ICT Project Nomination Form 2011

The teams choose projects based on this short description. There is no guarantee that your project will be taken, make it sound as interesting and as educational as possible.

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**Project Title:**

Graham

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**Client retains Intellectual Property:** Yes

**Confidentiality Agreement required:** No

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**Project Description:**

I am a former UTAS CS student and have been a professional software developer for eleven years. I currently operate as a sole trader contracting to a firm in the UK, in what very little spare time I have I am attempting to bootstrap a shrink-wrapped software house with a friend.

Graham is a home or personal expense tracking and budgeting tool. As a sole trader, father to a toddler and mortgage owner I have to track a lot incomings and outgoings in terms of financials. I find it tedious to maintain a spreadsheet, updates and adjustments are time consuming, actual amounts differ from cycle to cycle and adjusting forecasts and averages is annoying, and whilst I need to know that I spend $500 on vet bills a year because I have an accident prone dog, and that figure has to be included in certain calculations, I don't want to have to see it whenever I'm adding a transaction.

Graham will be a hosted service to which I can send any transaction and tag it. For example, Amelie my daughter really likes Chuggington and we have a $100 a month budget for toys. We buy her two toys, Zephy and Frostini costing $30. I'll logon to Graham, create a new transaction, mark it as a debit, enter the amount, optionally attach an image of the receipt and enter the amount and lastly I'll tag it with Amelie, Toys, Cash and Jewellery – nothing like making mum think she's spent more than she has on herself. When we next go to Big W I can logon to Graham search the Amelie and Toys tags and see that we've spent $30 this month so far.

Come tax time I can search for all expenses tagged as Tax Deduction and enter the total amount in my tax return, I also have electronic copies of receipts if I should get audited.

Graham will also allow a household to forecast expenses and savings as well as identify trends like most expensive month or quarter of the year. Graham will warn households when spending is exceeding income or savings targets are being missed due to overspend. Hey mum, cut back on the jewellery!

Graham will also provide budgeting capability by electronically implementing the envelope system. Graham will be able to record recurring transactions whether they be incoming or outgoing.

There will be simple import features such that electronic statements, or CSV downloads from banks can be included in Graham.

A cleverly designed API could allow Graham to be opened up to other developers and tools to assist households or individuals further.
**Project Technical Information:**
There is no specific technical preference, however Ruby on Rails or Python would be appreciated because they can easily be hosted in our current environment.

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**Contact Information:**
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Address (where students will visit, not PO Box): Prefer to meet at neutral venues such as cafes however when or if required we can meet at my home address which will be provided at the relevant time.