

# Jake Shepherd

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Hello, I'm Jake! If you have a chance, please take a look at my Unmind inspired CV: <https://jakeshepherd.github.io>

I'm a software developer with a passion for using technology to improve people's lives. Below I've detailed my career journey so far, reflecting on key aspects of my experience and the skills these have enabled me to develop. I have also shared some of my interests, both professional and personal, which I feel will align with this opportunity.

## **Mayden - Full Stack Developer** (June 2019 - July 2020 & July 2021 - March 2024)

PHP, Javascript, MySQL, React, Laravel, Slim

Working on iaptus, a patient management system for mental health therapies across the UK which supports over **8 million** patients, I was able to take on a leadership role both within my team and the wider company.

Over time, my role moved away from working on individual tickets to collaborate with project managers on project level planning, ensuring that projects were delivered, whilst also getting directly involved with the codebase.

My role:

- Developing fully tested backend REST API endpoints and consuming those endpoints on the frontend.
- Taking on a leadership role, facilitating open and transparent team wide discussions as well as contributing with my own opinions to create a safe and secure application.
- Cross team communication with stakeholders, product owners & UX teams at each stage of the product lifecycle to discuss and prioritise current work and help garden backlogs.
- Providing insight and facilitation to technical discussions with the development team and product managers. This ensured the right work was completed according to priority and maximised product value. This often involved conversations around creating a perfect technical product and required me to be the pragmatic voice in the room.
- Coaching and mentoring more junior members of the team to create an encouraging and supportive team environment.
- Involved in strategic decision making about international product progression & wider market adaptation.
- Release team - Developing an understanding of the technical infrastructure from a dev ops perspective and leveraging this knowledge to optimise deployments.
- Conducting Test Driven Development to ensure the successful deployment of features in a legacy system with lots of technical debt.
- Estimating how long pieces of work would take, accounting for potential unknowns and knowing that there will be blockers that come up in future.

## **Worldwide Veterinary Service - Full Stack Developer** (March 2024 - Present)

NodeJS (Typescript), React (Typescript), NextJS, ExpressJS, Azure, AWS

In my current role, as the most senior member of the dev team, I have led the development of an authentication server for a single point of authentication for all of our volunteers. This has taught me new methods to plan and break up work and enabled me to coach and mentor others so they can contribute successfully and meaningfully to the project.

In addition to this, within this role I have focused on:

- Creating secure, scalable, robust code which has been vital to ensure the charity can continue to get volunteers, donations and record data in the field.
- Shaping and coach a young team, supporting them to expand their skillsets while producing high quality work.
- Building product expertise and knowledge to support growth in the team and aid in communication across the charity.
- Working in a team consisting of the project manager, designers and developers to achieve our mission.

## Outside of Work

I have recently moved to Poole, along with my now Fiancee, who has recently started a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology.

Outside of work I particularly enjoy active hobbies. These include tennis, which I have played since I was a child, and joining a local futsal team, which I really enjoy, despite thinking I am much better than I am! My partner and I also enjoy rock climbing together and hope to use our skills to take in more of the beautiful Dorset scenery.

Overall, I consider myself an upbeat, sociable person who really enjoys talking to and supporting others. I am looking for an opportunity to work collaboratively with a team of like-minded people who are motivated to creating something that will genuinely benefit people's lives.