Ashley Hindmarsh - Curriculum Vitae - April 2024

Roles sought: Senior Java Software Engineer, Tech Lead, Team Lead (Freelance)

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- Current CV: http://www.bellesoft.uk/ash-cv/ashley.hindmarsh.cv.pdf
- References available upon request

Summary

- Software development experience in small/medium/large commercial organisations, across multiple sectors.
- Happiest as part of an agile team, focussed on customer needs and delivering business value.
- Previously Tech Lead on key customer-facing systems for the BBC - the power behind iPlayer.
- Previously Principal Dev and Team lead on the award-winning BBC Video Factory portfolio - bringing over a million hours of content to all devices.
- Recent, relevant experience in Agile and DevOps environments, continuous integration/delivery (CI/CD) to Cloud platforms.
- Ethos: *Each line of code has an ongoing cost, so write as little as possible, and keep everything else tidy. Tests are first-class code: Testability is a major part of design.*

Technical

Development

- General: Object-oriented, with a functional mindset. Focus on using TDD/BDD to drive clean, maintainable code.
- Use of containerization (Docker/Kubernetes) to reduce distance between development and production.
- Java/JVM (10+ years): Oracle Certified Associate (Java 8). Spring ecosystem, Java (up to 18), Kotlin (1 year), Spring Boot, Apache Camel, TDD/BDD (JUnit, Mockito, Cucumber-JVM), REST, Maven/Gradle, DropWizard.
- Perl (10+ years): "Modern Perl" OO (Moose/Moo, Plack) - database apps, web services, data-processing (XML, JSON etc).
- Other dynamic languages: Pyth0n, Gro0vy, Jav4script, Rvby (varying experience)
- Frontend: *I've been working with Web UIs throughout my career. Now I mainly maintain rather than develop because it's a massive field in itself. So I'm fine with HTML, CSS, Javascript, Bootstrap, templating*
- Relational databases: applications, schema design, query design and optimisation
- "NoSQL" databases and key/value stores (e.g. DynamoDB, Redis, Memcached)

Delivery

- Web-scale architecture: observability, maintainability, API design, caching, volumetrics, microservices, performance testing.
- Distributed systems: Design and maintenance for monoliths, microservices and message-oriented systems. They all have their place.
- Cloud (IaaS/PaaS):
  - AWS & Azure (architecture and implementation): Using comparable tech across both: Compute / Kubernetes / Queue / DB / IAM / Files / IaC

- Recent Azure experience, using Azure Devops pipelines, deploying into AKS clusters, App Gateway, KeyVault.
- Security: PKI; OAuth2; SSO (OpenID Connect) hashing, encryption/decryption, signing/verification with XML standards, some exposure to SAML.
- Support software/systems: Jenkins, Maven, Gradle, Git, Jira, Confluence, Splunk

Experience

Aug 2015-present: Contracting services t/a "Belle Software Ltd" (or an umbrella)

Note: All job titles are purely decorative. I expect to use my experience as far as necessary, including technical leadership, and mentoring.

Software Engineer at Currency Cloud thru Opencredo (remote hybrid / Nov 2023-present)

- Tasked with scoping a rebuild of the CurrencyCloud public API gateway, and planning for standardised authentication and authorisation across their platform.
- Designed and led a proof-of-concept to show how existing CRM systems could be integrated with OAuth2, using my past experience implemented OIDC.

Software Engineer at 10x Banking (remote / Oct 2021-Oct 2023)

- Developed and maintained services to deliver specific customer-facing features for the 10x Banking platform, as part of multiple feature teams.
- Including core services - Statement Generation, Customer Goals manangement, Customer Insights and Lending Products (Loans and Credit Cards).
- Gained a deep and detailed understanding of retail banking concepts and the increased sense of security and integrity required in this sector.
- Worked on a variety of products serving different business and customer needs, targetting a production workload of daily transactions for millions of customers.
- Mostly Java/Kotlin with Spring Boot, with Kafka, Postgres, Elasticsearch. Deployed via CI/CD to Kubernetes clusters in AWS. Exposure to Terraform.
- Responsible for coding features to agreed spec, with relevant E2E and unit tests, and attention to observability, load testing and other NFRs.

Senior Developer / Tech Lead at Tesco PayPlus (London+remote / Oct 2018-Oct 2021)

- Part of a backend team engaged in all parts of an independent sub-business of Tesco Bank
- Initially Senior SE, but later assumed a Tech Lead role, responsible for the ongoing maintainance and development of all backend software services supporting the business.
- Mentoring and supporting a team of devs to work autonomously and productively. Encouraging sharing of views and problems.
- Working with solution architect, product leads and other tech leads to design and implement solutions.
- Maintaining, updating and extending main backend services - a programme of continuous renovation. Replacing proprietary systems with mature OSS solutions.
- Led a migration programme to exit end-of-life payment system, built using Python/Kubernetes.
- Main tech stack: Java 8, Spring, Tomcat, Jersey, Oracle, Cucumber. Deployed via CI/CD to Kubernetes on Azure (built from scratch), and also legacy systems.

Java Software Engineer on-site at Mendeley/Elsevier (London / Jan 2017-July 2018)

- Part of multiple cross-functional teams for Mendeley, through a major technology refresh.
- Acquisition and Onboarding: Migrating local Oauth2 sign-in to federated OpenID Connect solution. High-volume, mission-critical services.
- Building new services for flagship 'Reference Manager 2' product - mix of client-facing and message-processing.
- Working mostly with back-end Java 8 development, in a microservice architecture with continuous deployment.

- Technologies used/learned: Java 8, Dropwizard, Kibana, Redis, TDD, BDD, Oauth2, OpenID Connect (OIDC), RxJava, Docker/ECS, Terraform, AWS, Payments integration (Adyen).

Perl Software Engineer (SEO) on-site at Zoopla (Southwark / Nov 2015-Dec 2016)

- Tasked with re-engineering of SEO support to support long-term transformation from a monolithic site to SOA; includes setting-up a permanent SEO engineering team.
- Developing internal SEO engineering platform and reporting framework, for a major website which relies hugely on organic SEO traffic.
- Perl, Python, Google APIs, Google Analytics, AWS Redshift, Birst BI tools. Some HTML/CSS/Javascript.

Java Software Engineer on-site at Sky (Osterley / Aug-Oct 2015)

- Working within small Agile teams, developing high-volume Web services to support both OTT client-facing and back-end APIs.

August 2008 - July 2015: BBC Digital/Future Media

2014-2015 : Team Lead / Principal Software Engineer - Media Services

- Led a new team, charged with reduction of both AWS costs and technical debt. Responsible for a mix of greenfield and legacy components.
- Design and build of components for the BBC's Video Factory. Video Factory ensures that BBC digital audio and video is available to users across a vast range of devices. Components are designed to be highly-available and scalable.
- Java (Camel/Jersey) applications, continuous integration (Jenkins), AWS in a devops environment. Extensive use of AWS (EC2/ELB/ASG,CloudFormation,S3,SQS,SNS - limited exposure to DynamoDB and Lambdas).
- Working environment: Agile with Kanban("Scrumban"), TDD/BDD (Java/Ruby). Pair programming (where appropriate).

2012-2014 : Principal Software Engineer - Publishing Services

- Development and maintenance of Java components for Video Factory (details above), and existing Perl components.
- Ongoing tech lead responsibility for selected iPlayer's core services - then supporting 18 million+ req/day.
- Designed and delivered a secure SAML gateway supporting the "BBC Store" and the "Xbox iPlayer" products.
- Organised coding "dojos" for TDD.

2008-2012 : Technical Lead / Principal Software Engineer

- Design and delivery of "Media Selector 5" application in Perl; a business-critical, audience-facing service behind all iPlayer playback. Tech: Perl (Moose,Plack), XML/JSON, NoSQL (couchdb).
- Ongoing maintenance on existing related middleware and customer-facing services for BBC media delivery. Included major database migration (2012-2014); focus on data integrity, risk management and migration planning.
- Led the delivery of the playback mechanism for iPlayer 3G/iOS product (Dec 2011).

2007-2008 CAIW Netwerken (contract)

- Maintaining Perl middleware services; reverse-engineered SOAP/WSDL contract from Perl source code for Java clients.

2005-2007 Semantico Ltd

- Developing new client sites (e.g. www.blackwellreference.com) in Perl using Semantico's backend CMS and access management technology.

1999-2005 Best Scarper Ltd

- Providing freelance software engineering services. Multiple clients.