Robert Cambridge

Self-educated software craftsman, solver of problems. `Javascript` specialist, expert in `node.js` and `React`. Commander of `git`, `linux`, `docker` and all things software. Backend work preferred. Can also write `Golang`. Passionate about *beautiful*, *readable*, *scalable* code. Hire me to solve your problems!

Looking for **freelance** work in **Amsterdam** or remote.

> *"he really gave it 110% and was critical to the project's success"* - Eaden McKee

> *"highly skilled, battle-tested and a great team lead and mentor"* - Saemie Chouchane

> *"one of the most naturally talented programmers you'll meet"* - Jamie Learmonth

> *"a major advocate for best practice and code reviews"* - Christopher Hooks

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👥 Schedule an interview with me

Experience

VanMoof, Amsterdam [07/2021 - 05/2023]

- Worked in a team varying from 3 to 12 people
- Initially hired as senior backend `Typescript` developer, later transitioned to `Go` developer
- Developed web services in `Go` (`Golang` `Lambdas` via `Terraform`)
- Developed web services in `Serverless.js` (`node.js` `Lambdas` via `CloudFormation`)
- Brought up and maintained `AWS` services such as `RDS`, `DynamoDB`, `S3` and related network infrastructure
- Created a service to supply OTA firmware updates to bikes
- Created a service to track and investigate manufacturing faults
- Maintained & improved some smaller ERP-related internal tools
- Proactively found and fixed accounting synchronisation errors

Polestar via code d'azur, Amsterdam [09/2020 - 07/2021]

- Mentored & guided a team of 12
- Helped maintain the `gatsby` site with several hundred static pages running `React` with `emotion`
- Collaborated with other team representatives to prepare and complete architectural plans
- Investigated new integrations, contributing to formalisation of new visions into isolated pieces of work
- Maintained & improved the deployment pipelines in `Bitbucket`
- Rearchitected the pipelines to run peer reviewed database migrations

PON Occasions via Dept, Amsterdam [01/2020 - 06/2020]

- Brought multi-deployment frontend project from greenfield to live with a team of three
- Architected `Next.js` and vanilla `webpack` builds to use a common app codebase using `Typescript`
- Employed `React`, `styled-components` and `Storybook` for a scalable structure
- Analysed client requirements and translated into kanban-style work board
- Built a strong bridge of trust for expectations of delivery with client

[ABN AMRO Incubator] via Dept, Amsterdam [01/2020 - 02/2020]

Project name cannot be revealed

- Implemented deployment of *multi-process* `node.js` app to Heroku Pipelines
- Architected reverse proxy/frontend/backend apps as discrete Docker-like workspaces
- Created sane `node.js` Typescript configuration and linting
- Pioneered unit and end-to-end testing, integrated testing in the CI/CD build pipeline
- Collaborated with testers to write and improve automated `TestCafe` scripts
- Implemented `GraphQL` API to manage files on `box.com` with custom `Auth0` authentication/authorization

Etos via Dept, Amsterdam [09/2019 - 12/2019]

- Contributed new features and bugfixes to existing vanilla JS website
- Improved developer experience by installing sensible Javascript linting tools

Activia via AKQA, Amsterdam [05/2019 - 08/2019]

- Lead the development of this global brand's new website construction
- Brought `Gatsby` project from greenfield to delivery with a team of two
- Architected Contentful data structure for a global rollout across many regions and languages
- Bootstrapped project with popular tech such as `React`, `styled-components`, `Storybook`, `jest` & `enzyme`
- Created smooth animated transitions between statically generated pages
- Setup and maintained deployment pipeline on `AWS Elastic Beanstalk`
- Laid the ground work for a solid new development team to grow with best practices
- Ensured developer focus in order to consistently complete sprints successfully

Imperial Tobacco/Fontem (blu.com), Amsterdam [01/2019 - 04/2019]

- Configured `webpack` and `Babel` for `Jest`, `Storybook` and `Next.js` with `Typescript`
- Configured reverse proxy for micro-frontends with localisation and health checks
- Designed major parts of the API specification, with comprehensive buy in from the frontend+backend team
- Created new page components in `React` with `styled-components` and matching Contentful model architecture
- Improved `OpenAPI`/`Swagger` code generation templates for `Typescript` to better support inheritance/polymorphism
- Made development scripts to be transparently Windows-compatible

Ace & Tate, Amsterdam [10/2018 - 12/2018]

- Forged a plan to unobtrusively transition to continuous integration+deployment pipeline from previous error-prone strategy
- Dockerised services and implemented pipeline to `Amazon AWS Elastic Beanstalk` environments via `CircleCI` and `AWS Elastic Container Registry`
- Created high impact interactions in `react-native` with careful attention to user experience cost
- Built `node.js` caching layer to mitigate data acquisition failures from third parties
- Rebuilt parts of the `React` application to gain confidence by way of thorough unit testing
- Coached the team through chaotic challenges with agile principles, ultimately building trust in development capacity
- Constructed visually-striking responsive promotional sections for the homepage
- Provided critical guidance and improvements for the e-commerce checkout experience

Gain Theory via Tweag IO, London [03/2018 - 07/2018]

- Rebuilt client-facing data visualisation tools in `reactjs/redux` using `d3` and `recharts`
- Collaborated with client to discover and establish data structure and functionality requirements
- Engineered `node.js` server to parse client's data structure and store in `postgres` with SVO-based ACL using `cancan` and `passportjs`
- Created technical documentation for these tools to reduce cost of introducing future developers
- Collaborated with external design team to come up with fluid user experiences, implemented these designs

- Implemented various custom data visualisation interactions from scratch
- Installed frameworks for and diligently maintained unit+integration tests
- Dockerised all services, plus `docker-compose` for developer experience

Wonderbill via Boston Consulting Group, London [07/2016 - 02/2018]

- Single-handedly created a web scraping framework in a Chrome extension, now a major part of this client's product and intellectual property value
- Researched and architected data structure to store consumer billing data
- Dockerised services to retrieve billing data periodically and automatically with a `node.js` wrapper to invoke Chrome
- Provided documentation and trained developers to use scraping framework
- Provided accurate resourcing estimates for stakeholder visions and epics
- Architected and wrote user stories for new features, and executed them as lead of a small agile team
- Produced and implemented tracking strategies to follow and improve billing data accuracy
- Achieved and repeatedly exceeded improvement targets for data accuracy and acquisition efficiency
- Implemented features and fixed bugs in the `react-native` iOS+Android consumer-facing app
- Collaborated in pairs on `golang` and `ruby` backend services

NHS England via Web Technology Group, London [01/2016 - 06/2016]

- Developed new features for a web-based document management intranet running `reactjs/redux`
- Implemented CMS-like flexibility to accommodate any shape of document
- Gained commercial front end experience in `reactjs/redux`

Arcadia Group, London [08/2015 - 12/2015]

- Collaborated with the front end development team working on leading UK retail brands' ecommerce sites' front ends
- Developed new features in a modern architecture and fixed bugs in legacy code
- Created reusable logic across the 8 retail sites whilst retaining brand identity

Square Enix, London [03/2015 - 06/2015]

- Continued development of new features on free-to-play video game website
- Created a single consolidating avatar provider microservice
- Iterated authentication library to support new major features retaining backwards compatibility

Expedia, London [12/2014 - 02/2015]

- Delivered features and fixes on the internal analytics/reporting intranet site running `backbone`
- Wrote unit tests for all new code
- Refactored non-standard `node.js express` API into organised RESTful endpoints
- Implemented MVP (presenter) architecture to abstract business logic from API URLs
- Rewrote the ACL to use permission-based authorisation with hierarchy and groups

Square Enix, London [05/2014 - 10/2014]

- Delivered the website for a major free-to-play video game from greenfield to production using `backbone` and `marionette`
- Created a cross-domain consumer authentication (SSO) library for company-wide roll out
- Worked with operations team to setup and troubleshoot deployment
- Worked with API developers to plan and create scalable RESTful interfaces
- Introduced peer review processes (pull requests) which were adhered to throughout
- Implemented website asset bootstrap and caching strategies

Sportlobster, London [01/2014 - 03/2014]

- Led a team of 3 developers amongst a greater product delivery team of 18
- Reviewed submitted code, mentored team when solutions didn't meet highest standards
- Built solutions for the more difficult problems that the team faced
- Brought structure where there was chaos by implementing JIRA and providing support

Boxlight, London [10/2010 - 12/2013]

- Architected, developed and deployed hundreds of web applications for clients

- Implemented mobile and responsive layouts for many of the applications

- Used web optimisation techniques for fast page loading and rendering

- Created a base project and modular toolkits to speed up development which are still in use today

- Carefully handled mission-critical production servers holding big data

- Used test driven development methodology

    Worked with agencies such as adam&eveDDB, LBi and Hangar Seven for countless brands including P&G, Unilever, Phones 4u, Volkswagen, McDonald's, NSPCC, Warburtons, Cravendale, TK Maxx, Subway, Halifax and Wonga