Class::Std, etc
- I frequently help on freenode's #perl and ##php, [PerlMonks](#).
- Best practices are the main thing I worry about. I am definitely a "do it right" type programmer rather than a quick-and-nasty developer, I get nervous without version control, a development server or strict/warnings.

Education

Macquarie University 2001 - 2004

Completed a BSc. in Computing Science at Macquarie University Sydney, Australia

- Introduction to assorted languages including. C++, Java, Python (CGI and scripting), Visual Basic and ASP and Prolog, Javascript
- Oracle PL/SQL and straight SQL
- PHP with MySql and MSSql
- Some experience with UML and CASE tools.

Experience

Integrity Consultants 2000 Ongoing

Technical director

Integrity is our family company, we offer php programming, IT contracting and web hosting services. Tasks for integrity are generally in the form of piecework for assorted customers in terms of small changes and updates to their sites. Most of the below positions have been done on contract through Integrity.

- In house php and perl development on a content management system and customer websites

- Work for [Relec Electrical](#), customising [xoops](#) install.
- Website design for [Isolect switchboards](#) as well as design work on other [customer sites](#)

Bizhosting 2006 - Ongoing

Webmaster and First level helpdesk

Integrity recently acquired [BizHosting](#), from a fellow I knew from Uni. Since we took over his business I have been providing answers to helpdesk calls, as well as providing development time to customers, updating sites, and doing general maintenance of the server.

- Answering user queries relating to the setup of their web and email hosting, mail clients and backups.
- DNS registration, delegation and renewal.
- Currently doing a re-write of the site's layout with a cleaner CSS/xhtml based layout, using Perl's Template Toolkit and makefiles to generate a consistent html layout throughout the site. The script is backed by a couple of perl CGI scripts too.
- Updates on existing customer's websites [Dance Vibe](#), ongoing work on [PRJ Fine Arts](#) and others. Our customers use many different technologies in their sites, including plain php/mysql, use of various frameworks, dreamweaver generated sites and sites running perl or python CGI scripts.

Mobile Messenger Oct 2006 - Dec 2007

Software Engineer

Short term contract as part of a development project that was to replace one of their key products.

- Involved in design of object hierarchies and database models for one of the modules of their new application.
- Made quick reuse of code by creating templates and libraries of frequently written and used code
- Experience in writing design documents and following them through into implementation

NSW Ministry Of Transport - ISSTS Feb 2006 - Feb 2007

Software Engineer

This was a maintenance contract, working on the [ISSTS](#) website. The site is indented to run part of the Integrated Ticketing Project, and receives and decodes bus usage data via email, and accepts student and operator information in specifically formatted uploads via the site. I generally worked in the email decoding and validation sub-system, but was also called on to write reports and write CRUD type screens for other parts of the system. I also administered and configured an instance of [Best Practical's Request Tracker](#).

- Experience refactoring unstructured, undocumented (nasty) code into testable, provable documented code.
- Working with an "agile development" methodology, including pair programming and test driven development.
- My team ported a large application from Informix to Oracle 10g
- This role ended due to the project's funding being cut.

Tilda Communications - Horde First April 2005 - Feb 2006

Web Services Manager and Web master

Tilda Communications offer a range of on site IT support and Help desk, as well as web hosting and development.

- Responsible for the Administration of Tilda's web server with 50 odd sites and Later for a second server with an additional 100 odd clients
- [Horde](#) is a group ware framework based on php and Pear libraries, it possesses many modules and allows for granular permissions, quick installation and construction of modules and user/group based access. I was responsible for implementing 3 such modules from the ground up. I designed and build modules for tracking techies' on site hours, generating quotes, another for generating and emailing PDF invoices. I was the Lord of Horde, and I administered horde with an iron fist.
- Tilda has also rolled out an installation of [Best Practical's Request Tracker](#). I was both an End user on this system, as well as responsible for making modifications to the user interface, and setting up and tampering with the sendmail aliases that make email gateways work

Pizza Hut Call Centre 1999 - 2004

Incoming and Outgoing call centre agent.

As a Customer Service Representative, Training Responsible for handling customer orders and complaints in a friendly manner. assisted fellow team members with cancelling and altering existing orders, and interacting directly with stores and supervisors.

- Developed telephone skills and professional relationships through interaction on the telephone and in person with co-workers.
- Gained a position as a member of the Training and Support Team
- As confirmer I was responsible for confirming the details of orders including addresses, customer and credit details.

Other

In a nutshell

Other things I enjoy doing are listed here

- Problem solving, both [code golf](#) and [lateral thinking](#) style problems as well as Object and Application design
- Tampering with computer hardware, software and networking, as well as Digital logic, construction and design.
- Attending Perl Mongers meetings / Drinking other people's beer
- ASCII art