

# James Harrison

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

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Senior Software Developer with over 8 years of experience building high-performance distributed systems. Expert in Java, Spring Boot, and Kubernetes, with a proven history of optimising microservices to reduce latency by 35 per cent. Adept at leading cross-functional teams to deliver enterprise-grade cloud solutions that support millions of daily active users.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### Senior Software Engineer | Stellar FinTech | London, UK

*Nov 2019 - Present*

- Led the migration of a legacy customer portal to a React and GraphQL frontend, resulting in a 50 per cent faster page load time for 500k monthly users.
- Developed a custom internal CLI tool in Go that automated environment setup, saving the engineering team approximately 200 hours of manual work per month.
- Architected a serverless backend using AWS Lambda and DynamoDB that handled a 300 per cent spike in traffic during peak retail seasons without downtime.
- Mentored 4 junior developers through weekly code reviews and architecture design sessions, improving team velocity by 15 per cent.
- Reduced annual cloud expenditure by £65,000 by implementing automated resource tagging and optimising EC2 instance types.

### Software Developer II | DataPeak Systems | Manchester, UK

*May 2016 - Oct 2019*

- Scaled a real-time analytics engine using Apache Kafka and Java, increasing data throughput capacity from 500GB to 2TB per day.
- Authored over 150 unit and integration tests using JUnit and Mockito, increasing code coverage from 60 per cent to 92 per cent across core services.
- Collaborated with UX designers to implement a responsive dashboard that increased user engagement metrics by 22 per cent within the first quarter.
- Integrated third-party payment gateways including Stripe and Braintree, ensuring PCI-DSS compliance for all transactions.
- Resolved a critical memory leak in the production environment that improved system uptime from 99.5 per cent to 99.99 per cent.

### Junior Web Developer | NorthWest Web Media | Manchester, UK

*Jun 2014 - Apr 2016*

- Built and maintained RESTful APIs using Node.js and Express to support a mobile application with 100,000 active installs.
- Optimised SQL queries and database indexing in PostgreSQL, reducing average report generation time from 15 seconds to 2 seconds.
- Developed a reusable UI component library that decreased frontend development time for new features by 30 per cent.
- Assisted in the transition from Subversion to Git, leading internal training sessions for the transition during the sprint cycles.

## EDUCATION

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### **Imperial College London | Master of Science | Computer Science**

*Sept 2012 - May 2014*

### **University of Manchester | Bachelor of Science (Hons) | Computer Science**

*Sept 2008 - May 2012*

## SKILLS

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Java, Python, TypeScript, Go, C#, SQL, Spring Boot, React, Node.js, Django, Next.js, AWS (EC2, S3, Lambda), Docker, Kubernetes, Terraform, Git, CI/CD Pipelines, Agile/Scrum Methodology, Technical Mentorship, System Design Architecture, Cross-team Collaboration

## CERTIFICATIONS

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AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Professional | Amazon Web Services (Aug 2022)

Certified Kubernetes Application Developer (CKAD) | The Linux Foundation (Mar 2021)

## LANGUAGES

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English (Native)

German (Professional Working Proficiency (B2))

## ACTIVITIES

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### **Open Source Contributor**

Active contributor to several popular JavaScript libraries on GitHub with over 50 merged pull requests.

### **Tech Speaker**

Presented at the 2023 Silicon Milk Roundabout conference on the topic of Scaling Microservices.