**Connel Hooley**[**me@connelhooley.uk**](mailto:me@connelhooley.uk)[**connelhooley.uk**](http://connelhooley.uk/)[**linkedin.com/in/connelhooley**](http://www.linkedin.com/in/connelhooley)

**Background**

I am a 29-year-old software engineer based in Norwich. My preferred language is **C#** although I also have experience with **TypeScript**.

I have also started to take an interest in **F#** and functional paradigms. I have written an in-depth article introducing C# developers to F# that you can find [here](http://connelhooley.uk/blog/2017/04/10/f-sharp-guide). I also have experience with the Actor model via **Akka.NET**. My love for TDD and the Actor model lead me to write an Akka.NET unit test framework that you can find [here](https://github.com/connelhooley/AkkaTestingHelpers).

My hobbies include playing football and table tennis. I am a Newcastle United fan.

**Experience**

**Applications Developer (Apr 2018 – Present)***Aviva - Norwich*During this role I predominantly worked on an existing greenfield project, aimed at minimising duplication amongst various code bases within the business. Upon my arrival I quickly provided value by improving the stability of the unit tests for the solution. Whilst working on the project I became a tech lead and I oversee a small number of offshore developers. The project uses **Akka.NET** for its backend and **SignalR** to update a React.JS SPA. I feel my knowledge of Akka.NET has been very valuable to the team.  
  
During my time at Aviva I also developed a simple service virtualisation tool that the team uses as an alternative to LISA/Dev Test. This was written in **TypeScript** and was built using **Node.JS**.

**Applications Developer (Feb 2015 – Mar 2018)***Modality Systems - Norwich*During this role I worked on various solutions built around **Skype For Business**. I helped the dev team build out release pipelines in **VSTS** and embrace TDD & testing automation. This involved a large mentality shift with regards to how QA was approached. We tried to involve our testers as early as possible with each user story. I particularly enjoyed embracing TDD.

I led the design of one project that involved the co-ordinating of over 50 machines. It used **Akka.NET** and **SignalR** to achieve the distributed computing required. The machines could be configured using an **Angular2 TypeScript** web application. During this project we hired a junior dev whom I mentored which was an extremely rewarding experience. I was also stand-in scrum master for this project. I was involved in various Microsoft TAP programs during my time in this role which was very interesting.

**Applications Developer (Jan 2014 – Jan 2015)***C A Design Services - Great Yarmouth*This was my first development role. I initially performed small support tasks and developed in-house **.NET** solutions. I then moved on to developing enhancements and bug fixes to existing products. These systems were usually 3-tier **ASP.NET Web Form** Applications with **T-SQL** databases. I eventually began working on new projects and was the first person at the company to make a website using an ORM back-end (**Entity Framework**) and the MVC design pattern (**ASP.NET MVC**). My first project was for the large retail firm Sainsbury’s. I also began writing unit tests for the first time during my time at C A Design Services.

**Qualifications**

**BSc Hons in Software Engineering at the University of East Anglia (2010-2013)**2:2

**BTEC National Diploma in ICT at Great Yarmouth College (2008-2010)**  
Triple Distinction

**GCSEs at Cliff Park High School (2002-2006)**Grade A English Language  
Grade B English Literature  
Grade C Science × 2, Maths, Statistics, ICT, Electronics, Art, PE, RE