

# Jake Fulton

Full Stack Developer

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## Career Summary

I have 8 years of experience in web development, working with JavaScript/TypeScript, Node.js, React, Python, Django, and PostgreSQL.

I've delivered projects for international clients, including web apps, internal tools, marketing websites, and e-commerce sites.

My experience spans freelance work through design studios and my own agency Kea Studio, as well as tech roles at Wētā FX and Victoria University of Wellington.

I'm self-taught and always looking to learn and improve.

## Key Strengths

- **Proactive Problem Solver**  
I led the front-end development of Victoria University of Wellington's overhauled staff directory, allowing over 2,000 staff to keep their details updated. I helped ArtNow scale their PHP/Craft CMS website to handle over 2 million requests per month.
- **Maintainable and Efficient Solutions**  
I developed key parts of a Next.js and DatoCMS website for Keith Andrews, a leading New Zealand commercial truck dealer, allowing visitors to efficiently browse vehicle stock by implementing a Redis caching layer in front of a third-party inventory management API.
- **Bridging Design and Development**  
I've designed and built marketing websites using component-based design systems with frameworks such as Next.js and Astro, integrating headless CMS tools so clients can manage and update their content with ease.

## Technologies

JavaScript TypeScript Python React Vue.js Redux Next.js Node.js Prismic CMS  
Sanity CMS DatoCMS CraftCMS Wagtail CMS Django Docker Ansible Linux

## Professional Experience

### Founder and Web Developer

Kea Studio

September 2017 - Present

#### Responsibilities

- Designing and developing websites and web apps for a diverse client base.
- Advising clients and conducting regular progress meetings to ensure alignment and transparency throughout each project.
- Optimising websites to meet best-practice standards across performance, accessibility, and SEO.

#### Key Achievements

- Built websites for Bonjoro, Bounce Insurance, Tidal Ventures, and PTNG Scientific.
- Delivered web app D2Odb for client Monash University.

#### Coworking Space

- Founded and ran a coworking space in Wellington, New Zealand.
- Led the design and creation of the coworking space, collaborating with local artists and contractors to create a welcoming and inspiring environment.
- Hosted a Wellington Marketing Meetup and presented on how coworking enhances productivity and fosters collaboration.

### IT Manager

Replay

April 2024 - February 2025 (contract)

#### Responsibilities

- Supported scientists and managed the company's IT infrastructure.
- Assisted with managing software updates and deployments across employee laptops.
- Maintained software running on lab instruments and computers, ensuring reliable operation.
- Managed on-premises servers to orchestrate bioinformatics workflows for scientists.

#### Key Achievements

- Developed an internal tool using Retool, to streamline the procurement and renewal of both general productivity and specialised bioinformatics software.
- Developed custom bioinformatics code to assist an internal R&D program.

### Contract Web Developer

Octave

January 2021 - March 2021 and September 2021 - May 2022 (contract)

#### Responsibilities

- Assisted with delivering client projects by implementing final tweaks and bug fixes necessary to ensure timely project delivery.
- Contributed to back-end Django/Wagtail development and front-end React development
- Collaborated with Octave's client, The Co-operative Bank, to develop new React components for their website, conduct code reviews, and implement new features.

#### Key Achievements

- Built a chart for visualising a new dataset for Te Whata.

- Assisted with building the refreshed Queen Margaret College website.
- Assisted with building a custom application form for Police Credit Union.
- Helped integrate a loan application form into The Co-operative Bank's mobile app.

## Web Developer and Designer

Victoria University of Wellington

June 2019 - January 2021

### Responsibilities

- Maintained the design system for the University's customer-facing and internal websites, using the ITCSS methodology to structure the CSS.
- Implemented reusable components in the content management system (Squiz) and developed REST APIs.
- Worked with content editors to deliver new websites for various organisations at the University.
- Developed web apps using JavaScript, React, Redux, Vue.js, Squiz Matrix, and CSS.

### Key Achievements

- Delivered the updated website for international students.
- Built an internal web app that enables staff to easily update their own contact details. This was part of a project to create a new, more efficient and accessible system for staff contact information.

## Full Stack Developer

Monash University

December 2018 - June 2019 (contract)

### Responsibilities

- Conceptualised and implemented a user-friendly web app for a bioinformatics database (D2Odb), facilitating seamless access to data for the research community.
- Utilised Node.js, MongoDB, JavaScript, React, and Redux.

### Key Achievements

- Collaborated with the client to create a wireframe that simplifies the user interface for filtering the data.
- Developed the first version which was sent out to the research community for feedback. Made adjustments using the feedback to improve the user experience.

## Data Wrangler

Wētā FX

November 2017 - November 2018 (contract)

### Responsibilities

- Provided senior artists with render support including troubleshooting, scheduling work on the render wall, ensuring deadlines are met, and managing expectations.
- Worked as part of a larger team to manage client material and data, ensuring all items are delivered and complete.
- Coded in Python and wrote shell scripts using bash and awk.

### Key Achievements

- Successfully worked with clients such as Disney and Marvel, delivering material to deadline and client satisfaction.

- Built experience with the Linux environment, managing large amounts of data, and maintaining high-performance computing hardware.
- Contributed to wrangler tools to assist in automating processes, saving the team time and improving efficiency.

## Animator and Coder

EightyOne

October 2017 - December 2017 (contract)

### Responsibilities

- Designed, tested, and delivered email marketing templates.
- Animated banner ads for marketing campaigns.

### Key Achievements

- Animated banner ad for Powershop, which served as a key part of their marketing campaign.
- Built email marketing template for New Zealand Rugby and EightyOne's Christmas party invitation.
- Tested the compatibility of email templates with email clients using Litmus to ensure a beautiful and consistent experience on every device.

## Projects

### Keith Andrews

keithandrews.co.nz

2025

Developed key parts of a Next.js and DatoCMS website for Keith Andrews, a leading New Zealand commercial truck dealer, including a Redis-based caching layer to optimise vehicle stock API performance.

### Technologies

Next.js

React

TypeScript

DatoCMS

Redis

GSAP

### Bounce Insurance

bounceinsurance.co.nz

2021 - 2025

Refreshed the website for Bounce, a New Zealand earthquake insurance company, implementing updated branding and improving design and usability.

Provided ongoing support with updates and improvements to the website.

### Technologies

Next.js

React

TypeScript

Sass

Prismic CMS

Lottie

## ArtNow

artnow.nz

2025

Optimised ArtNow's legacy PHP/Craft CMS site to handle high traffic and AI bot activity.

To achieve this, I developed an OpenResty/Lua middleware solution that validates incoming requests to legacy PHP API endpoints, enabling efficient Cloudflare caching without touching the original code.

### Technologies

AlmaLinux / RHEL

Ansible

Docker

Cloudflare

OpenResty

Lua

Craft CMS

PHP

## Tidal Ventures

tidalvc.com

2021 (refreshed in 2022)

Developed and refined the website for Tidal, a Sydney-based venture capital firm, fine-tuning all design elements to create a cohesive and recognisable brand identity.

### 2022 Website Refresh

- Built all the components for their Experts page.
- Integrated Tally forms into their website to make it easier for them to author new forms.
- Made enhancements to the blog, including adding a blog author page.

### Technologies

Next.js

React

JavaScript

Prismic CMS

GraphQL

## PTNG Scientific

ptngscientific.com

2022 (refreshed in 2023)

Built PTNG Scientific's website using Sanity, a headless CMS enabling easy content updates, with an integrated blog to showcase the team's expertise and experience in the field.

### Technologies

React

JavaScript

Sanity CMS

## Bonjoro

bonjoro.com

2020

Rebuilt Bonjoro's website with a slick new design to match their playful identity, increasing visitor sign-ups.

### Technologies

Next.js

React

TypeScript

Prismic CMS

D2Odb

d2odb.org

2019 (refreshed in 2025)

Developed D2Odb, a user interface for a bioinformatics database, for a research lab at Monash University. The purpose of the project is to enable the research community to explore the link between mutations in proteins and human diseases.

Technologies

React

Redux

JavaScript

Node.js

MongoDB

## Qualifications and Courses

- Venture Up (4 week startup programme run by Creative HQ) (2019)
- SBINZ Level 2 Snowboard Instructor Qualification (2017)
- Nelson College NCEA (Level 3) (2015)

## Voluntary Experience

- Green Party (2018)  
Voluntary presentation design.
- Temple Basin (2014)  
Voluntary work teaching beginners how to snowboard.

## Interests

- Snowboarding and skateboarding
- Listening to music, DJing and producing music
- Motorcycling