

# David Simons

## Employment

2014-Current **Technical Lead, Softwire**

**Aug 2015 - Current: Consultancy and Presales Representative**

Working as part of the sales team to provide technical expertise on prospective new sales and paid consultancy engagements. Giving technical advice or sales collateral through written documents and pitches. Specialising in system architecture, estimation and external code review.

**Sep - Dec 2014, Mar - Aug 2015: Data Visualisation Prototyping Team**

*Selected Technologies: Java 8, JavaScript inc. NodeJS, Express, KnockoutJS*

Leading a team of developers to create and extend a wide range of data visualisation prototypes. Mentoring the team in new technologies to ensure high-quality architectures and code. Advising stakeholders around non-functional requirements including deployability, extensibility and performance.

**Jan - Mar 2015: Graduate Developer Trainer**

*Selected Technologies: Java 6, Spring, Thymeleaf, JUnit, Selenium, Cucumber*

Training a team of six graduate software developers. Initially designing and delivering a two week intensive training course on modern software development, focusing on Java web applications. Providing further mentoring whilst overseeing their delivery of an internal BBC usage reporting tool.

2012-2014 **Software Developer, Softwire**

**Oct 2013 - Aug 2014: Reusable Retail Tool Suite**

*Selected technologies: JavaScript, Jasmine, MSSQL, C#, ASP.NET MVC, Selenium*

Producing single-page web applications to solve common retail problems, prioritising robustness and testability to enable bespoke deployments to large, multinational retailers.

**Nov 2012 - Sep 2013: Fashion Trends CMS**

*Selected technologies: Groovy, Apache, Adobe CQ, Autonomy Search, MongoDB*

Part of a rotating team structure supporting and adding to a modified CMS. Responsibilities include studying the feasibility of data migration tasks; providing second-line support to users and adding a social media module to the website.

**Aug - Oct 2012: BBC Commercial Availability**

*Selected technologies: Java 6, JSP, Spring, Hibernate, Tomcat, MySQL, JUnit*

Creating a RESTful API of BBC products and a web portal for non-technical users to maintain this. Integrating this with third-party APIs to poll for data on retail availability.

2011

**Intern, Deloitte**

Rotational placement in VAT consultancy and Enterprise Risk (automated checking of audit customers.) Processing a range of client data using MS Excel and a bespoke scripting language.

## Key Technical Proficiencies

- Languages** Significant professional and personal experience with a wide range of languages including full-stack JavaScript, JVM languages (Java, Groovy) and C#.
- Testing Frameworks** Keen automated tester, with knowledge of libraries to test across each layer of the technical stack using (e.g.) JUnit, Mockito, Selenium, Cucumber and Jasmine.
- Databases** Architecting and integrating with a wide range of SQL databases. Evangelising a range of NoSQL databases, prioritising the correct technology for the job.
- Architecture/DevOps** Designed and implemented multilayered architectures with technologies including servers/hosting (IIS, Tomcat, AWS); automated deployment pipelines (Maven, Grunt, Jenkins) and monitoring (NewRelic, Nagios).
- Agile** Advocate for Agile processes (Kanban, Scrum). Experience supporting technical aspects (Continuous Deployment) and processes (Story Planning, Retros).

Personal projects and open-source contributions can be seen on GitHub (SwamWithTurtles).

## Selected Conference Talks

- 2016 **(Upcoming) “High-Quality Front End”, NDC London 2016**  
Introducing the JavaScript ecosystem and advocating best practice in the front end.
- 2015 **“Choosing the Right Database”, .NET Rocks Podcast, BrisTech and Endpoint**  
Exploring a range of SQL and NoSQL flavours, combining use cases and theory.
- “Introduction to Microservices,” APIStrat Berlin and { develop : BBC }**  
Defining and justifying microservices, and looking at the surrounding ecosystem.

## Education

- 2008-2012 **Trinity College, University of Oxford**  
**MMath in Mathematics and Statistics (2.i)**  
Including modules in data analysis; statistical programming and communication algorithms. Produced a dissertation on an algorithm (Barabasi-Albert) used to model and simulate the growth of scale-free graphical networks such as the internet.
- 2001-2008 **King Edward VI Grammar School and Sixth Form College, Chelmsford**  
A-levels in Maths, Further Maths, English, Physics and German (A).  
11 GCSEs including Maths and English (A\* or As).

## Voluntary Work

- 2013-2014 **CSR Officer, Softwire**  
Managing the company's CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) programmes.  
Forming an overarching strategy; and helping staff to deliver and shape this vision.
- 2010-2012 **Marketing and Fundraising Officer, Oxford Pride**  
Working with a committee to promote and raise money to host the ten day festival.

## Other Interests

Watching and performing improvised comedy.  
Jogging, long-distance races and trail-running obstacles courses.