

Profile

A results-driven and versatile principal software engineer with a proven track record of delivering high-impact solutions in complex, large-scale environments. Experienced in continuous integration, delivery and deployment as part of cross-functional and self-directed teams. Adept at leveraging microservice architectures to build scalable and maintainable distributed systems. Enjoys tackling a range of problems with a user-focused mindset, all whilst being a collaborative team player.

Latest Work

- Findmypast - Jul 2018 to Present  
Principal Software Engineer
  - Worked with a remote, distributed team on a family history product featuring billions of searchable records.
  - Led an engineering effort to gain a 12x increase in capacity to our entitlements system, successfully handling the 1921 census release with zero downtime.
  - Reduced development build times of our front-end monolith from 60 seconds to 1 second, dramatically improving developer productivity.
  - Planned and executed the migration of a feature toggle management system from JavaScript to Go, yielding a 3x latency improvement and 10x reduction in resource consumption.
  - Re-architected a broken, unmaintained transactional email system into a robust and extensible system, resulting in 100% uptime.
  - Delivered a machine learning stack migration to Kubernetes, enabling fully automated CD pipelines.
  - Leveraged LLMs for structured data extraction on newspaper clippings, converting over half a million images into accurate, searchable text.
  - Achieved a 3x increase in machine learning model throughput by optimising our GPU sharing strategy.
  - Facilitated several workshops on DevOps practices and internal tooling, educating engineering teams on best practices.
  - Maintained multiple Kubernetes clusters, ensuring high availability and scalability as part of the DevOps team.
  - Evaluated and provided constructive feedback on architecture proposals across various engineering teams to enhance system design and performance.
  - Collaborated with non-technical stakeholders, aligning product requirements with engineering execution.
  - Conducted technical interviews and reviewed code assessments as part of the recruitment team.
  - Mentored and onboarded new hires into engineering teams, ensuring smooth integration and knowledge transfer.
  - Participated in an on-call rotation as a first responder to site incidents, troubleshooting under pressure to ensure minimal downtime.

Skills

- Languages & Tools
  - Kubernetes
  - JavaScript
  - Git
  - Go
  - SQL
  - Python
  - Grafana
  - Jira
  - Kafka
  - REST
  - Helm
  - Docker
  - Prometheus
  - Ansible
  - Puppet
  - TeamCity

Achievements

- 2016 Scottish BAFTA award winner (game category).
- Secured £30,000 of business funding at the 2015 Scottish Edge fund competition.

References

Available upon request.