Nathan Birrell

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About me:

- 10 years software engineering experience with some of Australia's largest companies, primarily in Frontend Development.
- On the technical side, my focus is mainly on modern Javascript web-application development. In-depth experience with Typescript, create-react-app (and its surrounding ecosystem), GraphQL and Node. I am also comfortable working on Backend services, with experience in Node, Ruby/Rails, Lambda, GraphQL and more.
- Not attached to any specific technology or framework, generally open to new tech stacks and frameworks and always open to learning new things.
- Typically thrive in empowered, self-sufficient and multidisciplinary teams. Keen interest in process, written/async communication and improving the way teams work.
- I work 4-day weeks, usually Tue-Fri (4x10hr). Preference for more asynchronous modes of working, but still flexible around colocated teams and remote working (I enjoy both).

Experience

Stax

Senior Software Engineer • Oct 2018 - present

Stax is an AWS cloud management platform, which exists to speed-up and improve the quality of cloud infrastructure delivery.

- As a Senior Front-end Engineer, I work on building and managing strategy around our frontend applications.
- Responsible for both the single-page app (client side) and our backend-for-frontend app which consisted of an AppSync API with Lambda resolvers.
- Tech: Typescript, GraphQL, Apollo, React, Jest, NodeJS, Lambda and AppSync
- Responsible for mentoring junior devs, onboarding new hires and setting strategic technical goals for the various frontend projects in our organisation

View the landing page at stax.io →

Bureau of Meteorology

Software Engineer (Javascript) • Mar 2018 - Oct 2018

- Working on a project team to build a completely new weather experience for BOM's general public audience.
- One of Australia's top 40 websites by traffic.
- Tooling: Typescript, React, Mobx with mobx-state-tree, Jest/Enzyme, ES6+, styled-components.

View the app at weather.bom.gov.au →

Belong (by Telstra)

Front-end Developer • Nov 2016 - Mar 2018

Mid-level Front-end Developer on a React/Redux/Webpack web application. Key activities:

- Tooling: React, Redux, Webpack, ES6/Babel, server-side React rendering
- Built out a hybrid native application using Expo and React Native.
- Onboarding new developers, maintaining Jest unit testing coverage
- Migration of our legacy front-end app out of an unmaintainable Knockout/JQuery set-up to a more manageable React/Redux ecosystem.

Deloitte Digital

Front-end Developer Jan '14 - Nov '16

Website and web application builds for clients such as Telstra, ANZ, Herbert Smith Freehills, RACQ, Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre and QSuper.

Side Projects & Volunteering

TourXOz 2019 (for the Black Dog Institute)

TourXOz 2019 involved cycling from Cairns to Cape York, through some of Australia's most remote country to raise awareness for mental health and engage with local communities.

Donations supported the Black Dog Institute with mental health education, early diagnosis and suicide prevention.

Future Beats (2021)

As a big fan of Soulection Radio, I made a little radio app to stream random episodes 24/7, with some Apple Music-esque <u>blurry animated backgrounds</u> that match the episode cover.

Read more about it here →

Overcast for macOS (Archived)

A macOS client for the popular Overcast podcast player, with over 130 stars on Github. Built with Electron and Node. Discontinued since Apple Silicon Macs can now run the iOS Overcast now.

View the project on Github →

Poseidon (June 2017 - 2018)

A side project with a friend, which was built with Ruby on Rails and a create-react-app + Typescript frontend.

The goal for the project was to improve the experience around surf forecast modelling, so we had some fun challenges around presenting graphs and numerical data in a friendly way; storing and parsing model data and so on. Multiple third-party integrations involved, including: NOAA, BOM and PlanetOS.

Read more about it here →

Education

RMIT University (2012 - 2015)

Bachelor of Business (Information Systems) (Applied) (minor in Marketing)