

Luke Hester | luke.hester@tutanota.com

I am a software developer driven by a passion for creating solutions and solving complex problems. My recent focus has been on Swift for iOS development and Python, though I have a broad background that includes embedded C, web technologies, and Microsoft Power Platform. I have experience in producing intuitive user interfaces, data analysis and improving workflow efficiency with automated testing and CI/CD.

My journey into software development began with self-taught full-stack web development for my UXO consultancy business. My diverse career in technical roles, including the British Army and Royal Navy, demonstrates my adaptability, resilience, and ability to thrive in various environments. I'm eager to bring my expertise and determination to new challenges.

Qualifications

- Certified SAFe® 6 DevOps Practitioner (Scaled Agile Inc)
 - Level 3 Project Management (The Skills Network)
 - AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner (Amazon Web Services)
 - ISTQB® Foundation Level Tester (BCS)
 - CS50x: Introduction to Computer Science (Harvard)
 - A Levels - Maths A, Chemistry B, Physics B
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Projects & Awards

- Segment Workout Timer - iOS interval timer app.
 - RLC Foundation 2023 Initiative Award for digital process improvements.
 - MoD Hackathon 2022 - Winner of the best app award presented by Apple.
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Career history

May 2024 to Present - **Software Developer** - CGI

Served as a consultant, focusing on understanding client requirements to design and implement tailored solutions.

- Utilised Python, SQL and Web development within projects.
- Applied automated data driven testing to projects.
- Worked to simplify CI/CD pipelines by introducing reusable components in shared libraries.
- Integrated Docker containers into pre-existing projects to standardise build environments and solve dependancy issues.

Feb 2023 to May 2024 - **Bomb Disposal Technical Specialist and Training System Developer** - British Army

Part of a niche capability providing bomb disposal response for chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear threats.

- Responsible for the design and production of bomb disposal training devices used to validate UK advanced bomb disposal operators, FBI and other overseas counterparts. This involved understanding the threat picture and conceptualising devices that would test operators at the right level. The devices ranged from fully mechanical, to a combination of discreet electronics and software based components.

- Collaborated with the Home Office, Atomic Weapons Establishment and international counterparts in the delivery and execution of training exercises.
- Developed firmware for portable electronic monitoring systems in C.

Feb 2021 to Feb 2023 - **Operations coordinator Digital Transformation Lead** - UK Bomb Disposal HQ

This role was varied, with many responsibilities in the HQ of bomb disposal for the UK, which included providing explosive safety governance to the UK military and improving digital processes to reduce friction.

- Innovated within the bounds of restricted IT system using MS Power Platform and VBA to create workflows that increased efficiency and transparency across a distributed organisation.
- Created an automated system for managing deployments that streamlined the process and increased visibility in over 320 deployments of personnel per year.
- Created a support request app for explosive safety advisers and worked with Army HQ to integrate it into the Army planning platform for all training exercises involving ammunition.
- Worked with other government safety organisations on the roll out of a accident reporting system and implemented a report reminder system to adhere to regulations.

May 2019 to Feb 2021 - **Product Test Engineer** - Oxford Technical Solutions

Responsible as the test lead for planning and executing testing on a Windows & Linux based software suite, hardware and firmware.

- Created python scripts to automate processing and analysis of data streamlining previously manual processes.
- Designed and prototyped a test data storage utility to allow for companywide sharing and minimise collection duplication. The utility was composed of a SQL database combined with a Python frontend.
- Setup, troubleshoot and tested range of hardware including inertial navigation units, LiDAR scanners and GPS cards.
- Gained a deep understanding of a new product by conducting Agile, in development testing. This led to being best placed to create a customer training package on the tool, presented to worldwide automotive engineers.

Sep 2018 to May 2019 - **Unexploded Ordnance Specialist** - Self employed

Client facing role providing advice, guidance and the real time risk mitigation of unexploded ordnance.

- Independence and confidence was demonstrated by traveling nationwide to deliver the service, including presenting briefs to clients.
- In order to advertise my business in a lean manner, I taught myself full stack web development to design, code and host my business website. This ignited my passion for software development.

Sep 2017 to Sep 2018 - **Mine Clearance Diver** - Royal Navy

Dive team member providing underwater bomb disposal.

- Completed the mentally and physically arduous clearance diver course, gaining HSE certification, rewarded with the ability to work as an offshore diver.
- Worked as part of a close-knit team, relying on each other to correctly setup and maintain safety critical equipment whilst under intense pressure, including complex systems like therapeutic compression chambers.

Jan 2013 to Sep 2017 - **Ammunition Technician** - British Army

Conducted technical training that resulted in being a subject matter expert in the full lifecycle of ammunition through to destruction.

- Operations supervisor, responsible for managing and co-ordinating Bomb Disposal call outs in mainland UK, requiring effective communication to provide accurate advice and guidance to senior military and civilian authorities.
- Serving as the second-in-command of a high-threat bomb disposal team, piloting Remote Operated Vehicles for bomb disposal tasks and performed routine maintenance on them along with troubleshooting issues.