Michael **McAllister**

SITE RELIABILITY ENGINEER · LINUX ENTHUSIAST

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Summary

Seasoned Principal SRE leader with a robust background in software development, DevOps, and systems/networking. Proven track record in implementing SRE principles to optimize performance, uptime, and security in large distributed systems. Expertise in cloud technologies (AWS), Kubernetes, and observability tools (Grafana, Prometheus). Skilled in coaching and developing high-performing engineering teams, consistently driving reliability and operational efficiency. Demonstrated leadership at renowned organizations, including Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Google, and Amazon Web Services.

Skills

Software Development	Bash, Golang, Protocol Buffers, CI/CD
DevOps	Kubernetes, Prometheus, Grafana, PagerDuty, OpenTelemetry
Systems & Networking	Linux, OSPF/BGP, TCP/IP, Routing & Switching (Juniper MX, Cisco NCS), DNS, SQL (Postgres, MySQL, Cloud Spanner)
Cloud	AWS: EC2, S3, RDS, VPC, Lambda, IAM

Work Experience

Commonwealth Bank of Australia
Sydney, Australia

PRINCIPAL SITE RELIABILITY ENGINEER - TECH LEAD — *Oct. 2022 - Present*

- Transform and uplift the reliability and engineering culture of the bank by applying SRE tooling, principles, and practices
- Lead the architecture, design and implementation of a new observability stack built on Grafana, Mimir and Prometheus used bank-wide
- Mentored and provide leadership to a team of SREs (20+), sharing best practices and driving outcomes through observability tools
- Established a culture of data-driven reliability, monitoring, and automation aligned with SRE principles.
- Deliver presentations on strategy to audiences ranging from 100+ to 1,000+ staff including senior leadership and C-level executives

Teleport
Sydney, Australia

SITE RELIABILITY ENGINEER - TEAM LEAD — *Sep. 2021 - Jul. 2022*

- Incident management, co-ordination and resolution of operational issues across Kubernetes, and AWS (S3, DynamoDB, IAM)
- Architecture and design of storage and authentication components in a bespoke Kubernetes operator written in Go to support multi-tenancy
- Hiring (interviews, designing the hiring challenge), coaching and staff on professional development
- Various DevRel contributions: Conference talks, booth attendance, demo videos
- Monitoring, alerting and dashboarding through Grafana, Prometheus, PagerDuty

Google
Sydney, Australia

SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT ENGINEER — *Jul. 2018 - Aug. 2021*

- Responsible for the operational upkeep of a globally distributed CDN (Google Global Cache) operating in over 1,300 cities in more than 200 countries and territories powering products such as YouTube
- Designed and implemented an on-device monitoring solution written in Go for top-of-rack switches that communicates health status via serial output
- Contributed various bug fixes and features for the public facing Google ISP Portal written in Python, JavaScript and SASS
- Designed and implemented a sophisticated rules-based ingestion engine in Go that applies routing, priority and auto-remediation decisions to inbound tickets driven by text based configuration
- Responsible for reporting and metrics (SQL, Dashboarding) of the fleet for metrics such as annualised failure rate for HDDs to ensure a high degree of cache efficiency

Amazon Web Services
Sydney, Australia

SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT ENGINEER — *Apr. 2015 - Jun. 2018*

- Scaling, monitoring and fire-fighting the Amazon RDS control plane powering the largest database fleet in the world
- Designed and built a solution in Java to ingest and analyse alarming data to identify operational trends and patterns
- Built supporting tools, including a web application in Python to understand and interpret ingested data both in real time and in automated weekly reports to stakeholders (to the GM level)
- Documented & drove process change that uses this data to influence the cadence and velocity of feature development
- Participate in hiring (100+ interviews) identifying potential in candidates to help fuel Amazon's expansive growth

iiNet *Perth, Australia*

Systems Administrator *Jul. 2011 - Mar. 2015*

- Part of a 24/7 on call rotation for the infrastructure and supporting services for Australia's #2 ISP (LDAP, DNS, E-Mail, Web Servers)
- Design, implementation and operational support for iiNet's DNS infrastructure (PowerDNS) that supported over 1 million active services across Australia
- Physical installation, cabling and configuration of servers, and ADSL DSLAMs
- Maintain & document disaster recovery plans, policies and procedures
- Incident Response & Post Mortem reviews

Education

Monash University *Sydney, Australia*

Masters in Computer Science *April. 2023 - Present*

- Currently maintaining a WAM of 82.33

Charles Sturt University *Sydney, Australia*

Graduate Certificate in Network and Systems Administration *Jan. 2016 - Jan. 2017*

Presentations

Conf42 SRE 2022 *Sydney, Australia*

Four Golden Signals: Monitoring the health of your service *Jun. 2022*

- Presented a lightning talk that focuses on the four golden signals of monitoring that serve as a solid foundation for actionable monitoring of the health of a service
- Available on YouTube at: `https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rZzGr5Zj1KM`

DevOps Talks Conference *Melbourne, Australia*

eBPF as a Linux Troubleshooting tool *March. 2022*

- Presented a technical talk on eBPF and how it can be leveraged to for troubleshooting and root causing software issues on Linux.
- Available online at: `https://devops.talksplus.com/archive/2022_melbourne/agenda`

AWS CodeHack Sydney *Sydney, Australia*

Presenter for Amazon Sydney Hiring Event & Competition *Nov. 2017*

- Organizer of a coding event designed to challenge attendees with 3 major prizes for top performers
- Presented an introduction to the role of System Devlopment Engineer, and the culture of AWS to 80+ attendees

AWS Summit Sydney *Sydney, Australia*

Booth Attendant & Builder for Amazon Simple Beer Service *Apr. 2016*

- A part of a small team that built an IoT Keggerator for the AWS Sydney Office that sends beer flow data to AWS
- AWS technologies include: S3, API Gateway, Lambda, DynamoDB integrated with a Rasbperry Pi & Physical sensors
- Showcased at a booth at the AWS Summit Sydney 2016 to 3,000+ attendees
- See `https://simplebeerservice.com`

Referees

References available upon request.