

Dave Harris

EMAIL dave@harris.org.nz MOBILE 021 594 913

Skills and Abilities

- Senior developer with eighteen years experience
- Extensive knowledge of full-stack Rails and Unix system administration
- Excellent problem-solving skills and attention to detail
- Builds trusting relationships with customers and colleagues
- Sets high standards and empowers others achieve results
- Experienced team leader who contributes actively
- Experienced in Agile principles
- Active contributor to the Rails community in Christchurch and nationally

Employment History

2018 - CURRENT FULL STACK DEVELOPER, POP-IN PHOTOS

[Pop-in Photos](#) is a family photography service I co-founded with a local photographer, to create the online booking and image delivery system to replace the existing solution which was limiting growth.

My responsibilities include:

- Building a bespoke Rails application from scratch specifically for the needs of the photographers and parents, while fitting into a franchise business model
- Using best practice tooling such as PostgreSQL database, Sidekiq for asynchronous processing and a user interface toolkit
- Developed a custom photographic image processing pipeline
- Deep integration with many external APIs
- Serving global users in different of timezones, currencies and locations.
- Scaling application and database as business grows by identifying performance bottlenecks
- Ensuring website high availability via peer review and thorough automated testing and CI
- Day-to-day application and infrastructure maintenance and production monitoring
- An attention to detail as we accept payments and we hold private photos, so there is no room for error
- Collaborating with stakeholders to determine system requirements and future direction and identify technical debt
- Providing technical oversight and mentorship of a DevAcademy graduate who has progressed to intermediate level

2020 - 2021 RAILS DEVELOPER, BOOST NEW MEDIA

I relished the opportunity to return to a previous employer and work in a team environment with unfamiliar technology.

Some of my key achievements were:

- Worked on multiple large and complex Rails applications and APIs with an emphasis on performance and long-term maintainability
- Used best-practice DevOps tools such as Kubernetes and Terraform to support dynamic scalability
- Worked with the client to identify future technological challenges and changes

2014 - 2018 TECHNICAL TEAM LEAD, YOUDO

YouDo provides bespoke software development services using an Agile approach. The types of projects I worked on ranged from large-scale Ruby on Rails applications to pure JSON APIs and small React applications.

My responsibilities included:

- Implementation and automated testing of bespoke, complex solutions
- Determined technologies and technical design in conjunction with the solution architect
- Developed solutions across many sectors using a range of technologies and constraints
- Ensured code quality by mentoring developers, code reviews and peer programming

2011 - 2014 RAILS DEVELOPER, BOOST NEW MEDIA

Boost New Media allowed me to transition from Java to Ruby on Rails in a supportive, design-lead environment. The types of projects I worked on were large rails applications and APIs, and DevOps.

Some of my key achievements were:

- Up-skilled quickly to become a key member of the team and progressed to lead contact for primary client
- Created and maintained open source gems and documentation used by national libraries for countries around the world
- Mentored junior developers, ensuring code quality and growing team knowledge
- Built and maintained server infrastructure-as-code

Education and Training

COMMITTEE MEMBER OF KIWI RUBY 2019 CONFERENCE

After enjoying attending 2017 KiwiRuby and RubyConfAU, I joined the volunteer committee to organise the 2019 KiwiRuby conference. This is a good way to get to know more people in the Wellington Ruby community and collaborate to put on a great event.

ADVENT OF CODE AND EXERCISM

As a part of ongoing skills development, I undertook the daily coding challenges provided by Advent of Code and Exercism for many years. These sharpened my requirements analysis and ruby skills to quickly develop an accurate solution, and has re-enforced my love of ruby.

CONFERENCES

- 2023 Ruby Retreat
- 2023 Ruby Kaigi, Japan
- 2019 KiwiRuby (organiser)
- 2019 RubyConfAU
- 2017 KiwiRuby

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

I graduated from Victoria University of Wellington with a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Electronic and Computer Systems in 2006.

Referees

Available on request