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engineering manager

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# About

# I have always had a fascination with technology since a young age. At twelve I was helping to manage my school’s network and fixing computers for friends. This passion only grew as I got older and transformed into a career. Although I spend a lot of free time tinkering, building and crawling /r/sysadmin, I recognise the need to disconnect. From this need I have developed a great love for all things outdoors, especially climbing. I spend a lot of my free time down the local climbing gym and weekends exploring the Lake District, Snowdonia and Scotland.

# Work

## Smart Solutions Grp

### **Engineering Manager** | 2017-06-01 — Present

## I've naturally progressed to this role having been a mentor to the engineering team, whilst advising the sales team ensuring expectations are met first time. At Smart Solutions we pride ourselves in offering honest business solutions and support. Part of my role is upholding this reputation ensuring customer satisfaction. We have a strong proven loyal customer base. Amongst many, a major highlight has been heading up Peterborough United FC's systems. Not only providing day to day support, overhauling their IT and Telecoms infrastructure, also match day support having the privilege to see them through to the Championship.

## Highlights

* Helping develop Junior engineers’ skillsets and seeing them grow into the industry achieving their qualifications
* Maintaining a strong customer base developing business relationships
* Getting nominated for Business Continuity/Disaster Recovery (BC/DR) Project of the Year following our efforts to get Peterborough United FC match ready in five weeks (<https://sdcawards.com/vote>)

## The Raspberry Pi Foundation

### **IT Support & Systems Analyst** | 2016-03-21 — 2017-05-31

I joined the Raspberry Pi Foundation during a sustained period of growth, within a year we went from roughly 20 employees to 120+. This was an initial contract of three months with the aim to deploy a cloud infrastructure and improve local infrastructure in Cambridge and London. This contract was then extended to complete further projects.

## Highlights

* Migrating the foundations existing hosted exchange and file storage to the Google suite of applications.
* Working with different teams to identify workflows and establish IT systems to help automate and remove mundane processes.
* Identifying the needs of different teams and trialling different CRM's before implementing the most suitable system.
* Helping with the security requirements to enable ground to space communication with our two Raspberry Pi's on the International Space Station.
* Networking with leading professionals at a variety of events, most notably our birthday party celebration at the Houses of Parliament.
* Spending a week at the family orientated music festival Camp Bestival teaching children how to code in Scratch and Python.

## Smart Technologies

### **IT Systems Engineer** | 2015-10-18 — 2016-03-19

At Smart Technologies I supported over 45 clients with 235 Servers and 1000+ Workstations alongside my colleagues. Moving to the Private Sector was an interesting step knowing there wasn't much adoption for OpenSource systems within Small/Medium Business Applications.

## Highlights

## Exposure to proprietary systems, SLA's, their commercial uses and vendor contracts that come with.

## Building my PowerShell skills developing fixes and scripting solutions for clients. Managing Cloud Based systems, Office365, Spam filtering, Remote Management etc.

## Migrating clients to hosted solutions ensuring a smooth changeover, without any loss of data or business productivity.

## Working with a vast range of Hardware/Software products. Applying previous knowledge to new systems, discovering the fundamentals are the same.

## Developing my customer focus and team working skills, ensuring the client is satisfied with the end product and level of support.

## Bourne Grammar School

### **Systems Administrator & Performing Arts Technician** | 2011-03-01 — 2015-10-18

I started at Bourne Grammar School as an IT Technician after proving myself as a student IT assistant. My main responsibility was providing support for 1800 pupils and 100 staff. As I worked up to Systems Administrator I've built new systems and optimised many others, improving the end-user experience and enabling the School to use their finances for other departments.

## Highlights

* Setting up an OpenStack private cloud to enable students to experiment with Linux and web servers.
* Using Cobbler and Fabric to PXE boot and configure a subnet of PC's with a Windows/Linux dual boot.
* Rebuilding the Schools network improving reliability and implementing VLANS. Along with a Fortinet firewall, web filtering and Nginx reverse proxy to save on IPv4 address'.
* Implemented BYOD for 1800 users using Meru wireless networking, combined with port ACL's for security.
* Building an Asterisk PBX to replace our dated Siemens analogue PBX, saving the School on expensive phone lines and support contracts.

# Education

## Bourne Grammar School

2005-09-01 — 2010-07-01

* 9 GCSE's including Maths, English, Science, IT
* 1 GCE AS - Computing

# Volunteer

## Peterborough Mountaineering Club

### **Webmaster & TakeIn Magazine Editor** | 2018-12-01 — Present

Cambridgeshire Search and Rescue (CamSAR) is the Lowland Rescue unit covering our county, often also assisting sister teams in the wider region. We are a specialist team, called upon by Police in the search for vulnerable missing people: a child, an elderly person living with dementia or even someone who is considering taking their own life.

## Peterborough Climbing Wall

### **Route setter & Volunteer Supervisor** | 2016-09-01 — 2021-01-01

## As a volunteer supervisor at the climbing wall I took part in a rota to open the centre, manage new registrations, check people in and ensure every one taking part were climbing safetly. Outside of opening hours as part of the route setting team I would set new routes and ensure a good range of grades were set.

## Cambridgeshire Search and Rescue

### **Search Technician** | 2017-03-01 — Present

Cambridgeshire Search and Rescue (CamSAR) is the Lowland Rescue unit covering our county, often also assisting sister teams in the wider region. We are a specialist team, called upon by Police in the search for vulnerable missing people: a child, an elderly person living with dementia or even someone who is considering taking their own life.

## Highlights

* Locating a missing person allowing family and friends closure.
* Building on my skillset with specialist training. Including ALSAR First Aid, Health & Safety, Casualty Evacuation, Operations Control and more.

Bourne & District Roundtable 896

### **Hon. Treasurer** | 2014-10-01 — 2017-04-01

Roundtable is about having a good time, networking and helping the local community. As well as our Music Festival, we invite the pensioners in Bourne to a Christmas Dinner. Along with a Fireworks night raising funds for the local primary school. During my time as Treasurer I had to manage the Charity and House accounts and submit them to the auditor at the end of the financial year

## Highlights

* Organising a Music & Beer festival annually for the local community, raising on average £20k for charity.
* Attending social events. Raft race, Segwaying, Shooting and drinking!

# Skills

## Systems Administration

 Windows Server  Linux (Mostly Debian based)  Firewall and Cyber Security  Networking  Scripting (Python/PowerShell/Bash)  Documenting  LEMP/LAMP Stacks  Cloud Services (Azure/365/Mimecast/AWS)  Cyber Essentials/PCI Compliance

**Web Development**

 HTML  CSS  Markdown  Frameworks  CMS  Photoshop/InDesign

### **Live Events**

 Event management  Sound  Lighting  Stage  Rigging  Health & Safety

# Interests

**Online Rights**

 Electronic Frontier Foundation  Open Rights Group   Raising awareness

**Great Outdoors**

 Bouldering  Rock Climbing  Scrambling  Kayaking  Wild Camping

# References

**— Bob Symns, Chief Executive – Peterborough United Football Club.**

**— Phillip Colligan, Chief Executive – Raspberry Pi Foundation**

**— Stephen Brown, Director of Computing - Bourne Grammar School**  
Available on request