



# James Greenwood

Full-stack developer, sysadmin and devops

Available for remote contract roles outside IR35, 3–6 months

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Norwich, UK

- Experienced full-stack developer and sysadmin with 17 years of industry experience
- Efficient, pragmatic, quick learner, high attention to detail
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Good at explaining technical details to non-technical people
- Can work efficiently solo or well within a team
- Passionate about open source and free software
- Runs home lab server with RAID, Traefik and various services

## Skills

### Development

- Python: Django, DRF/FastAPI, Pandas, Celery/Huey
- JavaScript: TypeScript, ES6+, Node.js
- Frontend: React, Next.js, Angular, HTML5, CSS3
- Ruby: Ruby on Rails, Shopify plugins, scripting
- PHP: Laravel, Symfony, Yii, nginx, FastCGI
- Elixir: Phoenix Framework, LiveView, WebSockets, Oban
- Go: APIs, tooling
- Search: Elasticsearch, Dgraph, Postgres FTS
- Scripting: Bash, Python, Ruby
- Databases: PostgreSQL, MySQL, Dgraph, Mongo, Redis, SQLite
- Container-based dev and runtimes: Docker, Docker Compose
- Testing: unit, integration and end-to-end tests with mocked data
- Documentation: OpenAPI/Swagger, wikis, Markdown
- Comfortable on Windows, Mac, Linux/\*nix

### Sysadmin and devops

- Managing virtual and physical \*nix servers: Ubuntu, Debian, Red Hat
- Managing public clouds: AWS, GCP, Azure, DigitalOcean, Linode
- Building, running and maintaining CI/CD pipelines
- Provisioning servers and cloud with Terraform and Ansible
- Running key web, database, API and custom infrastructure services
- Automating updates, security patches, SELinux/AppArmor
- Vulnerability scanning, reports and addressing issues
- Monitoring: Prometheus/Grafana, New Relic, Data Dog and others
- Application security: fixing OWASP/critical application security issues
- Securing SSH: key-only access, bastion host, IP whitelist, Fail2ban etc

## Experience

- 2025-06 – 2025-04 **AlsoAsked.com: Full Stack Engineer**  
Migrated React SPA to hybrid SSG/SSR architecture using Vike framework, implementing filesystem-based routing and server-side rendering for improved SEO and performance. Added comprehensive Playwright browser test coverage across all pages and functionality, plus Lighthouse CI performance monitoring. Streamlined deployment by migrating from AWS Amplify/CloudFront to Cloudflare Workers within the same repository. Optimized all images and implemented responsive image delivery with AVIF/WebP formats. Integrated DataDog monitoring and maintained third-party service compatibility throughout the migration.  
*React, Vike, TypeScript, Playwright, Lighthouse CI, Cloudflare Workers, DataDog, Intercom, HTML, CSS, JS, SSR/SSG, AWS Amplify, CloudFront, image optimization*
- 2024-12 – 2023-10 **Abcam Limited: Senior Full Stack Engineer**  
Joined the main site content team of an established platform rebuild project. Helped to refactor and simplify the Next.js stack to: increase site performance, decrease CDN cache usage and lower the average page response time across the site. Built new frontend components and worked on: internationalisation, accessibility, UX, sitemaps, software stack upgrades, decreased CI/CD pipeline runtime. Also migrated the majority of the content pages from server-side generation to Next.js' incremental static regeneration which improved the site's SEO ranking. Cross-functional agile teams with code reviews, unit tests and end-to-end test coverage.  
*TypeScript, Node.js, Next.js, PostgreSQL, Redis, Elasticsearch, HTML, CSS, AWS, Terraform, Docker*
- 2023-07 – 2021-07 **Play Planet X Ltd: Full Stack Engineer**  
Maintained and rebuilt Python/Django codebase for use in new startup Unity 3D mobile game with real world prizes. RESTful API that served the native iOS and Android mobile apps and the Unity 3D game, plus Django Admin area for staff. Auto-generated OpenAPI docs from code annotations. Multiple environments with global application and database instances. Ran a headless version of the game in-memory, background jobs queues for game events and processing. Unit tested code.  
*Python, Django, DRF, PostgreSQL, Redis, Huey, HTML, CSS, JS, Pillow, JWT, Xvfb, web3/blockchain, Twilio, Stream Chat, Unity, Drone CI, Mailjet, Sentry, DigitalOcean, Terraform, Ansible, Docker*
- 2021-05 – 2020-05 **Digital Impact Labs: Full Stack Engineer**  
Built search engine web app that imports, indexes and links related data together, to find historical Iranian war criminals from scanned periodicals. Supported MSSQL, MySQL, PostgreSQL, CSV and JSON formats, via file upload or database connection. Records are joined by common field values to build up a graph database where any value could be searched on. State machines with durable background jobs.  
*Dgraph, Elixir, Phoenix Framework, Oban Pro*
- 2020-04 – 2019-06 **EDF Blue Lab: Backend Developer / Data Engineer**  
Research projects: web app for energy monitoring and insights, smart home ecommerce store with API integrations (suppliers, fulfilment), custom reporting frontends. Agile cross-functional team, fortnightly sprints.  
*Angular, Node.js, Python, Shopify, Tableau, Athena, CloudFormation, Terraform, AWS*
- 2019-05 – 2018-08 **Futrli Ltd: Backend Developer**  
Built a modular, tested Python layer to import third-party accounting data sources. Extract, transform, load (ETL) process flow in scalable state machines. Ported legacy frontend to React. Designed platform architecture, improved test coverage. Agile sprints.  
*Python, React, BuildKite CI, AWS Step Functions, Lambda, CloudFormation, AWS*

2018-07 – 2018-04	<b>Leo Learning Limited: Developer</b> Wrote progressively enhanced plugins for Moodle e-learning client sites. Debugging, unit tests, functional tests, design workshops. Also solo built a bespoke Django e-learning client site to onboard new employees at a large law firm. Peer code reviews. <i>Moodle, PHP, Django, AWS, Jenkins</i>
2018-02 – 2016-12	<b>The Unit: Senior Developer</b> Rebuilt Weaveworks site (weave.works) from WordPress to static JAMstack site, led the project and sold the idea of the architecture to the client. Built Hoppy site (hoppy.co.uk) leading a team of six developers: deep integration with third-party energy switching API. Peer code reviews. <i>Ruby, Node.js, Angular, Jekyll, CloudStack CMS, Netlify, CircleCI, Google Cloud, Bash, Docker</i>
2016-11 – 2013-03	<b>Omobono Ltd: Senior Developer</b> Technical project design, development, management and sysadmin for international corporate clients: landing pages, company websites, quizzes, games, client team portals, e-learning systems, competitive campaigns, building information apps, bespoke maps, diagnostics with generative reports, internal integration tools. Led a small team of developers, deployed and managed a Linux-based cloud infrastructure. <i>PHP, Python, Ruby, MySQL, nginx, Linode, Puppet, Ansible</i>
2013-02 – 2013-01	<b>Sony, Tokyo: Lead Developer</b> Bespoke upload and cataloging system for Sony's Computer Science Laboratory scientists. Collect, tag, analyse and relate photos and metadata from ecological photographs. <i>Linux, Apache, PHP, MySQL, Red Hat</i>
2013-01 – 2012-12	<b>LEAGLE Inc, Tokyo: Lead Developer</b> Bespoke CRM system. Japanese CSV language importer, intuitive live filters, admin interface, multilingual UI. <i>PHP, Yii Framework, AWS</i>
2012-12 – 2012-08	<b>anipan.com, Tokyo: Web Architect</b> Server rebuild, hardening, patching, firewall, SSH config. Refactored codebase to OOP, optimised image processing, automated differential off-site backups, integrations with Twitter, Facebook and DeviantArt. Success of server improvements and refactor led to partnership with Pixiv, a leading Japanese art site. <i>PHP, MySQL, Apache, HTML, CSS, JS, Red Hat</i>
2012-08 – 2008-06	<b>AllYearbooks: Senior Developer</b> Developed and maintained allyearbooks.co.uk web app with two other developers. Designed, built and led new features, refactored large portions of the custom Drupal codebase and maintained the server infrastructure. Number of clients rose from 20 when I started to over 400 when I left. Built an integrated AJAX-based chat system, a JavaScript web app layer, an in-house CRM, frontend rebuild from Clearleft UX redesigns, Facebook photos importer, Office files batch converter. <i>PHP, MySQL, HTML, CSS, JS, Red Hat, Ubuntu, Nagios, Sendmail, SVN, iptables</i>

## Education

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2008	<b>Anglia Ruskin University, Bsc Computer Science</b> Ended course to pursue industry work
2007	<b>New College, Telford, A Levels (B–D)</b> Computing, Maths, English language and literature, Film studies
2005	<b>Adams' Grammar School, Newport, GCSEs (A–D)</b> Maths, English, ICT, Systems and control, Biology/Chemistry/Physics, German, Geography, Music

## References

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Available upon request.