ALEXANDER CURRAN

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ABOUT ME

A highly experienced and product-focused engineering leader who has delivered many multi-million pound projects over 10 years. Proficient in both line managing and technical leadership, with a keen interest in developing the careers of others and sharing knowledge learnt from multiple industries and all company sizes, from pre-Series A startups to large corporations.

EXPERIENCE

Engineering Manager, The Body Coach — March 2022-Jan 2023

› Engineering manager of the Get Moving team (mission was focused on user install to first 30 days).

› Line management of 4 engineers across Android and iOS. Responsible for the delivery of an additional 2 agency developers whilst facilitating their roll-off from the project.

› Led project planning and delivery of multiple projects including Easy Start, In-app Motivational Messaging, and an A/B test on the paywall. Stepped in for Product Management when the role was vacated.

› Implemented a reconfiguration of the existing separate Android and iOS teams into two cross-functional mission-based teams.

› Made redundant as part of a restructure.

Principal Engineer, Freetrade — October 2019-March 2022

› Principal Engineer on the Discover and Insights team and Onboarding team.

› Delivered multiple projects including SIPP accounts, launching in the EU, Freetrade Plus, and fractional trading, all contributing to significant uplift in revenue and company OKRs.

› Technical lead for the SIPPs project & EU onboarding, managing stakeholders, synchronising multiple teams' deliveries and communicating project progression.

› Developed the interview and hiring strategy for mobile across six teams growing the mobile team from 2 to 10 in 6 months. Acted as a consultant to EMs without mobile skillsets to develop the careers of their reports.

› Created a strategy for mobile in the company including training backend-focused engineers in mobile, and building a design system, and breaking down monolithic codebases.

› Delivered Freetrade on iPad and Dark Mode as 20% time projects, both of which were well-received by customers.

Engineering Manager & Project Lead, Novoda — March 2016-October 2019

Software Craftsman, Novoda — March 2015-March 2016

› Line manager for 6 developers, responsible for performance reviews and goal setting.

› Project lead & principle engineer for iOS, Android, and dual-platform projects with clients including ImmobilienScout24, AutoScout24, myBlu, and Oetker Digital.

› Built and ran multiple workshops for clients and internal developers to fill identified skills gaps.

› Mentored junior members of the team and the company to forward their careers.

> Responsible for promoting multi-platform development in the company, including a fully multi-platform project delivered, and up-skilling multiple developers to become proficient in other platforms.

Software Engineer, BBC — July 2014-March 2015

Junior Software Engineer, BBC — Aug 2013-July 2014

> Worked on the Mobile Core Engineering team (included working with mobile iPlayer and iPlayer Radio).

> Delivered Chromecast for BBC iPlayer and BBC Sport in collaboration with Google.

> Worked multi-platform on iOS and Android in an agile environment.

Developer (self-employed) — 2009-present

> Android and iOS app developer; mostly scientific or developer-focused apps.

> Current project is a dual-platform app to make regularly giving to charity easier.

> Active open-source projects available on Github, apps on Google Play.

SKILLS AND TECHNICAL INTERESTS

> Excellent knowledge of Java, Objective-C, Swift, Kotlin, and ReactiveX.

> Proficient with many third party technologies e.g. Firebase and GCP, A/B testing mechanisms and theory

> Good knowledge of TypeScript; working knowledge of Javascript, React, Node.js, and Flutter,.

> 12 years experience of Android development; 10 years of iOS; 4 with Node.js.

> 10 years experience with software best practices & TDD; confident with unit, UI, and integration testing.

> Keen interest in unified mobile development, including code transpilation and mixed platform pairing.

> Confident in running and maintaining a cross-functional engineering team, with experience in product management lifecycles as well.

> Responsible for client relations as part of the team, including stakeholder management and ensuring the development team has all they require to deliver a high-quality product.

EDUCATION

University of Oxford — 2009-2013

> First Class degree, Chemistry (Masters), Masters year on computational chemical analysis.

The College of Richard Collyer — 2007-2009

ACTIVITIES

Presentations and demos

> Talks at meet-ups and conferences (including Swift.berlin, Droidcon Paris). Ran the tutorial session "Spring cleaning your app" at RWDevCon 2018 and a talk about Real-time Apps at NSSpain 2021.

> Mentor and facilitator as part of Codebar Berlin and London which supports underrepresented people getting into programming.

> Frequently present internal presentations and run internal katas about clean code topics and new technologies. Keen blogger around code smells and refactoring.

Recreational activities

> Keen cook, baker, and mixologist.

> Interest in crafts including pottery, soap and candle-making, and mixed-media art.