

# Clare Owens MEng

Contact information available on request. Please email clare at zepler dot net.

## Work

- **IBM & ECS (Electronics & Computer Science), September 2006 – present:** research engineer, working towards an EngD.
- **ECS, June 2006, 2007 and 2008:** various summer schools introducing 12 – 13 year olds to university life and computer science. I taught algorithms, gave tours of campus and answered questions.
- **ECS, December 2005 – May 2006:** marketing work for the WWW2006 conference (<http://www2006.org/>): providing previous attendees with information.
- **ECS, July – September 2005:** research work for the Equator project. I identified requirements and implemented a hypertext authoring tool, allowing teachers to write information and instructions for children roaming the grounds of a manor house.
- **Science and Technology Challenges, June – July 2005:** setting 11 – 13 year olds various challenges, helping them solve these, assessing performance. The children generally enjoyed themselves, showing genuine interest; this work further developed my communications skills.
- **IBM, Extreme Blue intern, June – September 2004:** a graphical modelling project. Responsibilities included project planning, business analysis, market analysis and architecture decisions. I drew upon technical, communications and organisational skills, including teamwork and customer interaction.
- **Various, June 1999 – November 2005:** Responsibilities included sales, filing, cloakroom work (nightclub), dealing with prescriptions and phone calls (pharmacy) and stock. I have developed customer interaction and team-working skills here, as well as conflict management.

## Education

- University of Southampton, **EngD** on novel and pervasive technologies for the elderly, in domestic environments (*in progress*) 2006 – 2010
- University of Southampton, **MEng Computer Science** (First class), 2002 – 2006. BCS accredited. Dissertation on hyperfiction and narrative generation; demoed to prospective students, awarded Active Navigation prize (also see Publications).
- Level 1 in British Sign Language (CACDP accredited), Eastleigh College, 2007
- **A Levels:** The Sixth Form College, Farnborough, 2002
  - A grades in:** Computing, English language, General studies, Geography
  - B grade in:** Maths
- **AS Levels:** The Sixth Form College, Farnborough, 2001
  - B in:** Chemistry
- **GCSEs:** Court Moor School, Fleet, 2000
  - A\* grades in:** Biology, English language, Geography, Physics
  - A grades in:** Chemistry, English literature, Food & Business Studies, German, Maths, Music

## Publications

Three papers, one demo and one poster at various conferences (HT05, WWW2006, ICALT2006, HCI2006: I presented two of the papers and the prize-winning poster, and conducted the demo). One journal article (JCP). Two patents pending. Full details at: <http://www.shinyrainbow.com/research.php>.

## Other Computing Experience/Skills

- IBM e-business architect workshop, 2005. Insight into the field, teamwork/communications skills.
- Windows and Mac operating systems; Java; HTML, CSS, PHP; setting up and configuring small LANs.

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## Volunteering

- September 2006 – present, various **IBM** events: university team challenge; ‘Blue Fusion’; women in technology workshops; Extreme Blue EMEA expo. Organised and ran a visit for Young Carers.
- February 2006 – June 2007: **Young Carers**. I helped run a youth group for 5 – 11 year old carers with ill siblings, and attended a residential for older carers.
- **Over The Wall** (August 2005, August 2006), a camp for children with serious illnesses. Using teamwork and communications skills, I helped provide a happy, safe environment, whilst remaining vigilant for camper problems (medical or personal) and working hard and long hours.
- **Conservation Volunteers Australia** (August 2006), practical conservation work as part of a team.

## Other Experience / Credits

- From January 2008, founding member of the **EngD Student Committee**: liaising between staff and students, organising events (e.g. meals) and student support (e.g. setting up a buddy system).
- From December 2006, **demonstrator work**: teaching programming, mentoring and marking software engineering coursework. Website updates for the Institute for Law and the Web at Southampton.
- From November 2003, **guided prospective students** around campus and answered questions.
- Finalist for Google’s **Anita Borg Scholarship** in 2007 and 2008. This required a strong academic background and engagement with the technology community.
- Won the joint award for **Best Student Poster** at the University of Southampton in the RAE 2008 Student Engineering Design Poster Competition.
- Recipient of a **scholarship** to attend the Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing (2007).
- **Co-organised** the Hypertext 2007 **panel** on Hypertext Tragedy.
- March 2007, presented research at ‘**SET for Britain**’ in the House of Commons.
- Recipient of two **Misys scholarships**, first as an undergraduate and then as a postgraduate.
- Represented my cohort on the **Student Staff Liaison Committee** 2005 – 2006.
- As part of a 9-person team, I organised the ECS 2005 **Multimedia Conference**, Southampton.
- Clean UK **driving licence**.

**Statement:** I enjoy problem solving and meeting deadlines (shown by academic and work achievements). My leadership and teamwork skills have grown through work with IBM and academic teams, whilst my ECS placement and research enhanced my independence at work.

I have a broad range of strengths: technical (shown academically and during work), creative (I enjoy the creative aspects of programming and design; also writing, playing the piano, and painting) and communicational (work experience, tour guiding, previous jobs and various committees).

I am versatile when communicating, interacting in academic and professional contexts, and with a broad range of people (colleagues at IBM and university, children when volunteering, students and customers from all walks of life in previous shop-based work).

**Hobbies and Interests:** My interests include creative writing, computing and piano playing (Grade VI). I lead an active university life, having been on two committees (Meditation and Astronomy); I am currently involved with the Writing Society. I’ve been involved with writing groups since 1998, and have written over 140 poems and eight short stories. Three novels have been completed, with two more in progress.

I also enjoy candle making, painting, walking, yoga, badminton and trips to the gym and swimming pool. Literary interests include most genres of fiction, particularly science fiction and fantasy.

*Referee information available on request. Please email clare at zepler dot net.*