

BETHANY THOMAS

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PROFILE

Detail-oriented compliance and fintech professional with 2+ years of FCA-regulated KYC, AML, and fraud detection experience at Starling Bank — zero compliance failures recorded. Combines deep regulatory expertise with hands-on front-end development skills (React, TypeScript) and strong data analysis capabilities (Python, R). Holds a 2:1 BSc Economics from Cardiff University and a DataCamp Associate Data Analyst certification.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Compliance & Fraud: KYC · AML · EDD · Fraud Detection · SIRA · CIFAS · Sanctions & PEP Screening · FCA Guidelines · GDPR · UBO Identification · Risk Assessment · QA

Leadership & People: Staff Training & Mentoring · Team Leadership · Onboarding New Hires · Performance Coaching · Cross-functional Collaboration · Stakeholder Communication · Complaint Handling

AI & Automation: Prompt Engineering · LLM Integration (Anthropic, OpenAI, Gemini, Ollama) · AI-Assisted Development · Model Configuration · Agentic Workflows · GitHub Actions Automation

Technology: React · TypeScript · JavaScript · Python · R · HTML5/CSS3 · FastAPI · Vite · Supabase · REST APIs · Docker · Git/GitHub · Vercel · CI/CD · SQL (expanding)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Onboarding & Compliance Associate · Starling Bank

Aug 2023 – Present · Remote

- **KYC & Fraud Detection:** Processed thousands of personal and business client applications against FCA, AML, GDPR, Sanctions, and PEP requirements — identifying and escalating fraud indicators via SIRA and CIFAS with zero compliance failures.
- **Enhanced Due Diligence:** Conducted EDD on higher-risk profiles including PEPs, sanctioned entities, complex corporate structures, and UBO identification; produced written ownership analyses to support senior decision-making.
- **Process Improvement:** Collaborated cross-functionally to streamline onboarding workflows, reduce customer drop-off, and contribute to internal control refinements; maintained rigorous QA standards throughout.

Freelance Frontend Developer · Self-Employed (gekkzz)

Jan 2026 – Present · Remote

- **Client Projects:** Designed and delivered a full automotive photography portfolio (brief to live deployment) with strong Core Web Vitals; currently building a branded food blog for a content creator client.
- **Personal Portfolio (gekkzz.co.uk):** Vanilla HTML/CSS/JS — custom GitHub activity calendar, live IP-based timezone detection, GDPR-compliant cookie consent, Substack RSS feed, auto-deployed via GitHub Actions CI/CD.
- **Stack:** React · TypeScript · JavaScript (ES6+) · HTML5 · CSS3 · Vite · Supabase · REST APIs · Vercel

Earlier Roles: Crew Trainer, McDonald's (Jan–Aug 2023) — led onboarding and sign-off for new hires, adapted training style to individuals, maintained HACCP compliance and QA metrics. · Customer Assistant, Iceland Foods (Jun–Sep 2022).

SELECTED PROJECTS

Tape 'N' Torque — Full client automotive portfolio (React, Vite, Vercel). Responsive mobile-first, strong Core Web Vitals, sole-trader engagement from brief to live.

Study Sprint Tracker — Published GitHub Action (Marketplace, v1.0.0) that auto-logs dated journal entries on every push to track learning sprint progress. Built with JavaScript, automated tests, GitHub Actions CI/CD, full docs, ToS and privacy policy.

Welsh Senedd Political Matcher — Civic tech web app matching voters to Welsh parties by policy preference; built under competition conditions at Swansea University Hackathon.

Glyndwr (WIP) — Self-hosted AI workspace supporting 7+ LLM providers (OpenAI, Anthropic, Gemini, Ollama and more). Full-stack: FastAPI + SQLite backend, vanilla JS SPA frontend, Docker deployment. Features multi-user auth, autonomous agent with web search and code execution, deep research pipeline, IMAP/SMTP email with AI triage, CalDAV calendar sync, canvas image editor, PWA support, and 14 themes. Python, JavaScript, HTML/CSS.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

BSc Economics, International Relations & Politics — 2:1

Cardiff University, 2022–2025

Quantitative methods, statistical analysis, Python & R, political economy. Co-founded Stronger Together (Service of the Year). Elected Student Senator & Accessibility Officer.

DataCamp Associate Data Analyst Certification — Python & R data wrangling and statistical analysis

A Levels: Law — A (Student of the Year, Highest Grade in Cohort) · Sociology — A · Welsh Baccalaureate — A · Government & Politics — B