Kris Leech
Software Engineer, Trainer, Team Lead
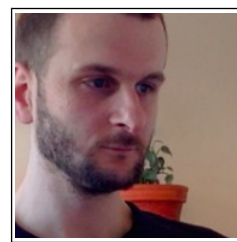
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Introduction

Many years of working alongside talented people, on a diverse range of projects, has allowed me to learn, adapt and grow as an engineer. I aim to continually evolve my tools and techniques.

Building software in collaboration with great people in Agile teams is what makes me happy.

Fundamentally, I see transparency and open channels of communication as key to delivering a project which is successful for everyone involved.

- Practical experience with architectures such as DDD, DCI, Hexagonal Rails and SOA
- Delivery of 5 day RubyOnRails Training Courses
- In depth understanding of both TCP/IP and HTTP protocols
- Experience with provision and maintenance of Linux servers
- Knowledge of Search Engine Optimisation techniques
- Published and contributed to popular open source projects
- Familiarity with software vulnerabilities and their prevention

Education

2010	Introduction to Algorithms	MIT OpenCourseWare (online)
	Programming Methodology (CS106A)	Stanford University (online)
	Programming Abstractions	Stanford University (online)
	Programming Paradigms	Stanford University (online)
2009	Internet Marketing and SEO	E-business Club East Midlands
	Social Media and Web 2.0	Connected Notts
2003	Website Design	Surrey School of Art and Design
2002	Network Security	Edwinstowe House
2002	Search Engine Marketing	Edwinstowe House
1999 – 2001	HND Sound Engineering	Confetti Studios, Nottingham
1999 – 2001	AV (Audio / Video) Studies	Intermedia, Nottingham
1998 – 1999	Foundation Sound Engineering	Confetti Studios, Nottingham
1998 – 1999	A Levels – Computer Science, Psychology	People's College, Nottingham

1996 – 1998	A Levels – Biology, Physics, Chemistry	Colonel Frank Seely, Nottinghamshire

Work Experience

2014-present HouseTrip Limited

A leader in online holiday rentals (200+ employees),
HouseTrip is a venture-backed start-up with an agile and international culture.

Role: Senior Software Engineer

- Development of conversion critical features built using Backbone.js
- Moving from a MonoRail to Service Orientated Architecture
- Driving decoupling of core business logic from Rails application
- Raise awareness of decoupling through discussions are isolated unit tests
- Negotiation of feature scope with PM's for AB testing of proposed features

2001-2014 Interkonect Services UK Limited

Role: Managing Director, Lead Software Developer

Selected highlights:

- Lead developer on Documas, a workflow management platform for NHS Research studies.

  The workflow of a research study is very complex involving geographically dispersed research teams with varying roles, compliance, multiple data sources, outdated browsers (IE 7) and regulatory reporting.

  - Hired and managed a remote team
  - Architectured a highly customizable Rails application for a very complex domain
  - Worked directly with the clients to write user stories
  - Lead the integration with third party regulatory HTTP services
  - Transitioned the original app's UI written in ExtJS to plain HTML/JS
  - Oversaw transition from Alfresco (SOAP/"REST"/ATOM) to our own RESTful service which wraps Camlistore

- Lead developer on JobSavviGrad, an employability portal with CV builder, aggregated Job search and automated Job application for University under graduates.

  - Moved a typical highly coupled manually tested 2 year old Rails app in the direction of a cleaner architecture which could respond to change.
  - Build a parallelizable Job board parsing framework using Capybara
  - Created an asynchronous (queue based) Job Application HTTP service
  - Architectured the product to a SaaS which could be provisioned and deployed with ease for each university.

- MVP for Boxhug, which won the Richard Branson Pitch to Rich award
- MVP for Matripa, a collaborative trip planner and marketplace
- Nottingham Information Prescriptions Nottinghamshire County Council

- [Bassetlaw Health](#) for the Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group
- Award winning [Back2You](#) remix competition website

2000-2001   Phizzie Design & Productions (self-employed)

Role: Web Developer

- [EMNET](#) delivery partner for the Curve project, providing European funding to SME's
- Selling the benefits of "open source" to the NHS
- Interactive CD-ROM's for Rushcliffe Primary Care Trust
- Design of the "T*he Coronary Heart Disease Toolkit" for* Gedling Primary Care Trust
- Building content managed websites for small businesses
- Optimisation of websites for performance in search engines

2002–2004   Ericson Capital Limited

Role: Software Developer

- Development of new features for their EMAS accounting software product
- Working on a firewall-like product for network security
- Introduction of version control and a bug tracker
- Research in encrypted Ruby source code

2001-2002   Pacific Software Ltd

Role: Junior Software Developer

- Development of auxiliary tools for "Profit" a distributed client/server Delphi application which analysed live stock market feeds and allowed people to place trades through a broker

2000-2001   Sound Engineering for Mood Indigo

Role: Live Sound Engineer

- Live sound engineering for Mood Indigo gigs around the UK
- This included a large two night production at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham