

Stephen Mount

Technical Architect/DevOps/SRE Engineer based in Central London

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I am a self-taught Software Engineer with 12 years of commercial experience, beginning with 5 years as a Software Engineer to then later exclusively specialising in DevOps/SRE. I have been working with AWS-based products solutions from Early 2012.

I utilise my software engineering background to lead critical technical architecture decisions and use these skills to pair and work with engineers of all seniorities to deliver/ship features to production.

I enjoy working with both technical and non-technical members of teams in an Agile fashion, allowing a flat gradient Agile team where developers, BAs, product owners, stakeholders and others are welcome to feedback, demo or offer suggestions.

I have worked with software engineers of all seniorities to deliver quality technical solutions to tight deadlines; ensuring projects are delivered with security, accessibility and performance in mind.

Technical Experience Summary

I have worked with a vast array of experience with frameworks and languages.

API Frameworks & Languages

- **TypeScript / JavaScript**
- Node.js w/ Express and Express-like frameworks.
- OOP **Java** – SpringMVC
- OOP **PHP** – Laravel
- Python, Go, bash for automation.

Relational and Graph DB.

- **Relational DBs** PostgreSQL, MySQL, MS SQL
- **NoSQL/Graph DB(s)** - SQLite, Neo4J

Caching

- **In-Memory and Persistent** Redis/Memcache
- **Load Balancing**
Varnish, HAProxy, Nginx, K8S Ingress

Testing stack(s)

- **End to End (E2E) testing**
Jest, Nightwatch, Mocha
- **Unit Testing**
Jest/Mocha, PHPUnit, JUnit

DevOps and Technical Architecture

- **AWS Technologies**
including but not limited to extensive use of ALB/ELB, Elastic Beanstalk, RDS, Route 53, IAM, SQS, SNS, S3, Elastic Files, Code Pipeline, CloudWatch, CloudTrail, Lambda, API Gateway.
- **Docker & Kubernetes**
Scaling solutions using Managed Kubernetes with and without additional AWS Technologies.
- **CI/CD**
Ansible/Packer, CircleCI/Jenkins/TravisCI, BitBucket Pipelines, GitHub Actions.
- **Infrastructure as code.**
 - Terraform (Preferred)
 - HashiCorp Vault, AWS Secrets Manager



Career History

AC UK PropTech

DevOps/Technical Architect – 2018 – London

- Complete overhaul of the technical architecture from a product with too many moving parts; creating a new infrastructure which allowed easy integration and simplifying autoscaling of all endpoints.
 - Paired with engineers to deliver business critical API functionality to do various tasks such as putting properties on the market, checking right to rent, verification checks, auditing and AML/KYC.
 - Utilising the “low code/no code high availability” paradigm to allow the business the ability to automate integrations between Google services such as the G Places API, G Sheets API, G Drive API but also use HubSpot Workflows to automate important functionality.
 - Implemented Event-Driven programming for asynchronous functionality and reactivity e.g. listeners of specific events will listen for changes to the Model.
 - Domain Driven Design used for serverless and API functionality, allowing business critical functionality to be deployed in isolation.
- Team grew to as many as 12 engineers of all seniorities.
- Ensuring there is good code coverage including E2E testing of integrations and API functionality.

Technologies Node.js, Vue, PHP, Python. **Developer Tools** BitBucket/JIRA.

Cloud AWS **Terraform** as IaaS **CloudFormation** S3, Route 53, RDS, IAM, SQS, API Gateway.

LIV-EX Fine Wine Trading Platform

Technical Architect/DevOps – London – Oct 2018 - Oct 2019

- Planning a long-term architecture refactoring across teams to consolidate a wide variety of functionality (spanning 10 years) in Java to front-to-back JavaScript.
- Worked closely with three teams (10 developers) across three software vendors; performing Pull Request review, building a CI/CD pipeline and E2E testing.
- **API Gateway** to centralise use for 20M+ API calls monthly.

<https://www.liv-ex.com>

Technologies Heavy use of **Java** across 9 interconnected systems. **TypeScript/JavaScript** for new implementations.

BitBucket Custom Pipelines for CI/CD, API Gateway, Terraform/CloudFormation, S3, Route 53, RDS, IAM, SQS.

Vauxhall.co.uk

Software Engineer/Technical Architect – London – Jun 2018 - Sep 2018

Working with a team of three engineers on new functionality for vauxhall.co.uk building a tool for customers to find their perfect car and use the existing stock management solution to find a local dealership with the car in stock.

Technologies JavaScript, Laravel, Nginx, HAProxy. **Cloud provided by** AWS and Heroku.

Big Brand Ideas (E-Commerce Security and Hardening)

DevOps and Technical Assurance – London – Apr 2018 – Jun 2018

Refactoring code, planning builds and cloud infrastructure across projects with high traffic or security concerns e.g. e-commerce websites requiring web firewalls.



GOV.UK Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

Technical Associate – Westminster, London - March 2017 – March 2018

Project to build a [GOV.UK](#) compliant web app for the BEIS - Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

Technologies Node.js, Ruby

Testing Frameworks Cucumber/Mocha, Nightwatch, JMeter

Cloud Technologies [CloudFoundry](#) [IaaS](#) multi-cloud (AWS, Azure)



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Elbi Digital - Social Enterprise For Good

Interim CTO – January 2016 – January 2017

Planning roadmap and managing iOS releases, ideation, optimisation, managing external contractors, A/B Testing, and Maintaining technical architecture. [elbi.com](#)

Technologies Java, MEAN stack, Ruby – ObjC/iOS Native

Cloud AWS RDS, IAM, SQS, SNS, S3, Elastic Files, Code Pipeline, ElasticCache, Terraform.



Dennis Publishing

Developer – Fitzrovia, London - November 2014 – December 2015

Enhancing an extensive portfolio of websites for Dennis Publishing working on the UK's top car websites and other hobbyist magazines.

[Auto Express](#), [buyacar](#), [PC Pro](#). **Technologies** PHP, JavaScript.



Macmillan Education

DevOps/SRE – Old Street - March 2014 – September 2014

Working with Macmillan to go to market with web apps (Full-Stack JS, CRM migration, performance improvement) - **JS** applications and iOS/Android applications.

Technologies JavaScript, PHP, Java, ObjC/Swift.



BBC Worldwide

Software Engineer/SRE – White City – August 2014 – March 2015

- **SRE** & Performance Tuning for BBC GoodFood, the UK's No 1 Recipe Site
- **SRE** and migration of [TopGear.com](#) with full CMS functionality for the Editorial team.
- Dual Architecture and Migration from ASP.NET

Technologies JavaScript, AWS, CI/CD.



Vivienne Westwood

SRE Developer – Chelsea, London – June 2014 – July 2014

I worked with the "Commerce Guys EU" on performance enhancements, code refactoring and server configuration to improve page load times as it was proven to be a factor for consumers to buy. [viviennewestwood.com](#)



Vivienne
Westwood

Rackspace

Technical Consultant – March 2014 – June 2014

Worked with Rackspace on a handful of products that improve their customer's API/e-commerce performance using Rackspace's cloud and dedicated hardware.

www.rackspace.co.uk



Comic Relief

SRE/ Software Developer – Nov 2013 to March 2014

- Maintaining, extending and optimising the performance of the Sport Relief donation platform.
- Refactoring and profiling site-wide JavaScript/CSS to reduce network time/latency, and improve reliability and performance on mobile/tablet devices including low-spec devices such as a Samsung Galaxy Ace, and Blackberry Curve.



sportrelief.com comicrelief.com

NBC Universal

JavaScript Developer – Jun 2013 to Oct 2013

Managing a portfolio of 35 multi-lingual websites for NBC Universal across a handful of geographies. Introduced responsive templates, improved page speed, automatic builds, squeezing performance out of Varnish.

13thstreet.de universaltv.co.uk



Web Technologies Group on behalf of The Home Office.

Web Developer – Jan 2013 – Jun 2013

Building and extending AES encrypted secure extranet service using asymmetric encryption.

JS libs used: **Backbone, Require, jQuery, Jasmine, Karma**



Capgemini for Eurostar.com

JavaScript Engineer – Jun 2012 – Dec 2012

Worked on the booking system for eurostar.com with a complex ticketing service with gradual improvements to UI/UX, speed, uptime and performance.



Care Quality Commission

JavaScript / Backend Developer - Jan 2011 - June 2012

Identified caching and site-building issues, and implemented new functionality work across supported browsers to a tight deadline. This contract included working with large data sets, load balancers, caching and Apache SOLR.

www.cqc.org.uk



Relevant Information

- **Technical Proficiency** Highly proficient in computing including build & repair, maintenance and networking. Advanced user of Microsoft technologies, OS X, Linux and MS Office.
- **Security Clearance** Previous SC Clearance expired in Mid-2015. SC Cleared projects considered.

About me

- **Interests** Gadgets, Sound Reinforcement, Cars/Motorbikes.
- **Hobbies** Racing motorbikes, dining out, Musical Theatre, recycling old technology.
- **Language** Fluent in English.

References/Testimonials



I have always maintained that good devs appreciate testing effort and Steve is certainly one of those, and wasted no time in contributing to test framework and showed genuine interest in the testing side. Steve is not only a solid developer but has a bewildering array of tech skills extending to dev-ops and ops.

Working with devs like Steve makes projects not only fun to work on, but gives me more inspiration to extend my own skills. A team player who does not shy away from being vocal in his opinions and quick to help others. He has genuine passion of tech and it's very infectious! You would not regret hiring him."

Paul Littlebury Senior Test Engineer at [BEIS/GOV.UK](#)



Steve is a knowledgeable developer with excellent technical skills. Steve is friendly and dedicated. Steve is a great asset for any development team."

Dlair Kadhem Senior Developer at [Sport Relief](#).



Stephen demonstrated a high level of technical ability and all-round solid knowledge of software engineering best practices and methodologies.

I would recommend Stephen and hope to work with him in the future."

Jon Edery Senior Developer at [Eurostar](#) and [GOV.UK](#).



Stephen is enthusiastic, proactive and astute. He is a great asset to any team, working well with others and often providing innovative solutions to problems. I have worked with him on numerous occasions, the experience has always been enjoyable and the outcome positive."

Simon Poulston Solutions Architect at [Lexis Nexis Legal Solutions](#)