Ben Brooks | Software Engineer

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Profile

A software engineer specialised in Go, with experience of working in distributed systems, and rapid prototyping. Proficient in Linux-based environments, DevOps, CI/CD pipelines, automated test suites, deployments, and release management.

Employment

Couchbase   **Manchester, UK/Remote**
Software Engineer - Go   *December 2017 - Present*
o Mostly working on the open-source Sync Gateway project.
Tech: Go, Couchbase (NoSQL), N1QL, Python, Javascript, Jenkins

JPMorgan Chase & Co.   **Bournemouth, Dorset, UK**
Software Engineer   *February 2017 - December 2017*
o Quorum Blockchain - Distributed Ledger and smart contract proof-of-concepts.
o Virtual Account Management - Prototyping and greenfield development.
Tech: Java, Javascript, Quorum/Ethereum Blockchain, Kafka, Oracle DB, Jenkins, Go

de Poel   **Knutsford, Cheshire, UK**
Software Engineer - Go, DevOps, and Scrum Master   *June 2015 - February 2017*
Large scale rewrite of legacy invoicing/timesheet system into horizontally-scalable microservices.
o Designed and developed scalable and RESTful microservices, along with shared packages, libraries and utilities, and a high-throughput API Gateway to serve our product to the Angular, iOS, and Android apps.
o Shared ownership of system architecture, infrastructure, continuous integration, testing, deployment.
o Wrote ETLs to extract noisy data from legacy systems, sanitise, transform it, and load into new systems.
Tech: Go, Python, Javascript, MySQL, Docker, AWS, Terraform, Prometheus/Grafana, Kibana (ELK), Jenkins

PHP Developer   *June 2015 - October 2015*
o Developed, maintained, and supported legacy software in an agile team for client-facing products.
o Gained experience of working in a team using Scrum, formal code-review, and testing processes.
Tech: PHP, HTML, CSS, Javascript, MySQL

Webdapper   **Remote**
WordPress Developer   *February 2015 - June 2015*
o Created bespoke WordPress themes and plugins for clients.
o Gained remote working skills by utilising JIRA and GitHub.
Tech: PHP, HTML, CSS, Javascript, MySQL

Lighthouse Design for Business   **Shrewsbury, Shropshire, UK**
Web Developer (Industrial Year)   *July 2013 - July 2014*
o Created WordPress and Magento themes, plugins, interactive web applications with AngularJS, and static websites based on existing designs and specifications.
o Wrote an internal project-management app with Bootstrap and AngularJS. Backed by a PHP REST API.
Tech: PHP, HTML, CSS, Javascript, MySQL

Personal Projects

github.com/bbrks   `https://github.com/bbrks`
Open-source projects and contributions.
- **Tools** - shotgun, slow-news-day, docker-dashboard, httpico
- **Go packages** - wrap, chroma, midata

Education

University of Wales, Aberystwyth   **Aberystwyth, Ceredigion**
BSc (Hons) Computer Science (BCS Accredited)   *September 2011 - June 2015*
Second-class honours, upper division (2:1)
Merit award scholarship in Computer Science and ICT

Dissertation (AWESOME): Web app to gather and evaluate the feedback of students for university modules. Admin dashboard creates surveys from data via university systems. Students receive tailored questionnaires and answer anonymously. Staff view results via reporting dashboards.

Module Results:
- 1st - Web Development (HTML/CSS/JS)
- 1st - Web Programming (PHP/Perl)
- 1st - Interactive Web Programming (Canvas)
- 1st - System And Network Administration
- 1st - Software Development (Java)
- 1st - Advanced Computer Graphics (WebGL)
- 1st - Hardware, Operating Systems And Unix
- 1st - Professional And Personal Development
- 1st - Computer-Science Mathematics
- 2:1 - Internet-Based Applications (Ruby)
- 2:1 - Modelling Persistent Data (PostgreSQL)
- 2:1 - C And Unix Programming

Skills

Languages
- Go (golang)
- Python
- JavaScript/ES6
- Bash/Shell
- Swift
- Java
- PHP
- C/C++
- Ruby (Rails)
- HTML
- CSS and SASS
- LaTeX

Tools/Services
- Linux/Unix
- Docker/Swarm
- CoreOS
- Kubernetes
- Git
- AWS
- Jenkins/Hudson
- GitLab
- Terraform
- Kafka
- Elasticsearch
- Logstash
- Kibana
- Prometheus
- New Relic
- SonarQube

Interests

I'm usually tinkering with software, hardware, or a mixture of the two. But when tech gets overwhelming, I switch off by cycling, or cooking. Photography and travelling are also two of my passions. I combine the two, and attempt to write in a travel blog at `https://wanderings.in`

Contact

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References

References available upon request.