

Ben Aston

Selected repos: *NFeature*: github.com/benaston/NFeature/ (featured on *Elegant Code*)

NState: github.com/benaston/NState/

Contract Software Developer (C#/ASP.NET MVC/JavaScript)

Recommendations: www.linkedin.com/in/benastonlinkedin/

Experience

Senior Developer (JavaScript, Ruby), Wizerati (Personal Project) 11/2010-02/2011

Developed HTML5/CSS3 single-page web application. Extensive use of modular JavaScript and Backbone.js. Rails server tier and document database (CouchDB). Dynamic script and template loading.

Senior Developer (C#), JustGiving.com (Contract, 3 extensions) 11/2010-11/2011

Delivered Cancer Research *Race For Life* donation system and Vodafone-sponsored *JustTextGiving* SMS donation system on-time. Defined iteration shape, championed agile methods and worked with the team to implement lean development, continuous integration, automated testing & deployment and an effective Git branching strategy. Developed wrapper DSL for Selenium. Developed RESTful API. Successfully completed numerous two-week iterations, including demonstrations. Helped the team achieve regular, roll-back-free releases.

Senior Developer (C#), LateRooms.com (Contract) 06/2010-11/2010

Designed a flexible mechanism to control search result weightings. Refactored legacy C# to follow SOLID design principles. Developed and optimised performance of NHibernate data access component for hotel reviews and exposed functionality for WCF clients to consume.

Senior Developer (C#), System C Healthcare (Contract, 2 extensions) 11/2009-06/2010

Completed numerous two-week development sprints within a scrum team developing a national NHS portal connecting clinical systems using ASP.NET MVC. Developed a flexible caching facade for the ASP.NET data cache and Memcached. Reduced coupling between system artifacts. Significantly reduced the time and complexity of developing dashboard items through a convention-based approach. Developed Ajax user interface components using progressive enhancement.

Senior Developer (C#) / Director, Cloudscape S'ware 02/2009-11/2009

Led three full-time and three part-time team members. Negotiated, managed and delivered projects including an ASP.NET MVC mapping application with an interface to an SMS gateway for the Police to control 'sting' operations. Technical consultancy for the NHS HealthCheck programme.

Senior Developer (C#), Appius International 02/2008-01/2009

Developed large public-facing ASP.NET web application delivering up-to-the-minute road network information. Use of multi-threading and distributed caching. Developed bespoke CMS system.

Senior Developer (C#), .NET PDA Development (Contract) 08/2007-11/2007

Developed PDA software for the recording of patient information on RFID wristbands.

Subcontract Liaison, BAE Systems 10/2006-07/2007

Managed subcontract between Northrop Grumman Mission Systems, the DPA and Royal Navy.

Software Developer (C#), Intelligence Application, BAE Systems 03/2006-08/2006

An ASP.NET application supporting British intelligence agencies in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Software Developer (C#), BAE Systems 10/2003-10/2006

Developed user-action mediation security layer for Microsoft Windows and personnel tracking system. Organised and undertook visit to NATO HQ, Bosnia & Herzegovina. Graduate Development Programme.

Corporal in RAF Combined Cadet Force 1997-1999

Education

Computer Science BSc(Hons) 2:1 (69% average) University of Southampton 2003.

Dissertation (1st class): Java analytics application to mine actionable data from web-server logs and hyperlink topology.

Abingdon School A-Levels (Maths (B), Physics (A), Chemistry (B)), GCSE (four A*, four A, two B's).

Skills

C# 4.0 & .NET 4.0
 JavaScript
 Object Orientation (class & prototype-based)
 Refactoring
 IOC / SOLID / Patterns
 ASP.NET MVC 3
 Scrum / Kanban / Lean / Deming / Agile Methods
 TDD / BDD / FDD / ATDD
 NHibernate (inc. Criteria API)
 Ninject / Windsor / StructureMap
 HTML5, CSS3, XML
 jQuery
 T-SQL
 WCF
 UML
 OAuth
 iOS Web App
 SpecFlow
 Rhino Mocks, Moq
 Selenium & WatilN
 Memcached
 PostSharp
 MSpec
 NUnit / QUnit / Jasmine

Tools

IIS 7
 Git
 TeamCity / Cruise Control
 SQL Server 2008
 Debian Linux
 DebugDiag
 ReSharper
 Photoshop / Illustrator
 MSBuild
 NHProf

Currently Interested In

CouchDB
 Functional Programming
 Ruby

Selected Books

The Pragmatic Programmer
 Code Complete
 POEAA

An engineer who can communicate, with a good sense of design and a real appreciation for correct, well designed, high quality software.