

# Francis Saul

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## Personal Statement

I'm an honest and dedicated worker. I have a real passion for the work I do, injecting my quirky sense of humour into every workplace. I am a real asset to a team always seeking the most constructive and effective way to realize the team's goals. I always show initiative in the roles I'm given – but being given orders is OK too.

I'm always learning from my work and life experiences. I have a tremendous fascination for the little things, and the big questions. I'm a voracious reader. My favourite topics are popular science, philosophy, politics and modern and post-modern literature. I've also got a keen interest in the environment and outdoor activities. In the weekends you can often find me running, rock climbing, playing soccer, and tramping – but not at the same time!

## Front end developer

I am a front end programmer, making websites using XHTML/CSS with an emphasis on accessibility, semantic markup and usability. I utilise Javascript to create user friendly experiences that degrade gracefully. I am familiar with working within an Agile project management environment.

I specialise in creating flexible 'skins' for web applications and Content Management Systems. I have a lot of experience with a wide variety of CMS systems. Enterprise solutions like IBMWCM intranet for Transit New Zealand and Tridion for RaboPlus New Zealand; bespoke solutions such as Stylelabs CMS for Uplace; and free CMS solutions such as PHP postnuke for druidry.org or Wordpress on my own travel blog at mummybot.com built with Wordpress.

# Employment

## BBC Worldwide

December 2007 – December 2008

Front-end Developer

At BBC Worldwide I worked for the Digital Delivery department which was responsible for building and maintaining many of BBC Worldwide's passion websites (<http://www.bbcmagazines.com/>). I worked as a front-end developer on the Top Gear re-launch, and provided support for their stable of existing web sites. The role contained a varied mixture of XHTML/CSS and Javascript, site planning, client liaison, newsletter management and customer support. We utilised Agile methodology to manage our projects and for a period of two months I acted as Scrum Master for the maintenance team.

The new Top Gear website is built using ASP.Net, and I worked directly with two other front end and six back end developers.

The other main websites are built using a mixture of Java and a bespoke CMS called Athens.

[www.topgear.com](http://www.topgear.com)

[www.radiotimes.com](http://www.radiotimes.com)

[www.bbcgoodfood.com](http://www.bbcgoodfood.com)

[www.gardenersworld.com](http://www.gardenersworld.com)

[www.loveearth.com](http://www.loveearth.com)

## Boondoggle

September 2007 – December 2007

Web Production/Front-end Developer

I worked for Boondoggle (<http://www.boondoggle.eu/>), a successful online advertising agency in Leuven, Belgium.

I fulfilled the role of front end web developer, and was responsible for maintaining existing client's websites, enhancing them through creating sub-sections, and building new client websites. I worked within a team of 4 front-end developers, and used their standardisation and system tools: Microsoft SourceSafe for software versioning and Sharepoint as an information resource tool among others.

## **Boondoggle client: Uplace**

The Uplace website is built using Stylelabs CMS (<http://www.stylelabs.com>). This required a lot of advanced configuration and setup: determining client requirements and working with Stylelabs to create the best solutions, accessing the SQL database to add template records, creating traditional ASP functions to create section specific styles for the templates, language switch and other minor aesthetic functionality.

The two main challenges of this project were the section specific colour scheme and the flexibility of the content blocks:

Instead of creating a set of templates for each colour scheme, I used the unique root page identifier for each section to generate the section class name in the body tag, which also pulls in the relevant flash and image banners.

The blocks appear in different locations throughout the pages of the site and have a variety of options: icons, images, links, video links and headings and text, which need to be mixed and matched. The XHTML/CSS was built flexible enough to cope with all possible iterations.

<http://www.uplace.eu>

## **Boondoggle: Other projects**

I was also involved in the HTML/CSS build and maintenance of these existing clients:

<http://www.involve.be>

<http://www.axionweb.be>

<http://www.extrakostwinner.be/>

## **Click Suite**

August 2005 – May 2007

Front-end Developer

[www.clicksuite.co.nz](http://www.clicksuite.co.nz)

My role at Click Suite was in web production. I was solely responsible for all front-end development, specifically site planning and XHTML/CSS website and email builds. I used Javascript, XML/XSLT and traditional ASP extensively. I also maintained Click Suite's Service Level Agreements (SLA) for website maintenance and regular updates. I worked in close relation with our XHTML production contractors and had the responsibilities of breaking down tasks and overseeing their work. I managed my own workflow in conjunction with the Production Manager, taking responsibility for all my own deadlines. This often involved juggling many different streams of work at once – I'm a real multi-tasker.

### **Click Suite client: RaboPlus**

I was the technical lead for [www.raboplus.co.nz](http://www.raboplus.co.nz) and created and implemented the in-house systems for production flow, banner and landing page tracking – as well as processes for uploading to the CMS and writing extensive documentation of these systems. I built and maintained landing pages and online campaigns for this client.

### **Click Suite client: Transit**

[www.transit.govt.nz](http://www.transit.govt.nz)

As well as building all the main templates for Transit ([www.transit.govt.nz](http://www.transit.govt.nz)) I formulated and developed an online HTML style-guide with 'cut and paste' templates and containers. This allowed their webmaster to easily create static HTML pages for a 1000+ page site with only limited HTML knowledge and with no CMS.

For their intranet I skinned and integrated IBM WCM, and provided training to their webmaster on how to use and maintain the portal.

### **Click Suite: other clients**

[www.generationisland.co.nz](http://www.generationisland.co.nz)

[www.visique.co.nz](http://www.visique.co.nz)

## **Squarepixel Web Design**

January 2002 - December 2005

Web specialist and programmer

Squarepixel was a company I owned through which to get freelance web design contracts and to contract services to other employers (Click Suite, Experience New Zealand Travel, Apple Web Services, Jericho, and Lucid Student Media). Freelance projects were taken from initial client contact through to site deployment.

[www.onhm.net](http://www.onhm.net)

[www.scionresearch.com](http://www.scionresearch.com)

### **Experience New Zealand**

[www.experiencenewzealand.com](http://www.experiencenewzealand.com)

March 2004 - August 2005

Webmaster, web specialist and programmer

I maintained and updated this busy travel website, implementing new functionality and optimising the website to perform well in search engines using Adwords, link exchanges, targeted

keywords. The site was developed in Macromedia Coldfusion, HTML, CSS and Javascript, using Macromedia Homesite.

I also designed and implemented the Experience New Zealand's New Tours website and content management system [www.experiencenz tours.com](http://www.experiencenz tours.com)

## **Apple Web Services**

December 2003 - October 2005

Web specialist and programmer

I was responsible for the design and HTML coding of many small website projects, and the site maintenance for a variety of customers. The websites were mainly PHP Postnuke and Filemaker Pro systems, as well as static XHTML/CSS.

[www.military-genealogy.com](http://www.military-genealogy.com)

[www.druidry.org](http://www.druidry.org)

[www.philipcarrgomm.druidry.org](http://www.philipcarrgomm.druidry.org)

## **Jericho**

April 2003 - August 2003

Web specialist - Contract

Design role and HTML/CSS email templates for the bulk email program [www.smartmail.co.nz](http://www.smartmail.co.nz).

# Education

1999 - 2003

## Bachelor of Design Massey University

Major: Interactivity

1998

## Year 13 (final year of high school)

A Bursary (Graphic Design, Art Painting, Chemistry, Calculus, and Physics)

# Referees

## Simon Pearson

BBC Worldwide

Project Manager

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## Bart Plessers

Boondoggle

Multimedia Director

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## Alan Doak

Click Suite

Production Manager

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# Skills

Key technologies and/or processes	Years Experience	Last Used	Rating 1-10 (10 highest)
<b>Languages</b>			
ASP (classic)	2	Dec 2007	4
Coldfusion MX	2	Aug 2005	4
PHP 4.0	3	Aug 2005	4
XHTML/HTML 4.01	7	Present	10
CSS/CSS 2	5	Present	10
Javascript/DHTML	4	Present	7
MySQL / MSSQL	4	Aug 2005	4
XML/XSLT	4	Present	5
<b>Technologies</b>			
Content Management System setup, configuration, and templating: PHP PostNuke, Tridion, ASP DotNetNuke, Mambo, Wordpress, Textpattern, IBM WCM, Stylelabs CMS	5	Present	8
Agile Project Management	1	Present	4
Search Engine Optimisation and web marketing	3	Aug 2005	5
Website management/planning	6	Present	10
Software versioning systems: Subversion and Sourcesafe	2	Present	5
<b>Applications</b>			
Photoshop / ImageReady CS2	10	Present	10
Freehand / Illustrator	8	Present	10
Text editors (Dreamweaver, Homesite, Notepad ++)	5	Present	10
Firefox and developer extensions: Developer Toolbar, Firebug, Greasemonkey	4	Present	10
Flash	3	Aug 2005	4
Quark XPress / Adobe Indesign	2	Aug 2002	6
Adobe Acrobat: Pre-press production and PDF generation for web	2	Present	7
<b>Microsoft Office Suite:</b>			
Access	2	Aug 2005	4
Excel (including VBScripting)	10+	Present	10
Word	10+	Present	10