MICHAEL BALLARD

Front End Developer

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An ambitious front end developer with 4 years of experience React development, I help create business critical web applications with modern technology from serverless to in house API's, crafting clean responsive UI's for the modern web.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Front End Developer
onejourney | December 2021 - Present

- Helped launch a MLP (Minimum Lovable Product) for an established hospitality agency branching out into the platform space.
- Worked with a team of front end and back end developers to fix bugs, update legacy code and add new features for clients and in house support teams.
- Worked with the design team to craft an in house design system and components library.

Full Stack Developer
Cushon | September 2021 - December 2021

- Worked in an agile team to deliver a new administration portal with NextJS.
- Contributed to development of a components library to be used by all development teams within the web and mobile app products.
- Performed code reviews for team mates within github and discussed best practices.
- Took part in discussions on best practice and coding standards to improve code quality.
- Aided younger developers with bugs and queries.

Front End Lead - Operational Intelligence
Vodafone | July 2020 - August 2021

- Lead front end of in house development for applications used by network engineers and support teams within the UK business.
- Transformed the front end development stack of the team from traditional MVC to React, with a decoupled API backend.
- Created a reusable components library for the team to utilise in order to make development easier as well as getting a consistent look and feel across our web estate.
- Implemented new development tools in the team to enforce coding standards and detect bugs, reducing risk of errors and increasing quality of written code.
- Created automated code deployments using Azure Devops CI/CD pipelines to remove the need to upload files to servers manually, and also enforced better use of Git version control utilising changelogs and branch releases.
- Ran workshops with the wider organisation to demo our technology transformation, sharing best practices and learnings.

Graduate Techboost Project - winners
Vodafone | December 2019 - July 2020

- Developed a React Native application to provide new starters with a smooth and user friendly onboarding experience.
- Ran workshops for my team to introduce them to mobile app development and React Native.
- Led development for the app and helped members of the team with issues they encountered.
- Took part in UX and UI workshops with senior developers in Vodafone to learn best practice and get feedback from professionals.

Solutions Engineer - IoT
Vodafone | September 2018 - July 2020

- Developed IoT solutions for customers using JavaScript on our Invent platform.
- Integrated with 3rd party APIs to expand our IoT capability.
- Involvement in client workshops to understand requirements and interate projects in an agile manner.
- Ran workshops with the team to introduce them to various technologies such as React Native, Microsoft Flow and Python programming.
- Delivered a proof of concept using a React front end to integrate with the bespoke javascript engine that ran underneath the IoT platform, enabling IoT solutions to be built using React front ends. This resulted in the department dedicating more resources to front end development, and my React PoC is still being built on to this day.

Junior Developer
Gloversure | August 2016 - May 2017

- My first professional experience of web and mobile app design.
- Developed a mobile app using the Ionic framework for customers to be able to manage their site content from their phone.
- Developed a PHP application to enable the marketting team to create mobile notifications for customers.
- Modernised a lot of legacy code. Most noteably AJAXified the CMS to enable dynamic content and less page redirects.
- Discovered React after a friend recommended I look into it, been using it ever since!

SKILLS

Technical

JavaScript, TypeScript, React, NextJS

Serverless/cloud, AWS, GCP

UI/UX

Github, version control, CI/CD pipelines, automated deployment, devops

Docker, containerisation

Chakra UI, custom components libraries

State management, redux, recooil, mobx

Jest, React Testing Library, Playwright

Professional

Effective communicator

Confident leader

Willingness to help others

Good time management

Agile practices, kanban boards, standups, retrospectives etc.

Other skills

Photography and Filming

Photoshop and Video editing

Good knowledge of PC Hardware

Inevitably acting as tech support for my whole family

EDUCATION

BSc in Computer Science
Aberystwyth University
2014 - 2018

Warwick School
GCSE and A Level
2007 - 2014

LANGUAGES

English (Native)

INTERESTS

Photography

Mountain biking

Gaming

Warhammer

Stock markets and investing

Anything Elon Musk is doing