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Richard Ibbotson

Profile

A highly competent IT technician with a variety of transferable skills. Equally talented in Software trouble shooting and programming and PC maintenance. Call centre support and customer handling by telephone and by e-mail. Also system administration on several flavours of UNIX including GNU/Linux and the BSDs. Built and tested computers for IBM and Compaq. Worked for Google at their data centre in Belgium. Worked with four different internet service providers in Sheffield. Yorkshire Cable. Plusnet and Telewest and Blueyonder and Virgin Media in call centre customer and technical support. Taken BBC TV and radio journalist training courses in London and at Salford. Worked as a freelance journalist at BBC New Broadcasting House. Experienced in delivering Lectures and Seminars, Also published in a variety of international magazines.

Linked  <http://www.linkedin.com/in/richardibbotson>

Key Skills

- Extensive knowledge of GNU/Linux and BSD software. Debian, SuSE and RedHat. Much usage of Ubuntu desktop and server software since it came along in 2003. Helped Mark Shuttleworth at IT shows in several different countries.
- Network Attached Systems. JetDirect. Printers. Storage
- My own web server runs on Debian GNU/Linux server software over at Digital Ocean.
- Much knowledge of other UNIX software such as Solaris system administration as well as Microsoft and Macintosh software.
- IMAP, POP3, SMTP, SSL, TLS, Apache, Samba, Postfix, Exim and Sendmail, Perl and some MySQL.
- Helped to start and build the internet. Worked with Jeremy Allison who is the Samba developer. Also, the Apache foundation developers and Derick Rethans who is the PHP guru. Virtual Private Networking and firewalls with iptables, Packet Filter and IPF. Worked with Wim Vandeputte and the OpenBSD team. Worked with Keith Packard and the XOrg foundation. Much work with the One Laptop per Child project. At one time or another I have been involved with Tim Berners-Lee and Richard Stallman and Linus Torvalds.
- Can fix broken servers. Install and maintain switches and routers. Some experience of HP-UX. Worked on cabling LAN and WAN for some years. Have worked on and installed many MS Windows systems from Windows 3.11 to MS Windows 10. Can teach other people to write.

- Recent projects include Astro Pi. Linux in space. Worked with Hollywood technicians and actors. Every Hollywood blockbuster movie uses GNU/Linux for special effects.

Education / Training

2016 to 2019 Spent most of my time attending Linux Foundation conferences and training sessions in several different countries. Also written for GNU/Linux magazines. Recently I was teaching Agile Business Analyst and Basic and Advanced Linux Administration for The Knowledge Academy and running the exams.

2004 – 2005 Tritec Computer Training Sheffield
Cisco CCNA

1991 - 2000 Open University Milton Keynes

Science foundation course S102 and many other science courses. Such as discovering physics – S271. Mathematical modelling – TM282. Organic and inorganic chemistry – S246 and S247. Mathematical modelling – MST204. Geological sciences – S236. Planetary sciences – S281. Spent some weeks at the California Institute of Technology reading in the Mudd Library and took a degree in chemistry there. Took a degree in geology at UC Berkeley. Went back to study cosmology. Also did a degree at the Université Libre de Bruxelles in international studies. Attended the Juilliard School of Performing Arts in New York.

Summary of qualifications

- Linux Professional Institute systems administration courses 101 and 102
- Open University S102 Physics, Maths, Chemistry, Geology to third level
- C & G 745 Technical Photographer's Certificate
- 9 CSE s including Physics, Maths and English. Three G.C.E s in Chemistry, Physics and photography.

Home web page

<https://sleepypenguin.homelinux.org/blog>

Professional experience

1998 - 2018 Running technical support and installation services for local companies. Worked Google in St Ghislain in Belgium. My experience includes installation and replacement of complete networks based around Microsoft and open source products.

- Configure Apache servers
- Configure Samba servers
- Configure open source mail servers
- Configure DNS and Perl modules
- Sort out viruses and other security issues
- Install and configure open source firewalls
- Consult on special needs for local business which might be open source or Microsoft based.
- Organise and run open source events for South Yorkshire Business Link and the Institute of Engineering Technology and the local Universities. Might involve hiring out Sheffield Wednesday's football ground conference facilities or a similar venue. Run meetings and seminars at weekends for projects like Open Street Map and many others. In the local Sheffield area I have built Samba servers as well as Apache

servers and mail servers for local companies. GNU/Linux and BSD firewalls were also much in demand.

Founder and Organiser and Chairman of Sheffield Linux User's Group. A voluntary unpaid part-time hobby. This involves writing for magazines and producing public lectures and seminars. <http://www.sheflug.org.uk> is well known both internationally as well as on a local level. Most recently I have been writing a lot for Linux New Media who are based in Germany and the United States. I've also had a requests from the BBC to write for them in previous years.

1998.1998 Hays IT.
Installation Technician
Building and installing IBM PCs at the Computacenter at St Albans on a sort contract.

1998 - 1998 Plusnet Technologies Sheffield
Technical Sales Assistant
Answering calls from customers and advising them on how to solve their various problems with computers and MS Windows applications. All office e-mail/ Internet systems.

1986 - 1991 **British Steel PLC** Sheffield
Photographer Thought up original ideas for photographs to sell millions of pounds worth of specialist steel products. Processed and printed own work. Carried out administration work for the chief photographer. Projects such as Canary Wharf and the BT stainless steel phone box.

1980 – 1983 **Royal Air Force** RAF Kinloss
Became an **RAF ground photographer** after Thatcher closed the local engineering industry. Although officially I was not a qualified public relations and press photographer my previous experience in industry made my RAF colleagues think that I should be doing that. I spent a lot of time producing pictures for Northern Scottish press. As well as photographing broken aircraft for insurances purposes.

Twitter



<https://twitter.com/SleepyPenguin1>