

CHRISTOPHER GROUNDS

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<https://github.com/chrisgrounds>

1 SUMMARY

I am an experienced software engineer who has worked on a range of different domains, problems, and technologies. My main focus throughout my career has been on excellence and best practices – both cultural and engineering.

This is evidenced by my time at the BBC and Tracsis, where I have promoted and encouraged well-tested, clean code through a combination of fast-feedback loops, TDD, best practices such as pair programming, and creating a safe working environment. Through this focus, I have been instrumental in shaping and forming positive team culture and engineering best practices, all whilst taking lead on projects critical to the success of the mission - such as, driving out the CI/CD pipeline for the newly created Universal App Platform. My ambition has always been to help shape agile teams, able to innovate and move quickly. As an example of this, I consistently promoted feature-toggle based development to enable a smoother continuous delivery process, and introduced pair programming to the engineering department at Tracsis, increasing collective ownership and shared knowledge of the domain, thus greatly reducing risk and cost of new feature development.

All in all, I view software a team enterprise and I am a believer in the value of the principles of extreme programming. This involves a strong emphasis on pair/mob programming and including all disciplines in the software-creation process as early as possible, coupled with expert knowledge of the technologies involved.

2 EXPERIENCE

03/2020 - present Software Engineer, BBC

Significant contribution to the technical design and decision making on a wide range of components across the Universal App Platform monorepo, including build system and toolchains. Instrumental in forming team values and ways of working and taken lead on a wide range of projects.

Tools & Techs: Pair programming, TDD, Trunk-based dev, CI/CD, Jenkins, JavaScript, E2E Testing

11/2018 - 03/2020 Software Engineer, Tracsis

Software Engineer at Tracsis working on the resource management system of TRACS Enterprise, a high-availability suite of software, responsible for building high-quality and thoroughly-tested software to help train operating companies' processes become more efficient and streamlined.

Throughout my time here I have continuously encouraged and promoted agile best practices such as TDD, pair-programming, kanban-practices, CD, and feature-toggled based development.

Tools & Techs: Pair programming, TDD, Trunk-based dev, Haskell, AWS, CI/CD, Jenkins, JavaScript, E2E Testing

12/2017 - 11/2018 Junior Software Engineer, BBC

A member of the Newsround team, working with React and the BBC's proprietary serverless platform to build a high-performing new website for Newsround, transitioning it to a digital future.

Further to the Newsround website, I have built internal tooling to facilitate continuous deployment, championed functional programming and safe code, given talks on Haskell, lead and organised a Haskell study group, and been involved with assessment centres, bringing talent into the BBC.

Tools & Techs: Node.js/React, Elm, TypeScript, TDD, Pair Programming, CI/CD, Serverless

06/2016 - 12/2017 Web Software Developer, Age Partnership

A member of the web team, responsible for writing greenfield software and web applications, maintaining legacy code, and responding to operational problems. Also the unit testing project lead responsible for unit testing the codebase.

3 EDUCATION

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|--------------------------|---|
| 09/2015 - 09/2016 | MA. (Postgraduate) Linguistics with a Specialisation in Syntax
University College London (UCL)
Degree Classification: <i>Distinction</i> |
| 09/2012 - 06/2015 | MA. (Undergraduate) (Hons) Language & Linguistics and Philosophy
University of Aberdeen
Degree Classification: <i>First Class, with Honours</i> |

4 OPEN SOURCE

- [GHC: Fixed GHC.Natural documentation typo](#)
- [Learn You a Haskell companion exercises](#)
- [Vim-one: added Haskell support](#)
- [Intero-neovim: Added functionality to customize Intero window size and position](#)

5 PERSONAL PROJECTS (SELECTION; ALL AVAILABLE ON GITHUB)

- [Haskell random name generator, deployed on Heroku and AWS Lambda](#)
- [Halendar: terminal based calendar \(Haskell\)](#)
- [Htex: HTML-LaTeX compiler \(Haskell\)](#)
- [Multiprocessing TCP portscanner \(Python\)](#)
- [Interactive calculator REPL \(Haskell\)](#)

6 PRESENTATIONS & TALKS

- 18/02/2019, 'Haskell at Tracsis: some lessons', *Manchester Lambda Lounge*: Manchester
- 22/11/2018, 'Pair programming', *Tracsis*: Leeds
- 16/08/2018, 'Using Monoids to build UI', *Manchester Lambda Lounge*: Manchester
- 23/03/2018, 'Haskell: programming purity', *BBC*: MediaCity