

Gavin Draper

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Availability: 3 Months

Preferred Location: Brighton

Key Skills

Practises: CI/CD/Agile/DevOps, Scrum, Kanban, XP, TDD

Databases: SQL Server – HA/DR Solutions, ETL Processes, Performance Tuning, TSQL

Languages: C#, TSQL, PowerShell, JavaScript

Systems: Message Brokers, Microservices, Distributed Systems, Containers (Docker), Orchestrators (Swarm, Kubernetes)

Cloud: Azure – Web Apps, Functions, Cosmos DB, Key Vault, AKS

Programming Tools: SSMS, Visual Studio, Azure Data Studio, VS Code, Sentry Plan Explorer, SQL Profiler, git

Management: Mentoring, Code Reviews, Performance Reviews, Training

Career Overview

After completing my A-Levels I went straight to work for Revenue Accounting Systems where I worked on airline accounting software for 5 years. After this, I spent 4 years in E-Learning for 2 different companies before returning to finance to work in Investment Management where I have been for the last 9+ years.

Hobbies

Running, Wakeboarding, Reading, Writing, Paddle Boarding, Roller Hockey.

References

Available on request.

Professional Experience

June 2010 – Now

Parrish Blake\Waverton - London\Remote

Head of DevOps

Tech Stack: C#, SSRS, SQL Server, SSIS, WinForms, WPF, WCF, Windows Services, Microservices

- Took the release process for our primary line of business application from about 1 manual release every 6 months to multiple automated releases per day. This involved a new automated release pipeline to allow one-click releases to any environment. This process also included an auto-updater in the application, so users automatically get the latest version.
- Worked with teams in all areas of Front/Middle and Back office to design and implement new features/systems and improve the usability/performance of existing ones.
- Designed and implemented a system to automate FX's.
- Designed and implemented a DropBox like solution for importing/exporting files to various third parties by drag and dropping files to a specific location where they get auto picked up and sent/received via FTP/SFTP/Email/API.
- Scrum Master for many development sprints.
- Helped design/create an online client portal in ASP.Net Core and Angular.
- Helped design/implement the online portal security model (data encryption\transport, 2FA and identity providers)
- Implemented new documentation processes and documented several systems using Stack Overflow for Teams for Q&A style documentation and a combination of Media Wiki/OneNote for everything else.
- Implemented many SQL/Database design Optimizations to solve Timeouts, Deadlocks and Blocking.

- Designed and Implemented a new HA/DR solution using SQL Server Failover Clustering and Log Shipping.
- Helped design and implement a data warehousing solution.
- Created bespoke monitoring tools to monitor SQL Server and in-house backend services that alert the relevant teams via Slack when needed.
- Created monitoring dashboards for different services using ASP.Net Core and the Elastic Stack (Elastic Search, Kibana, Log Stash, FileBeat, MetricBeat).
- Implemented a new system for syncing data from an offsite third-party vendor's Oracle database to an onsite SQL database.
- Manage the DevOps team in supporting, operationalising and monitoring the various in-house systems.
- Lead a push to automate any task that requires manual input more than once.
- Work closely with the change team to advise on impact\risk and time of various changes in their backlog.
- Helped implement the processes/tools to work effectively as a fully remote team. I've spent the last 7 years working fully remote as have most of our team collaborating/communicating heavily with Slack, Zoom, Skype, Phones and Trello.

August 2008 – June 2010

Brightwave - Brighton

Senior Developer

Tech Stack: C#, SQL Server, JavaScript, ASP.Net WebForms, ASP.Net MVC, CSS

- Helped move the existing code written in VB.Net in notepad and compiled via command scripts into a Visual Studio solution and fix up the many errors that surfaced as part of this process.
- Helped create a new Learning Management System to replace a legacy app.
- Worked on numerous E-Learning courses, creating interactions and games in JavaScript and CSS.
- Added enhancements to many of the internal tools for content creation.
- Oversaw many contractors and worked closely with them to enhance and create products.
- Optimized many of the SQL queries used by the learning management system to massively improve the response time of our client reports.

September 2006 – August 2008

Posturite - Eastbourne

Software Developer

Tech Stack: VB.Net, C#, SQL Server, Asp.Net WebForms, CSS, JavaScript

- Helped create a new Learning Management System to replace a legacy app and host their E-Learning courses going forward.
- Optimized their web stack for accessibility (shortcuts, screen readers, colours....)
- Worked directly with a client to create a bespoke Accident Management System in ASP.Net WebForms.
- Optimized SQL Queries, Databases and Web Servers to handle a growing client base.

Feb 2001 – August 2006

Revenue Accounting Systems – Burgess Hill

Software Developer

Tech Stack: Delphi, C++, DBase, Crystal Reports

- Worked directly with clients to troubleshoot and fix problems, via code fixes, data updates or training.
- Worked directly with clients to implement new features and regulation changes.
- Created a system to automate the processing of Airline tickets by interfacing to scanners and OCR software.
- Created an ASP.Net webpage for Track and Trace functionality of cargo.
- Migrated the code repositories into source control