

# Rich Churcher

Senior Platform Engineer

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## Experience

### Lightspeed Commerce

Senior Platform Engineer

Oct 2023 – Present

Remote

- Wrote automated tooling in Go to traverse hundreds of GitHub repositories to update versions and configuration values.
- Repaired technical debt/broken builds, negotiating with teams to find the correct solution for technical debt/disused workflows.

### Cogo

Senior Platform Engineer

Dec 2022 – Oct 2023

Remote

- Reduced development environment costs by more than half in some cases using Terraform to conduct timed teardowns via GitHub Actions.
- Increased the observability of costs across AWS accounts using Python and the AWS API.
- Negotiated, planned, and rewrote on-call and incident management documentation, making the on-call engineering experience safer and more predictable.
- Created a Terraform module to add DKIM and SPF email authentication to any subdomain using Route53 and SES.

### Spidertracks

Senior Software Engineer

Apr 2021 – Dec 2022

Remote

- Mapped network ingress from Iridium satellites and cellular devices through a maze of legacy infrastructure to mitigate poor characteristics of a Java server under load.
- Rebuilt on-call team and ops culture from the ground up after company was acquired.
- Managed a wide variety of AWS infrastructure including EC2, Lambda, RDS, DynamoDB, Kinesis, Redshift, EventBridge, IoT Core.
- Significantly improved the overall observability picture, including centralising scattered elements of New Relic, Grafana, CloudWatch, Sumologic, and Sentry, laying the groundwork for an eventual migration to a "single pane of glass".

### Eventfinda

Senior Software Engineer (Contract)

Nov 2020 – Apr 2021

Remote

- Assisted with and advised on upgrading a large existing codebase (React, PHP).
- Improved test coverage of legacy code in order to avoid regressions when migrating to newer systems.

### BuildSpider

Senior Software Engineer (Contract)

Sep 2019 – Nov 2020

Remote

- Wrote extensive Postgres functions and migrations as part of a GraphQL API using Postgraphile.
- Added a secure S3-backed file library feature using React, Relay, and role-based permissions using Postgres row-level security.

### HYPR Innovation

Senior Software Engineer (Contract)

Feb 2019 – Sep 2019

Remote

- React, MobX frontend development.
- Lots of microservice development (mostly in Node) leveraging Kafka to process animal data for a large agri-corporation.

- › Coordinating with a wide variety of teams, each managing their own services, as well as a legacy team working in a completely separate hosted environment.

## **Enspiral Dev Academy**

*Teacher, Software Engineer*

Aug 2018 – Dec 2018

Auckland

- › Coached students individually, and taught curriculum at the classroom level.
- › Wrote and updated curriculum (React/Node). Ran multi-day exercises in team software development.

## **Hylo**

*Software Engineer (Contract)*

Mar 2017 – Aug 2018

Remote (San Francisco)

- › Distributed team based out of the San Francisco bay area developing a messaging and collaboration tool for purpose-driven communities.
- › Worked particularly on the React Native mobile application. Solved some thorny performance problems and deep-linking bugs.

## **Enspiral Dev Academy**

*Teacher, Software Engineer (Contract)*

May 2016 – Mar 2017

Auckland

## **Saatchi & Saatchi**

*Software Engineer (Contract)*

Feb 2016 – May 2016

Auckland

## **BKA Digital Outfitters**

*Software Engineer (Contract)*

Oct 2015 – Feb 2016

Auckland

## **Starship Hospital**

*Paediatric Intensive Care Nurse*

2003 – 2015

Auckland

- › Flight nurse on the PICU transport team, flew to all areas of the country to collect patients. High degree of autonomy and trust in critical circumstances.

## **Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children**

*Registered Nurse, PICU Nurse*

May 1999 – May 2003

Sydney

## Projects

### **Bucket**

*Senior Software Engineer (Volunteer)*

Apr 2022 – Present

Remote

- › Sole developer and platform engineer for Fairground Foundation, working on Bucket, an environment crowdfunding application.
- › Wrote a Go API that implements the JSON:API standard using ECS, RDS (Postgres), sqlc, and Chi.
- › Built a cross-platform Flutter application implementing a Figma design, using modern state management tools.
- › Terraformed the lot using a low-cost strategy to avoid excessive outlays during the pre-launch phase.

## Education

### **Otago Polytechnic**

*Bachelor of Nursing*

1996 – 1998

Dunedin