Andrew Gelnar

Tech lead, Senior Backend/Cloud/DevOps Engineer

Location	Walworth, London, SE17	**Email**	apgelnar@gmail.com
		GitHub	neoshrew

Technologies

Advanced	Python, Bash, SQL, Git, NGINX, AWS, Terraform
Proficient	Docker, SQL, Linux (application support), Helm
Intermediate	Apache Kafka, Redis, Golang, SQLite, Postgres, Jsonschema, DataDog
Basic	CSS, HTML, JavaScript, Java, C, GCP, LaTeX

Employment History

Jul 2019 - present
OakNorth
Senior Engineer, Tech Lead

- Joined the newly formed Infra team owning Cloud Infrastructure and SRE functions. Worked on all aspects of our cloud infrastructure projects. A large portion of my time was dedicated to helping other teams with their on-demand infrastructure needs, debugging issues with their applications and helping with design decisions.

- Took over as tech lead in Q1 of 2020. Managed team roadmap, a large component of which was prioritising incoming requirements from several disparate and disconnected sections of the company. Also managed team growth and development, advising on career progression and giving periodic feedback on performance. Heavily involved in the recruitment process for multiple engineering roles, and worked directly with the talent team to hire members of the Infra team.

- Worked closely with the Security and Compliance teams to ensure the cloud infrastructure and application design/architecture adhered to industry best practices and handled client data appropriately. This involved being a key advisor and reviewer for designs of new features involving data.

- Performed on call duties and worked closely with the heads of engineering and product support to refine our incident handling policies.

- Instigated and managed our access control procedures for the engineering department to fill a shortfall in compliance, and worked with IT to harden our security with better SSO integrations, and utilisation of AzureAD's auto-provisioning with SCIM wherever possible.

Main Technologies used: Terraform, AWS, Helm, Docker, Kubernetes, AzureAD, GitHub, DataDog, PagerDuty

May 2018 - Jun 2019
Red Ventures
Senior Engineer

- Joined to help build and run cloud infrastructure team, working with several engineering teams in the US to bring RV's tech stack to the EU. Authored and maintained reusable Terraform configuration to support migrating suites of microservices in AWS cloud.

- Migrating these systems involved working closely with the Security and Compliance departments from both the UK and the US to ensure they adhered to local UK and EU legislation (GDPR, PECR, e-privacy, etc).

- Created initial infrastructure for Bankrate UK's initial launch, and worked to migrate it from a statically generated site in AWS S3 to an application hosted in GCP's Kubernetes engine GKE.

- Moved to work with the Data Services team of our new operating partner (ZPG Comparsion - uSwitch & money.co.uk) following a structural change in the business. This involved creating a new secure real-time eventing pipeline using Apache Kafka and AWS' DynamoDB, written in Golang.

Main Technologies used: Terraform, AWS, GCP, Golang, Kubernetes, Apache Kafka

May 2016 - Condé Nast Britain
May 2018 *Software Engineer*

- Responsible for backend application and cloud infrastructure development alongside the CTO, taking over migration to a containerised setup using AWS' Container Service (ECS), as well as ongoing maintenance and improvement.

- Created new read-only content API to decrease front-end load times and reduce server load, by moving away from SQLAlchemy's ORM and writing optimised queries for specific search criteria. Also created and fixed caching site-wide using Redis to solve periodic site outages related to releases and cache space changes.

- Worked with the Product and Front-End teams to design extensible data models for modelling editorial content, and basic design of back-office CMS interfaces.

- Instigated new Git workflows and release processes to scale with growing numbers of engineers. Worked on extending our in-house build and deploy tool *Brickyard* in support of these processes.

Main Technologies used: Python (Flask, SQLAlchemy), Postgres, Redis, RabbitMQ, Docker, AWS

Jun 2012 - Geneity Ltd. (part of Playtech Sports)
May 2016 *Software Developer*

- Initially worked on the API team, creating and managing read-only content and read/write transactional XML APIs reading from our central Oracle database. APIs supporting internal and external customers with thousands of transactions a minute.

- Moved onto the DevOps and Support team managing our applications on provisioned Linux servers across several datacenters. Built and deployed monthly releases involving merging hundreds of git commits and resolving large scale conflicts from half a dozen teams, as well as compiling and testing database migration scripts.

- Extensive experience with 1st and 2nd line application support both in and out of hours. Also spent a large amount of time working with both technical and non technical customers to fix their issues and work on extending features of the product(s).

- Involved in recruitment process, including conducting technical interviews, training/mentoring new starters, and managing/reviewing work. In my final months at the company I jointly managed a small development team.

Technologies used: Python, Oracle, SQLite, Memcache, Redis, RabbitMQ, Bash, Git, Docker, docker-compose, HTML, CSS, JavaScript

Education

BSc (Hons) in Computer Science 2:1 - The University of Manchester
A Levels: Maths A, Computing B, physics B, Chemistry C
AS Levels: Philosophy D
GCSE: Maths: A*, Statistics: A*, English (Lang): A, English (lit): B, Science (double award): AA, Music: A, German: A, IT: A, Religious Studies: C

Miscellaneous

Awards	Quarterly performance award, Geneity Ltd. Jun 2014; Excellence in customer service, Iceland Foods Ltd. 2011; BTEC in aviation studies
Interests	Gaming, both computer and table-top; Science fiction, especially the works of Isaac Asimov and Iain M Banks. Eclectic music taste
References	Available on request