

Ryan Davidson

Software Developer & Product Designer

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PROFILE

Software developer and MSc graduate with a genuine interest in product design — particularly where technology meets real human behaviour. I've built ShelterLink, a full-stack volunteer management platform designed in close collaboration with Assisi Animal Sanctuary (Belfast), making every UX decision myself: onboarding flows, multi-user dashboards, scheduling UI. I also run RDev Studio, a freelance web design and development studio serving local NI businesses. I work extensively with AI tools including Cursor and Claude to stay focused on what actually matters: solving the right problem well.

KEY PROJECT

ShelterLink — Volunteer Management Platform

MSc Dissertation | Assisi Animal Sanctuary, Belfast | 2025 (ongoing)

- Designed and built a full-stack web application end-to-end serving two distinct user types: admin staff and volunteers, each with tailored experiences.
- Responsible for all UX decisions: onboarding flows, dashboard information architecture, scheduling UI, and application management.
- Built with Node.js, Express, MySQL, vanilla JS, and PicoCSS; deployed with a focus on simplicity for non-technical users.
- Used Cursor and Claude as core development collaborators, enabling faster iteration and tighter focus on user needs.
- Continuing development post-submission toward live deployment at Assisi — because a grade wasn't the point.

github.com/rdavidson19/ShelterLink

RDev Studio — Freelance Web Design & Development

Founder | rdevstudio.co.uk | 2024 — Present

- Running a one-person studio targeting NI small businesses with website design/build, social media management, and content creation.
- Confirmed client: RV's Cold Brew (Belfast) — website built and social media management ongoing.
- Built Champions Draft, a football draft game, as a personal project deployed and actively played by real users.

EXPERIENCE

Admin Officer

Civil Service (DWP) | August 2025 — Present

- Manage correspondence and communications across a busy department, balancing accuracy, sensitivity, and speed.
- Handle sensitive personal data with discretion, maintaining compliance with data protection policies.
- Support process improvement and cross-team coordination.

Tesco Colleague

Tesco Express | October 2024 — February 2025

- Customer-facing role requiring clear communication and problem-solving under pressure.

Warehouse Operative

Amazon | August 2021 — October 2021

- Picked, packed, and processed customer orders accurately and efficiently at pace.
- Collaborated with team members to meet daily operational targets.

Poll Clerk

Liverpool City Council | May 2021

- Verified voter identification, managed check-in process, and provided guidance to members of the public.

Dot Com Department Member

Tesco Carrickfergus | March 2020 — September 2020

- Processed online orders, managed inventory, and coordinated with delivery teams.

EDUCATION

MSc Software Development

Queen's University Belfast | Graduating Summer 2026

- Modules covering relational databases, web development, cloud computing, Agile practices, and data analytics.
- Individual project (ShelterLink) built end-to-end as a real-world product for a Belfast charity.

BSc Forensic Science

Liverpool John Moores University | Graduated June 2024

- Analytical, evidence-based degree developing rigorous problem-solving and attention to detail.

SKILLS & TOOLS

Product & Design	UX design, user research, onboarding flows, multi-user product thinking, Figma, information architecture
AI Tooling	Cursor, Claude — used extensively in real product development, not just experimentation
Frontend	HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, React, responsive/mobile-first design
Backend	Node.js, Express.js, RESTful APIs, MySQL, session management, security
Other	Git, Agile, AWS, Docker, Python, SQL, Java, MS Office 365

References available on request