Richard Ball – Contracting CV

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Profile

A business focussed technology professional with a strong and broad skillset working in Agile environments. Focussing on DevOps and Web Development with emphasis on creating useful and meaningful tools and systems. Continually improving deployment methods to speed up feedback loops, working in teams or standalone. Outside of contracting I attend IT conferences, Meetups, seminars, talks, workshops and online courses to continue honing my skills around web development, automation and business.

My core skillset comprises of migrating to and building out cloud infrastructure using CI/CD pipelines with Docker, Ansible, Terraform, AWS and Jenkins and more recently full stack web development using the MERN stack (MongoDB, ExpressJS, ReactJS, NodeJS).

Skills

Operating Systems	Linux (Ubuntu, CentOS), Windows, Mac OS.
Databases	MongoDB, MYSQL, Redis.
Virtualization and Cloud	AWS (EC2, EBS, ELB, S3, EFS, Cloudfront, Route 53, SES), VMware, Virtualbox, Heroku, Docker Swarm, MongoLabs, Rackspace.
Project and SW methodologies	Kanban, Agile, Atlassian (Jira, Confluence, ServiceDesk), Prince2, TDD, CI, CD, CDP.
Scripting and SW Development	HTML, CSS, Javascript, ReactJS, NodeJS, ExpressJS, Git, Bash, NPM, APIs.
DevOps Tools	Terraform, Ansible, Vagrant, Papertrail, Jenkins.
Monitoring	New Relic, Nagios, Server Density, Cloudwatch.

Recent Training

Advanced CSS and Sass	August 2019	Udemy
Modern React with Redux	July 2019	Udemy
ES6: Developer's Guide	June 2019	Udemy
MongoDB Developers Guide	May 2019	Udemy
Innovating for Growth	April 2019	British Library IP business centre
User Experience Design Essentials	March 2019	Udemy
Modern Web Development	Jan, Feb 2019	Kodiri, London

Personal Project

Building a customer engagement platform with ReactJS and NodeJS using a continuous delivery pipeline deployed to AWS with EC2 / S3 / Cloudfront / EBS / EFS / Dockerhub / Git / Cloudflare / Bitbucket on Kubernetes with Docker using Redis / MongoDB monitored by Cloudwatch / Uptime robot / Papertrail.

Certifications

LPIC2	LPI000181804 (LPIC201, LPIC202)
Novell Certified Linux Administrator	10113199 (CLA11)
SUSE Certified Linux Professional	10113199 (CLP)
SUSE Certified Administrator	10113199 (SCA)
Data Centre Technical Specialist	10113199 (DCTS)
Cisco Certified Network Technician	CSCO11449174 (CCENT)
Prince2 Foundation	02567404-01-Z66K (Prince2)
ITILV3 Foundation	4404560 (ITILV3)

Education

BSc Hons Degree in Computing
Plymouth University, UK (2001-2004)

3 A-Levels: Economics, Accounting, Law
Henley College, England (1998- 2000)

12 GCSE's
Gillott's School Henley, England (1996-1998)

Recent contracting career history
5/2019 –> Current

Learning web development and working on personal project (See above).

CDP Worldwide   Carbon disclosure reporting for companies   **Fully Remote - UK 11/2017 –> 5/2019**
DevOps Engineer   Reported to Head of Infrastructure

Setup CI/CD pipelines using Jenkins with Docker Swarm on a Rackspace cluster. Setup a suite of Atlassian products using Docker containers (Jira, Servicedesk, Confluence). Converted stand-alone containers to orchestrated deployment using Docker Swarm, Jenkins and Puppet in a CI/CD pipeline with cloud logging to Papertrail. Created network diagrams and Prezi presentation, held workshops with IT teams and planned a future migration to AWS and Kubernetes. Developed a technical interview process and carried out interviews for hiring a permanent site reliability engineer position to support the systems that I implemented.

WTMS (WPP)   Public Relations   **Fully Remote - UK 11/2016 –> 2/2019**
DevOps Engineer   Reported to Head of Web Services

Acted as technical lead for open source website projects engaging with WPP clients, capturing their requirements, designing, implementing and handing over environments to them. Writing infrastructure as code, adhering to DevOps CALMS principles.

- Setup continuous delivery pipelines for WPP agencies using AWS, Ansible, BASH, Jenkins, Terraform, Docker.
- Designed multiple pipelines to be used as off the shelf products for fast deployment from Git server for new clients.
- Replaced Chef server with Ansible scripts.
- Setup a wiki to document the new continuous delivery workflows and automation tools.
- Engaged as technical lead on website projects with WPP agencies.

The Brooke   Animal Welfare   **London, UK 11/2015 –> 05/2016**
Linux sysadmin   Reported to Head of IT Systems

Providing support for 100 server estate on Ubuntu, CentOS, Red Hat, Windows. Patching, upgrading and maintaining the systems. Migrating systems and supporting the internal development and operations teams to ensure the reliable delivery of products to the company including the information systems, donation and gift shop revenue generating websites.

CDP Worldwide   Carbon disclosure reporting for companies   **London, UK 4/2015 –> 7/2015**
System engineer   Reported to IT Director

Consulted for this large global charity on their IT infrastructure for providing a resilience environment for a data-warehouse and new website migration and deployment. Engaging with the IT Director, IT support manager, development and business intelligence teams I project managed the migration of the data-warehouse from Accenture to in-house and designed/configured the infrastructure to allow o365 integration and resilience for the website and data-warehouse across multiple datacentres. Managed relationships with third party SaaS and IaaS providers and negotiated costs on these services. Prepared project plans, design documents, research and costings. Held daily meetings and agile stand-ups identifying any obstacles to effectively deliver the project on time. Prepared system documentation, trained staff on BAU support for the systems and provided recommendations on how to evolve the systems internally.