Oliver Russell • Developer

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Work

Google, London - SRE

2022 -

Site Reliability Engineer for Ads Frontend Search team - responsible for hundreds of jobs serving dashboards and applications to high profile advertisers. Work included writing automation to maintain configuration/service health, log preparation and analysis, monitoring, high level design and documentation. Examples include:

- Analysed cross-stack structured logs to cut costs and improve peak-load reliability for F1/Spanner databases across GoogleAds via query optimisation and load shedding.
- Configured machine-learning detection and monitoring for end-to-end customer interactions.
- Handled on-call incidents for services responsible for billions of dollars of revenue.
- Rolled out internal security improvements for thousands of jobs across Google.
- Implemented Go validators for runtime analysis of service usage and configuration.

Bulb Energy, London - Senior Developer

2019 - 2022

First full-time Python developer on Bulb's international team. The team quickly and successfully built services to handle billing, account management, interaction with external energy providers/payment processors, statement generation/scheduling.

Services built on a Flask/FastAPI/SQLAlchemy/Postgres/REST/PubSub/Kubernetes/GCP stack. Lasting contributions to the team include:

- Codebase with a simple, consistent, modern, well-typed approach and style.
- Comprehensive testing from low level contract tests up to multi-service integration tests.
- Performant and flexible database design using some advanced locking/indexing techniques.
- Fostered a friendly, engaged and collaborative team dynamic, particularly with new starters.

Spent my final 6 months working with Bulb's billing team across various backend/frontend TypeScript + React services with the aim of reducing customer debt.

YouView, London - Python Developer

2016 - 2019

Built, refactored and maintained the reporting service, APIs and infrastructure for the test-automation team; the team ran constant functional, memory and timing tests on ≈ 200 boxes.

Worked on API design, database design, building interactive data collation, search and graphing capabilities, infrastructure. Collaborated on TypeScript Selenium testing with the YouView frontend team. Worked closely with graduate scheme. Implemented machine-learning driven pipeline for test failure classification (scikit-learn).

Thales, London - Software Engineer

2014 - 2016

Extended, maintained and documented an internal web based tool that managed hardware installation data. Also worked on the comms network infrastructure for the London Underground.

Bugudon Cola Ltd. Awaham, Ghana - Mechanical Engineer/CAD Technician 2018. Worked with a small team making new equipment to increase the running capacity of the mine.

Education

University of Bristol

2009 - 2013

Upper Second Class (2:1) MEng Mechanical Engineering Degree. Studied: Systems and Control, Robotics, Smart Structures, Fluid Dynamics, Advanced Dynamics.

Other

Software - Hobby projects include small Python/JS libraries & projects, blog posts, educational implementations of existing libraries - see my blog. Have studied/dipped into include relational theory, probabilistic methods, interpreters.

Interests - Cello/Double bass, music production, reading, climbing, hiking, cycling, 5-a-side.