

Richard Moss

An avid technologist, I have worked on a variety of projects with a diverse range of people, crossing technologies, languages, and continents, and thrive in leadership positions. As a speaker of five languages and counting, I've been told I'm a great communicator and motivating to work with.

Before my current role as principal engineer at [Sainsbury's Tech](#), I worked in a diverse range of tech-oriented roles over the past ten years, including running trainings and coaching professional developers with [React GraphQL Academy](#) (RGA). As an experienced software engineer, I have solid experience of full-stack engineering and retain a particular level of specialization in the front-end space. In particular working within the React ecosystem, I'm a proficient solution architect, having previously been the lead developer on several React projects such as Boston University's renowned [AGNI journal](#) and, more recently, leading the front-end practices and architecture in the Supplier Experience domain at Sainsbury's Tech. My technical expertise and stack preference is React -> GraphQL -> MongoDB / Firebase -> Serverless (GCP || AWS), but I'm also skilled and have varied experience in many other libraries/frameworks in JavaScript and other languages including Ruby, Python, PHP, ReasonML (and I'm always curious to explore others).

In my current role as a tech lead, I work both within and across teams, liaising with business stakeholders as well as product and XD teams to map requirements into scalable and maintainable technical solutions. In addition, I mentor several front-end engineers, organize and run knowledge-sharing sessions, and advocate for engineers and a tech-first approach within the wider business. I'm also passionate about interacting with and giving back to the wider developer community, and previously (before the pandemic) was heavily involved with running the [JavaScript Lisbon](#) and [JavaScript London](#) meetups in addition to speaking at events across Europe, such as the Netherlands, Croatia and Portugal, among others. I write content on Medium and the [RGA blog](#) in my free time and run community workshops at events such as [React Summit](#). To reinforce my leadership and management experience, I also recently completed [Oxford University's Executive Leadership Programme](#) through the Saïd Business School.

I'm always open to new opportunities in which I can harness my skills in scaling and managing tech teams that underpin businesses, while further developing new tech skills. I love being challenged by and learning from supportive, collaborative teammates in a friendly, creative, and adventurous organisation.

Skills

Detail-oriented, Creative Problem Solving

I greatly enjoy exploring potential solutions to problems by breaking them down into their simplest form and iteratively building the most succinct solution using LEAN methodologies.

- As a logical, calm thinker, when multiple, potentially interesting options are available, I am able to assess their suitability in solving the initial problem. This allows me to choose the best tools for the job.
- I am persistent when facing adversity. Working across time zones and languages, as well as managing teams working remotely, requires considerable flexibility and persistence. I have found this mind-set very applicable to both coding and team management.
- When facing a new problem, my first step and strongest ability is research. I especially excel at working with agile teams to come up with creative solutions and ideas. Over my past experience including in SEO and marketing, I have developed excellent Google Foo -- proficiency with Googling specific technical issues and implementing solutions.

- Solving a problem, especially if I am able to help someone else along the way, can be even more satisfying than everything working right the first time!

Clean code, make it work -> make it right

My experience has equipped me with a working knowledge of best practices in modern software development.

- Software development is not a solitary activity, but a team effort. I am a big fan of pair programming, something I fully embrace, encouraging pairing with multiple team members (including developers, UX and product) during any given day. This has helped me further develop strong teamworking, communication and interpersonal skills in the context of coding and leadership.
- I am constantly looking to expand my technical knowledge, I'm a keen advocate of Functional Programming as a basis for software products, breaking down code into well-defined, performant and testable units. I'm also keen on a dev ops first approach, building infrastructure as code and harnessing CI/CD to deliver incremental value into production at pace.
- I believe that development should be seen as a craft. Using the red-green-refactor model as a guide, working code is just the first step. Refactoring for simplicity and to allow other developers to understand and extend code without resorting to modification is also a key consideration. Well-tested code is something I believe to be crucial in a production application with unit tests => integration tests => end-to-end tests implemented in all applications.
- Most crucially, I have a great curiosity and passion for technology. I enjoy independent and exploratory learning as well as experimenting with new ideas and technologies as they arise in order to expand my skill set. Recently I have been focused on further expanding my knowledge of functional programming and its practical implementations in JS applications, I've also been learning ReasonML and looking into Rust with an eye on the future as it has a complete story to WebAssembly.

Code Examples

Github	Description	Technologies	See it live
React GraphQL Academy repo	Training in the React and GraphQL ecosystems for professional developers	React, GatsbyJS, Serverless (google cloud functions)	React GraphQL Academy
React GraphQL Academy materials	These are the coding activities used during the course following presentations. Each branch has a different README outlining the tasks.	ModernJS, Core React, React Router, Data fetching, Forms & Auth, Styled Components, Redux, Advanced Redux, Advanced React patterns, Hooks, Testing, SSR, GraphQL.	Just run the app on a given branch!

*Please ask me directly for non-open source commercial project code examples as I may need to edit first due to NDA obligations.

Relevant Experience

Sainsbury's Tech - Principal Software Engineer (September 2019 - Current)

Collaborating across engineering teams to deliver tech-focused solutions to business problems, leading on front-end practices and architecture, hiring, mentoring, and coaching engineers, advocating agile practices, and helping develop and build Sainsbury's tech function.

React GraphQL Academy - Organizer, developer & senior coach (May 2017 - September 2019)

[React GraphQL Academy](#) is the leading provider of in person trainings for React and GraphQL in Europe.

Responsible for running the operation and business development of the academy, working collaboratively with the wider team to implement enhancements to UX while expanding the offering to drive growth and market position.

LeanJS - Developer and Decision maker (May 2017 - September 2019)

[LeanJS](#) in it's current iteration enables product teams to innovate rapidly via one week hands-on sprints across key technologies. Previously LeanJS worked with top clients as a tech consultancy to both advise on and co-build React and GraphQL projects. These ranged from [Agni Magazine](#) on which I was the lead developer, to consulting on projects such as [FingoPay](#).

I worked as a developer and decision maker, later becoming a partner, leading and implementing projects in addition to contributing on business development and strategy.

Core technologies include: JavaScript, React, Redux, GraphQL (client and server), MongoDB, Serverless architectures (Google Cloud)

blue{shift} - Software Engineer and JavaScript coach (October 2016 to 2017)

[blue{shift}](#) is West London's premier coding school. Founded in 2013 with the aim of teaching children aged 5 to 15 a creative approach to coding. I developed and coached the JavaScript course at Secondary level and lead on the development of a new web experience and nascent learning platform.

Core technologies include: Python Flask, Python, JavaScript

Airsorted - Front-end Engineer (December 2016 to February 2017)

[Airsorted](#) making hosting on Airbnb Hassle-free. They are an Airbnb management company using technology to create infrastructure for the fast-growing sharing community.

I worked primarily on maintaining and upgrading the public facing website(Flask), implementing UI changes and building out full e2e testing with selenium/pytest to ensure an effective user experience.

Core technologies include: Python Flask, Ruby on Rails, React-Redux

Rokk3r Labs - Junior Developer (May 2016 to September 2016)

[Rokk3r Labs](#) teams up with aspiring entrepreneurs as a technology focussed business partner, in the process cobuilding incredible companies. The core technologies used are: Node.JS, PHP (laravel), React, Angular, Ionic, and React Native.

Founder of English Tutors Live (2013 to 2016)

[EnglishTutorsLive](#) is an online English learning community that connects teachers and students looking for intensive and dynamic Skype English classes. Founder of the project, designed and implemented the web marketing plan based on knowledge of SEO copywriting and content optimization in addition to all technical tasks. I oversaw and managed the growth of the online community and business direction while in operation.

Website Growth - Web Design & Internet Marketing Firm (2013 to 2015 - Los Angeles)

[Website Growth](#) is a full-service web design and digital marketing consultant company. They specialize in all aspects of online growth including web design for mobile and desktop client bases, utilizing content marketing, social media marketing, mobile apps, SEO and more.

Working remotely with a range of responsibilities:

- Wordpress web development
- SEO copywriting
- content optimization
- content marketing
- project lead (various)
- press release marketing
- website marketing, online branding.
- working with Joomla and Magento

Education

Oxford Saïd Business School (2020) - Executive Leadership Program

- A refined understanding of leadership purpose and how to align it with organizational purpose
- Frameworks and leadership skills needed to overcome modern workplace challenges and manage teams effectively
- Strategies for driving change and preparing organisations for the future
- Guidance from leading industry experts and Oxford Saïd faculty

Makers Academy (Nov 2015 to Feb 2016)

- Intensive 12-week course at Europe's leading Web Developer bootcamp
- Industry best practice, focus on agile, XP and TDD methodologies, working with OOP frameworks and languages.
- Weekly paired-programming project based curriculum with individual weekend challenges

University of Madrid (2008-2013) (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)

- 5-year Masters degree in Political Science and Administration (in Spanish)
- University of Oslo (2010-2011) Erasmus exchange studying International Relations and Norwegian

Languages

- English (People say I'm a good public speaker)
- Spanish (Near Native proficiency, 5 years studying in Madrid)
- Portuguese (Working proficiency)

- Norwegian (Limited working proficiency, need to make more Norwegian friends!)
- French (Limited speaking but good comprehension)
- Italian (Similar to French but currently improving fast!)

Other qualifications

- CELTA (Cambridge certificate in English Language Teaching)
- Multiple Cousera and other online course certificates (I'm a big fan of e-learning)
- RYA dingy instructor (Once upon a time, I taught sailing)

Contact me

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