

Alasdair Keyes

LAMP Developer and DevOps Professional
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Personal statement

I am a back-end web developer, specialising in LAMP (PHP/Perl) environments and DevOps/Systems Administration. I have worked as a Developer and Systems Administrator for over 20 years. I am hard-working and ambitious and strive to perform well in any work I undertake. I thrive in a team environment but can also be relied upon to work independently when required and produce results, proven with my recent contracting positions.

I am experienced in designing and developing fast, secure and highly available web applications in PHP and Perl using common MVC frameworks such as Laravel and Dancer. In addition I am well versed in OO methodologies and Test Driven Development and adhere to best practices for code development.

Working as a consultant requires that I be able to join unfamiliar environments and hit the ground running, learning new ideas, tools and even languages quickly to aid my customers as best I can. Running my own company for 5 years has also enabled me to excel in customer management, finances and legal responsibilities as well as the core business of technology.

Key Skills – Expanded upon at <https://www.akeyes.co.uk/skillset>

- **Web Development:** PHP (inc. PHP8), Perl/Mod_Perl/OO Perl, Template Toolkit, CSS, TDD. Exposure to Javascript/jQuery, Python
- **Frameworks:** PHP: Laravel, Slim, CakePHP. Perl: DBIx::Class, Dancer, Catalyst, Moose, Mojolicious
- **Web Security:** Adherence to best practices for SQL injection, XSS and XSRF attacks. Mod_security Web Application Firewall.
- **Development Methodologies:** SCRUM/Agile, SOLID, DRY, KISS
- **Version Control:** Git (including Github and Gitlab), Subversion, Exposure to Mercurial
- **Web Servers:** Administration, securing and optimization of Apache and NGINX.
- **Databases:** MySQL, Memcache, Redis, Cassandra, PostgreSQL. Exposure to Hadoop
- **Messaging:** RabbitMQ. Exposure to Apache Kafka
- **Automation and Configuration:** Puppet (Manifest creation and Puppetmaster set-up and administration), Ansible, BASH, Perl scripting. Packer, Terraform
- **Administration:** Redhat/CentOS, Debian/Ubuntu, NFS, iSCSI, BIND, PowerDNS, Exim, Iptables, KVM, Xen
- **Cloud Providers and Software:** Docker, Docker Compose, K3S, AWS, Azure

Employment History

Director/Developer

Cloudee LTD, Nottingham, UK (July 2017 – Present)

Achievements and responsibilities:

- LAMP stack development, systems administration and DevOps contracting services. Example contracts include
- **Radical Finance** – Development of new website using PHP/Laravel/MySQL.
- **nCryptedCloud** - Development of secure fault tolerant, mail filtering system integrating with Gmail/Outlook/Hotmail using Postfix and Cassandra cluster. Developed custom Postfix Mail Failover system for multi-node fault tolerant mail delivery and recovery in. Development of automated environment roll-out to Azure. Developed using Perl, Python, Packer, Terraform.
- **Prestige Fleet Servicing** – Development of customer/staff issue management and resolution system. Updating the in-house CakePHP application. PHP/MySQL/jQuery. Website and IP space penetration testing for website vulnerabilities, known software insecurities. Advised resolution paths with systems/procedural best practices going forward.
- **123-Reg/GoDaddy** – Development of 123-Reg brand. Projects included security audits and code hardening, integration of new payment platform and internal micro-service solution. Developing shop front-end, product refreshes, test-suite expansion and enhancement for better code coverage and more robust code.

Development Team Lead

Maple Syrup Media (Quidco), Sheffield, UK (July 2016 – Feb 2017)

Achievements and responsibilities:

- Managing a team of permanent and contract PHP developers – Liaising and coordinating with other teams in the UK/Europe.
- Developing powerful RESTful API microservices as part of a Service Oriented Architecture platform.
- Primarily developing in Laravel/Eloquent ORM.
- Developing sites www.quidco.com www.shoop.fr
- Working on systems migrations project to move data from Legacy WebApp to modern microservice-based platform. Performing systems analysis and design using UML to enable fast development of a workable solution.

- Encouraging adherence to best practices on code reviews, TDD and use of correct design patterns to develop efficient, loosely coupled code.

Devops Solutions Engineer

Node4 Ltd, Newark, UK (October 2015 – May 2016)

Achievements and responsibilities:

- Developing bespoke Highly available, fault tolerant hosting solutions for customers, primarily with AWS.
- Developing systems management scripts to speed system set-up and installation and day to day running and systems management.
- Taking projects from initial consultation through to design and implementation.
- Systems automation and environment management with Puppet.
- Management of AWS EC2, S3, RDS, Cloudfront hosting platforms

Senior Developer/Systems Administrator

Daily Internet Services, Chilwell, Nottingham, UK (October 2006 – September 2015) – Left due to redundancy.

Achievements and responsibilities:

- Senior Developer of Daily PLC group websites. Designing and developing PHP/Perl/MySQL websites via a custom built MVC framework.
- Designed and provided ongoing development of the CRM, ordering and billing platforms for the group's core companies highly available Mod_Perl/MySQL based Web Application.
- Maintained Developed <https://www.daily.co.uk/>, <https://www.namehog.net> and <https://www.evohosting.co.uk>
- Integrated billing, CRM and order systems for recently acquired companies.
- MySQL administration and optimization for high performance from multi-gigabyte databases through correct indexing, normalisation and caching.
- Integrated multiple payment gateways including Paypal, Sagepay and Datacash
- Developing against 3rd party APIs for external web services
- Javascript and jQuery development for browser-side processing.
- Provided final level of systems administration support to resolve any outstanding issues from the systems administration team.

Level 3 Technical Services Specialist

Fujitsu Services, Bilborough, Nottingham, UK (2006)

- Developing web application and back end agents for WAN network monitoring and resource utilisation using Perl, MySQL, SNMP, MRTG.
- Set-up and management of Squid Proxy arrays for 10,000 users.

2nd Line Support

Webfusion/HostEurope/Pipex, Beeston, Nottingham UK (2005)

2nd line support and systems administration of shared hosting and VPS systems.

Education

University of Central England (Now branded Birmingham City University)

(September 2000 – June 2003)

Bachelors Degree with Commendation – Software Engineering

Havant College, Hampshire (September 1998 – June 2000)

4 A Levels – 3 C Grade, 1 E Grade

Hayling School, Hayling Island, Hampshire (September 1993 – June 1998)

9 GCSEs – 6 A Grade, 3 B Grade

Qualifications

- Parallels Certified Virtualization Engineer and Parallels Certified Automation Engineer
- Full Clean UK Driving License

Hobbies & Interests

Open Source Projects - <https://akeyes.co.uk/projects>

Running

Playing guitar and piano

Learning German

References – Available on Request