

RICK POWELL

SOFTWARE ENGINEER

CONTACT

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Brentford, Greater London, UK

TECHNOLOGIES

C# (.NET) ◆◆◆◆◆
Azure ◆◆◆◆◆
GCP ◆◆◆◆◆
React (TypeScript) ◆◆◆◆◆
SQL Server ◆◆◆◆◆
Postgres ◆◆◆◆◆
Docker ◆◆◆◆◆
Pulumi ◆◆◆◆◆
Terraform ◆◆◆◆◆
Angular ◆◆◆◆◆
Node ◆◆◆◆◆
Python ◆◆◆◆◆
Kubernetes ◆◆◆◆◆
F# (.NET) ◆◆◆◆◆

EDUCATION

BSc Physics & Music (2:1)

Imperial College London /
Royal College of Music

2007-2011

- Computing modules in C++ and MatLab
- Advanced algebra & statistical analysis courses
- Studied classical piano performance & performed several piano concertos

INTERESTS/HOBBIES

- Music Composition/Production
- Piano Performance
- Football
- Badminton
- Tennis

PROFILE

A personable, open-minded, and dedicated software delivery strategist and tech enthusiast. Adept at delivering fit-for-purpose, customer-facing solutions in fast-paced environments, both as an individual contributor and a leader of teams. Finds pragmatic yet flexible solutions to fulfilling key business objectives.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Propelle

Chief Technology Officer

2022 - 2023

- Built cloud infrastructure (as code), and continuous delivery pipelines for seamless delivery of initial features. Static site (React) hosted in GCP using Storage Bucket, with Cloud Run (Kubernetes-backed) serverless backends, and CI/CD with GitHub Actions.
- Executed lean tech strategy to enable Alpha product prototype release within 3 months: Developed a Monoglot full-stack solution with GCP cloud-native development and generous (but curated) 3rd-party library adoption.
- Established a light process for tracking delivery and continual improvement using ClickUp: OKR tracking, feature tracking, velocity measurement and regular retrospectives.
- Hired the initial engineering team, focussing on alignment of company values and objectives with candidate motivations and experience.
- Supported product and marketing teams with insights into customer behaviour: BigQuery data warehousing solution with Looker Studio, aggregating data from Google Analytics (GA4) and the platform backend (PostgreSQL).

Moneybox

Principal Engineer

2021-2022

- Supported backend team branching and growth by establishing foundations for modularisation of a monolith backend: Produced documentation outlining DDD-inspired approach to pragmatically evolve existing software-architecture, following up with presentations and hands-on support across multiple delivery teams.
- Led a project to speed up the iteration of investment-related features by separating modularised code onto physical infrastructure to enable autonomous delivery: Transitioned from in-process sync and async communication between modules to Cloud-Native alternatives with service to service Azure Web App API and Azure Service Bus

Team Lead

2019-2021

- Line managed 4 engineers, guiding 3 of them to promotions within 2 years: Set SMART objectives, with regular reviews on progress and weekly check-ins.
- Led the delivery of a 6-month project to enable mixed cash/tracker fund products. Carried out an analysis of the related code and database structures to understand the scope of work involved, produced estimates and worked with app and trading development teams to flesh out timelines and mark key dependencies.
- Successfully delivered a project to allow customers to instantly transfer money onto the Moneybox platform as an alternative to direct debits. Conducted due diligence on 3rd party providers and worked with other teams to produce a unified process diagram for the desired customer journey. Planned, built, tested features and tracked delivery timelines to monitor and react to project progress.

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WORK EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

Moneybox

Senior Engineer

2017-2019

- Reworked the round-ups feature of the app in 3 months as a result of the introduction of open-banking. Built flexible Bank APIs to account for small differences between bank to bank implementations, adopted Azure Key Vault to ensure protection of sensitive integration secrets, and utilised Azure Functions and Azure Cosmos for schema-less storage of transaction data at scale.
- Developed a time-machine feature to bring greater visibility to the value of investments over time: Co-authored the model with the data insights team by using Python's NumPy library.
- Enabled quicker iteration of app layouts based on customer feedback by designing a dynamic API schema that included layout information.

Civica Digital (formerly SFW Ltd)

Software Developer/Analyst

2011-2017

- Delivered multiple Dynamics CRM solutions to aid public-sector clients in adopting them as productive back-office systems: These solutions included building custom entity schemas and additional validations using JavaScript and C# plugins.
- Assisted in the sale, scoping and re-writing of a web-based application, which led to a further 6 lucrative projects and a strong working relationship with the client.
- Civica Digital Hackathon winner (2017) - part of the winning team that created 'Hackerhub'; a portal for hackathon participants that utilises facial recognition login and previously unused web front end frameworks (aurelia js and bulma css).