

# Dan Garland

## Senior Web Developer, Instructor and Tech Lead

*"Expressing creativity through innovative web development"*

For expanded information on the content of this C.V., please visit me

<http://www.dangarland.me.uk>

(or Google: 'freelance ruby rails developer london')

Mobile: +44 (0) 7979 770053

Email: dan@dangarland.co.uk

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/dmgarland>

Age: 35

Dual Nationality: British and New Zealand citizen and passport holder

Location: Guildford

## Current Status

Founder of my own Ruby consultancy 'We Got Coders', which specialises in the training of web developers and pair-programming on agile web development projects. I have fourteen years' experience in analysing, developing and delivering web applications. I am currently looking for a fresh challenge in a tech leadership role, developing products for web or mobile.

## Technical Skills

Solidity, Golang, gRPC, Ruby, Ruby on Rails, Sinatra, Padrino, Cucumber, RSpec, MiniTest, HTML 5, CSS/SCSS, JavaScript, Jasmine / Mocha / Chai, React.js, Backbone.js, AJAX, SQL, Postgres, SQLite, MongoDB, Linux, Apache, Git, Capistrano, AWS, Agile Development, Design Patterns, Mobile development, Cordova

## Experience (15 Years Commercial since 2003)

**Vega Protocol**  
[vegaprotocol.io](http://vegaprotocol.io)

**FinTech**

**Co-Founder, Senior Engineer** January 2018 - Present

- I was a founding team member of Vega Protocol, a decentralised financial products platform that uses blockchain technology to facilitate trades of derivatives of crypto assets.
- I worked on the collateral holding smart contracts written in Solidity, and worked on the API backend using Go, Protobuf and Swagger to build and document a gRPC / REST interface.
- I gave a talk at Takeoff Conference promoting the platform covering the application of software design patterns to Solidity smart contract code.

**We Got Coders**  
[www.wegotcoders.com](http://www.wegotcoders.com)

**Consultancy, Training**

**Founder**

**August 2013 - Present**

- I founded my own training and recruitment company called We Got Coders, specialising in the training of junior developers. I manage the entire business operations: I designed the marketing strategy for the business, run operations on a day-to-day basis, teach web development and devised the course curriculum.
- I grew the training business from nothing to a company generating over £500,000 a year, in addition to running a consulting and recruitment business. I sought no investment and grew entirely from sales and repeat business.
- I directly employed over 25 junior web developers and gave them their first opportunity in web development. I successfully placed them into permanent positions with our client base, following a twelve week course covering full-stack development that I deliver in house.
- I have been responsible for and managed a hotel business, providing bed and breakfast accommodation at two Grade II listed properties, being responsible for rent negotiation and contracts, fire safety, advertising and promotion, stores and managing housekeeping staff.
- I developed an online e-learning platform in Rails / MongoDB aimed at part-time coders, teaching web development on weekends.
- I developed a sales function for the company, creating a customer relationships database in Rails and using in-house junior developers to build it.

- I ran a sequence of free workshops aimed at women learning to code to promote equality in the workplace, leading to a number of leads who have gone on to take our course and pursue a career in web development.

**General Assembly**  
[generalassemb.ly](http://generalassemb.ly)

**Education**

**Instructor**

**Mar 2013 - June 2013**

- I developed and taught an intensive 3-month program covering the essentials of web development, to a group of 17 adult learners in New York City.
- The course covered a range of topics, covering Ruby on Rails, Front-end frameworks, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, Testing and TDD, Agile Software Development, Databases and Computer Science.
- I devised most of the classroom exercises and materials from scratch, drawn from my experience in the sector, aimed at giving students the knowledge required of Junior Web Developers.

**SupaDupa**  
[supadupa.me](http://supadupa.me)

**E-commerce**

**RoR Developer**

**Nov 2012 - Mar 2013**

- I built the new shipping module for SupaDupa.me, an e-commerce platform with thousands of paying customers. Working on an agile basis, I created a complex multi-channel shipping system that integrates with the existing checkout mechanism.
- I built a new module allowing merchants to print shipping labels via an external API, providing a new revenue stream to the business
- I implemented a Barclays ePDQ integration with Active Merchant, enabling the platform to accept credit card payments for the first time, increasing sales for the business.

**PencilIn**

**Learning  
Marketplace**

**Project manager**

**July 2012 - Dec 2012**

- I recruited and led a team of freelance Ruby developers to create a services marketplace for education courses. I was responsible for the entire project, from creating user stories, testing and overseeing the development and liaising with the client. The site features an advanced integration with PayPal, multi-user registration with Devise and full-text search.

**New Black**  
[newblack.me](http://newblack.me)

**Music Promotions**

**RoR Developer**

**June 2012**

- I worked alongside the New Black digital music agency on the promotions campaign for a major album release. I devised an application that allows Facebook users to encode and decode messages to their friends in the campaign's typeface, using Ruby on Rails. The Facebook app is fully integrated, including a 'Like' gate.

**Hilton**  
**Hotels/Forward 3D**  
[forward3d.co.uk](http://forward3d.co.uk)

**Hotels**

**Ruby Developer**

**May 2012**

- Working for the Forward 3D agency, I created a gateway server, using Sinatra, that adds a layer of functionality onto the reservations and bookings system for the Hilton Hotel Group, editing XML SOAP requests. The system handles all incoming traffic for the entire business.
- I created a URL generation system, using Padrino, AJAX and JQuery, that allows administrators to generate URLs for the new Hilton search system.

**Libertrip**  
[libertrip.com](http://libertrip.com)

**Travel**

**RoR Developer**

**Oct 2011 - April 2012**

- I worked for six months on rails development for Libertrip, a new web start-up that specialises in travel based in Lille, France. I delivered new features, enhanced data retrieval and built an API, upon which the operations of the company is based.
- I introduced a system of agile development using user stories and I created a test suite. Using cutting-edge asynchronous technology, I created a system written in Ruby and Sinatra, that used EventMachine to greatly enhance the speed of data delivery and enhances the user experience of Libertrip.

- I took an existing Rails codebase and upgraded the underlying classes to Ruby 1.9.

**Most Rated**                      **Music Discovery**                      **Director, RoR Developer**                      **Jan 2011 - Jan 2012**

- I directed a new music technology start-up company, which developed a music discovery service called Most Rated. In conjunction with live music events, the website promoted material submitted by artists, organised around local music scene.
- The website is a distributed web application comprising of Ruby on Rails, HTML5, MongoDB, EventMachine and RESTful API integration (Facebook, Mixlr).
- The site has a complex mechanism to automatically select tracks from the pool of artist's submissions, and collates the content into a continuous stream, like a radio station.
- I devised a business plan for the project, including a marketing strategy and fund-raising. I worked with local venues, artist managers and creative suppliers to source the locations, the artists, creative and video for the project.

## Previous Experience

**Phatnights**                      **PR**                      **Freelance RoR Developer**                      **March 2011 - June 2011**

**TouchLocal**  
[www.touchlocal.com](http://www.touchlocal.com)                      **Business Directory**                      **Freelance Frontend Developer**                      **Aug 2010 - Sep 2010**

**Oxford University Press**  
[ukcatalogue.oup.com](http://ukcatalogue.oup.com)                      **Education**                      **Contract RoR Developer**                      **Jan 2010 - March 2010**

**Hubbub**                      **E-commerce**                      **Contract RoR Developer**                      **August 2009 - Dec 2009, May 2012**

**Westfield Stratford City**  
[uk.westfield.com/stratfordcity](http://uk.westfield.com/stratfordcity)                      **Retail**                      **Contract RoR Developer**                      **May 2009 - July 2009**

**Titan Entertainment**  
[www.forbiddenplanet.com](http://www.forbiddenplanet.com)  
[www.titanmagazines.com](http://www.titanmagazines.com)  
[www.titanbooks.com](http://www.titanbooks.com)                      **Publishing / Retail**                      **Lead Web Developer (permanent)**                      **April 2005 - Sep 2008**

**Gamcom Ltd.**  
[www.gamcom.com/](http://www.gamcom.com/)                      **I.T. Consultants**                      **Developer**                      **Aug 2004 - Apr 2005**

**Mathias & Sons Ltd.**  
[mathiasandsons.com](http://mathiasandsons.com)                      **Workwear Distributors**                      **Project Leader**                      **July 2003 - Feb 2004**

## Education

**2:1 BSc Computer Science**                      **University of Bristol**                      **Bristol, UK 2001-2004**

- I attained a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Bristol; consistently within the top five computer science departments in the UK.
- I led a group of five students working on a group project to design a software front-end and device driver for a digital MP3 player written in C. In addition to programming, I was responsible for time management and milestone setting, task allocation, administration of

the group website and version control.

- I wrote a thesis as a proof of concept for networking middle-ware in computer games. It was an individual project to design a client / server network application that explored advances in next-generation market trends such as cloud computing. Used Java and X3D, a cutting-edge graphics standard for the Internet.

### **3 A-Levels**

**Beacon Community College E. Sussex, UK 1999-2001**

- A in Computer Science, A in Business Studies and B in Mathematics.

### **Interests**

I play piano, keyboards and synthesizers, and enjoy composing my own music. I work with several musicians and have worked with a top record producer on song-writing and session playing. I attained a Grade 8 piano, after winning the Sheila Mossman Award for the highest mark in the country for Grade 6 piano, 2008.

I am actively learning French. I particularly enjoy reading in French, especially translations from English authors.

I am interested in the start-up tech scene, often attending meet-ups, hackathons and talks. I recently spoke at TakeOff Conf in Lille, France on cultivating web development talent.

I am interested in start-ups and entrepreneurship. In 2003, my first web development project for Mathias and Sons was entered for the regional Shell Technology and Enterprise (STEP) award, and I won a local and regional heat. Based upon my performance in both the project, demonstration and my presentation, I was named "the most enterprising student in the South West of England 2003".

In my spare time I enjoy reading, walking, cooking and playing chess.