

# David Rowbory MA, MA (Cantab), BA

Software Development – Web Design – IT Systems

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## Higher Education & Work History

### Feb 10-Date Freelance IT Consulting; Part-Time Royal Mail Delivery

- Temporary work with Royal Mail whilst building up a solid client base for web design, software development, database services, and general computer consultancy and maintenance.

### Sep 09-Jan 10 Refreshing Skills; Freelance IT Consulting

- Focus on DHTML, Ajax, PHP/MySQL, WordPress theme & plugin development, and other Web 2.0 concepts, whilst building a variety of new engaging, media-rich, resource-efficient sites.

### Aug 07-Aug 09 Education: MA Translation Studies, NEGST, Nairobi

- Integrating linguistics and other study, and gaining greater depth of cross-cultural and multilingual experience

### Aug 05-Aug 07 IT & Media Manager: Epaphras Trust, Glasgow (Charity)

- New extranet, custom CMS and a completely redesigned public-facing website resulting in greatly-increased traffic
- General IT support, training, purchasing advice, network & infrastructure building
- Pioneering online audio, podcasting, CD & DVD creation, graphic design, small-scale publishing
- *Left at end of contract having achieved all objectives and trained others to maintain web site and systems*

### Aug 04-Jan 05 Part Time Sessional Youth Worker: The Safety Zone, Bargeddie

- Planning and running evening social sessions for youth from 8-18 years with difficult social backgrounds

### Late 2004 Part Time IT Demonstrator / Sales: Kodak Cameras/Printers, Glasgow & Edinburgh

- Embedded in Comet, Dixons and Currys stores, demonstrating Kodak cameras and printer dock systems; many sales

### Sep 03-Jul 05 Education: BA Theology, International Christian College, Glasgow

- Study for personal interest

### Feb 02-Aug 03 IT Manager: IFES International Office, Oxford

- Streamlined finance IT systems in Access, SQL Server & Excel
- Researched, built and documented new CRM/finance solution to replace old inefficient and unsuitable previous systems
- Administered Windows 95-XP, NT4/2000 Server, Exchange Server 5.5, MS Office 97-XP, with Linux firewall and large network
- Planned, implemented and tested improved backup strategies
- Web design (conference registration system), multimedia CD creation
- *Left at end of contract as planned to pursue studies and return to Glasgow for family reasons.*

### Jan-Dec 2001 Voluntary development work, Nigeria: SIL International

- Helped research and publish 480 page trilingual dictionary & teach national workers relevant computer skills
- Developed Java-based cross-platform lexicography software tools, continued to learn new DTP & office programs, coping with difficult hardware and software

### Aug-Dec 2000 Education: Post-graduate linguistics, SIL UK

- Foundational linguistics, lexicography, cross-cultural communication

### Aug-Sep 1999 Summer Internship: TAP (The Automation Partnership) Ltd

- Software and documentation to integrate 3rd-party hardware into robotic system: Visual C++, COM, SourceSafe, Rational Rose (UML).

## Major Skills & Experience

### General Computing Experience

- Windows 3, 9x, NT, 2000, XP, Vista, Server (since 1994)
- Linux, UNIX (since 1997), various shells
- Mac OS (since 1990)
- MS Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint), OpenOffice, PDF, Photoshop, various graphic design, audio and video editing software

### Programming / Web Design

- Best Skills & Most Recent Experience:
  - PHP, HTML, CSS 1-3, XML, Apache
  - Hand-crafted SQL, ODBC
  - Various CMS: Joomla!, WordPress
- Also Extensive Experience:
  - Java (1997-2002), GUI design
  - Distributed computing/concurrency
  - C, C++, MFC, COM, Assembler
  - AppleScript, HyperCard
  - BASIC, Visual Basic, VBA
- Currently Learning:
  - iPhone, Objective C, C#, ASP.NET
  - memcached, Drupal, MediaWiki
- Some Familiarity
  - Flash, Director, Solaris, Swing, UML
  - SourceSafe, CVS, RCS, Subversion

### Database

- MS Access, SQL Server (since 1996)
- MySQL (since 2003)
- Some Familiarity:
  - FileMaker, 4D, Oracle, SQLite

### IT Systems Management

- Systems analysis and architecture
- Fast/Gigabit ethernet network planning & maintenance
- Backup planning and implementation
- Securing systems, encryption
- VMware (Windows, Linux, Mac), VNC

## **Jun-Jul 1999 Summer Internship: Cambridge Computer Science Research Centre, SRI Int.**

- GUI and file analysis tools and documentation developed using SGML, C++, Swing, Java, Solaris

## **1997-2000 Education: BA (2.1) Computer Science, University of Cambridge**

Provided a solid, lasting theoretical foundation in crucial principles:

- Rigorous software engineering, security, digital electronics, database, networking, language processing etc.

## **1996, 1997 Access/SQL Database Design: Summer Jobs, NHS (Gartnavel, Glasgow)**

- Short-term work developing custom Access-based questionnaires to improve service to Rheumatology patients
- GUI design in MS Access / Visual Basic, linking with large SQL Databases through ODBC.

## **Programming & Software Development Background**

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Since picking up and devouring a BBC User Guide aged 9, I taught myself programming with BASIC (various dialects), 6502 Assembler, HyperCard, AppleScript, C/C++, HTML, Pascal, Visual Basic, Java before receiving formal education. Developing software for educational purposes, then other public and private institutions, my own style has developed and been refined over many years.

## **Other Work**

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Alongside study and other employment, I have worked on a number of supplementary and voluntary projects, stretching my software development and other skills.

### **1996 to date Web Design – Charitable, personal and business clients – See portfolio below**

### **1994 to date Casual Help-desk and IT Support Work**

- Regularly fix hardware and software problems on Windows & Mac OS and install and configure systems.

### **1998, '05, '06 Voluntary & Social Work**

- Led groups of volunteers on 3-8 week development trips to East Africa in the summers of 1998, 2005, 2006.

### **1990-2000 Educational Software – BBC & Mac OS**

- Developing custom simulation, role play, quiz and other education software for Scottish schools and porting legacy software from BBC to Mac OS, covering Religious Education, Science and general educational areas.

### **1996 Work Experience – IBM Greenock**

- A week of shadowing and coding in C (under OS/2), in the CMOS development department.

## **Other Interests, Awards & Skills**

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- Full, clean driving license – categories B,C1,D1 (+E), FKLNP
- Music (composing, performing) and sports (cycling, ball sports, swimming)
- Writing: UK Young Journalist of the Year 1994 (Sight-Savers/Barclays')
- International: Strong cross-cultural interests having lived & worked in Uganda, Kenya and Nigeria
- Young Enterprise experience (marketing/sales/reporting) in 1995-7

## **Select Web Design Portfolio**

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I have developed new websites and redeveloped existing ones for a variety of not-for-profit/charitable organisations, educational establishments, churches and private individuals as well as for businesses. Although I designed many of these sites in their current state, please bear in mind I do not control the content.

### **BibleFresh.com – 2009 to date – graduated launch in progress for high traffic, media-rich site**

- Complementing and supporting a diverse offline campaign, this site has been designed with complex databases interacting with a standard WordPress installation to facilitate easy administration by non-technical staff.
- Considerable training of staff and careful design of normalised databases has led to a powerful, flexible and attractive system.
- Mailing list solutions with customised interfaces and custom WordPress plugins and theme have all been integrated with elegant Ajax effects to handle large quantities of media.
- Google Analytics and other technologies harnessed to track reader responses, interests and site usability.
- Interacted with a growing team via Skype, email and telephone to accommodate changes in ideas and create great solutions.
- Still preparing for full public launch by summer 2010.
- A custom hosting solution was also included.

### **ReformationScotland.com – 2009 – WordPress site with customised theme and Ajax code**

- Developed rapidly in consultation with a group of three interested parties with specific design ideas, this site incorporates some custom jQuery-based Ajax code for smooth visual effects, uses CSS and semantic HTML to great effect and is easy and robust to update.
- The commissioning team and public reviewers have expressed delight with the site.
- Training was included for semi-technical personnel who will continue to maintain the site.
- A custom hosting solution was also included.

### **TheTron.org – 2004 to date – Database-driven Custom CMS, Media-rich**

- Developed online audio and podcasting from 2004
- Custom bandwidth control techniques enforce a generous fair-use policy and protect against abuse
- Researched needs and desires for the website and produced new CSS fluid layout, database-driven website and back-end system for authenticated multiple user data entry, launched 2006
- Currently in spare time developing e-commerce and preparing switch to an open-source CMS with custom plugins

### **negst-letter.rowbory.co.uk – 2008-9 – Nonprofit Newsletter for Email and Web (WordPress)**

- Designed to allow non-technical people to edit content and send newsletter to a large mailing list. Uses open source components. Currently hosted by me too.

### **CasaMargarida.org – 2005-2006 – Photo-rich site advertising a family business (custom CMS)**

### **KaribuniPlace.com – 2008 – Photo-rich site advertising a family business (WordPress)**

### **CornhillScotland.org.uk – 2005-7 – Nonprofit Educational Institution Publicity**

### **NEGSTor.rowbory.co.uk – 2008-9 – Academic Paper Repository (WordPress)**

### **rowbory.co.uk – 2004 to date – Personal Family and Test site**

- [www.rowbory.co.uk/software](http://www.rowbory.co.uk/software) contains experimental software, mostly web-based

### **Other non-public work:**

I have developed numerous extranets and back-end systems, custom Wordpress plugins and themes to support the above sites and others which I am not able to list for reasons of confidentiality.

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**References available on request**