Ian Edwards

Software Engineer / Engineering Manager

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A highly motivated leader and full stack developer with excellent interpersonal, communication and negotiation skills. Driven by building powerful and efficient software solutions as well as mentoring, motivating and developing a successful and productive team.

Work Experience

Full Stack Developer
Contract Work
May 2019 - July 2019

I was brought into a 2 month contract to prepare an online seller of live tickets for a large on-sale promotion that would see their active user count jump from approximately 20 at once to 100,000 for a single day. Because of the short period of the increase in users there wasn't a need to have an architecture that can support this high a number of users throughout the year, so I employed various different techniques to ensure the website wouldn't go down during this period that could also be enabled for any future on-sales without the huge financial burden of running an unnecessarily large server architecture.

- Profiling both the PHP website and the Node API and making any necessary code optimisations
- Improving the implementation and increasing the use of the Redis cache
- Building a local cache of responses from external APIs to reduce time spent loading external information, with the ability to invalidate a single request response if up-to-date information necessary
- Building a static mimic of the live website that could be delivered by AWS CloudFront in the event of errors, powered by the local cache

Engineering Manager
Akkroo (now Integrate Events)
December 2016 - May 2019

After building the team to 5 members I officially moved into a management role and away from hands-on development responsibilities. This ensured that the growing team had dedicated management to enable them to perform at their best. The team consisted of 9 on-site developers and 2 remote system administrators.

My key responsibilities included:
- Building a strong culture of feedback
- Supporting career development through goals, 1 to 1s, coaching and mentoring
- Recruiting and continuing to develop a team of great people
- Constantly improving productivity & best practices with the team
- Enabling the team to deliver as efficiently as possible

Full Stack Developer
Akkroo (now Integrate Events)
September 2014 - December 2016

I joined Akkroo as the second developer when the company had a total of 6 members and was involved in all areas of the technical development and maintenance of a SaaS product. The tech stack included PHP, Javascript (vanilla and ReactJS), Cordova, MongoDB, MySQL, AWS and Linux. I was also responsible for all server maintenance and hiring to continue the growth of the team. As expected in a startup that's still finding Product-Market fit, this was a challenging but incredibly exciting and rewarding role.

PHP Analyst Programmer
ITRM
June 2012 - September 2014

I joined the small ITRM web agency team as a full stack developer mostly working with PHP and Javascript. I was responsible for developing and maintaining a large in-house bespoke CMS built using Codeigniter, which was used for anything from small, responsive websites to Intranets with large user bases, and a simple to use CRM system (Laravel) which was, again, used in a variety of different scale projects. I also built multiple individual bespoke systems integrated with various public APIs (Google Maps, Foursquare, Twitter, Facebook). I also performed various administrative tasks supporting the development and production MySQL and LAMP stack server setups.

IT Support
Fusion People
January 2008 - January 2009

Responsible for providing IT support to 250+ recruitment agents using various Windows operating systems. Also required to manage personal time and workload efficiently to ensure that all errors and queries were dealt with in a professional manner and in accordance with company policies. Other responsibilities included: updating and general housekeeping of MS SQL Server database, liaising with external suppliers (phone companies, manufacturers etc), testing of internal software projects.

Education

(BSc Hons) Software Engineering
Southampton Solent University
2009 - 2012

BTEC National Diploma in Music Practice
Key Skills Level 2 ICT
Eastleigh College
2003 - 2005

9 A-C grade GCSEs including Maths, Statistics, English, English Lit., Science
Wyvern Technology College
1998 - 2003

Honors & Awards

Use Judgement
Akkroo Values Award
2017
In 2017 Akkroo introduced it's own annual awards with each award dedicated to one of the company values (Make an Impact, Use Judgement, Be Curious & Innovate, Build Trust and Embrace the Journey). I was awarded the 'Use Judgement' award for being the first in the company to move from being an individual contributor into a management role and the decisions made to ensure that it was successful for both myself and the rest of the company.