

Kate Butler

Full stack web developer and API geek looking for friendly teammates, challenging software projects, and long walks on the beach. I have professional experience in Typescript/JS, PHP and Java development and thrive in small to medium-sized teams where I can get my hands dirty with a variety of tasks.

Likes: JetBrains IDEs, learning new tech, hunting down obscure bugs, making old code beautiful.

Dislikes: breaking the build, poorly-named variables and Internet Explorer.

Employment History

Software Engineer – PC Locs/Lockncharge – Perth (remote) Jan 2024 – Apr 2025

- Greenfields development on a modern tech stack including TypeScript, React/MUI, node.js/NestJS, AWS, Flutter
- On-call support for legacy node/React apps and IoT integration
- Contributing across the SLDC in a workplace that emphasises:
 - Collaboration – engineers interact closely with designers and product owners, and work together in small groups, taking turns to lead each feature
 - Innovation – applying continuous improvement to our dev practices, battling it out in teams for our quarterly Innovation Week challenges

Contract PHP Developer – aRes Travel Inc – USA (remote) Apr 2021 – Oct 2023

- A mature company with code bases spanning the gamut from PHP 4 to PHP 8, primarily using Symfony framework
- Refactoring and migrating legacy code to newer PHP versions
- General maintenance and bug fixing
- API integrations with travel reservation systems and other services

Freelance PHP Developer 2012 – present

Short-term contracts or small projects in a variety of PHP frameworks (Symfony, Laravel, SilverStripe, WordPress), Java (Spring framework) and Ruby on Rails.

PHP Developer – Website Travel – Queenstown 2013 – 2017

- Back-end and front-end development for enterprise-scale SaaS web application with 300+ database tables (PHP, Symfony2, Backbone.js, mysql, nginx)
- Built new RESTful API for operators to manage their products and allocations
- Developing integrations with a variety of reservation system APIs
- Sharing a rotating support/"bug munching" role with other senior developers
- Primary responsibility for support of external APIs
- Maintenance of legacy Java and SilverStripe 2.4 applications
- Fully remote from early 2016 onwards

Java/PHP Developer – Magic Memories – Queenstown**2010 – 2012**

- Back-end and front-end development on PHP web applications
- Speed up existing desktop software by utilising the Java concurrency library
- Maintenance and development on corporate website in SilverStripe and WordPress
- Introduced unit testing to PHP projects and extended coverage on Java code base

Java Developer – Business Intelligence System Solutions – Wellington 2008 – 2009

- New feature development on a J2EE data visualisation app
- My favourite tasks involved our dynamic SQL generation engine which supported SQL Server, Oracle and Teradata.

<h2>Technical Skills</h2>

Modern tech stacks

In my most recent job I've been:

- Working in a greenfields monorepo powered by nx
- Building event-driven serverless microservices in TypeScript and node/NestJS
- Using CDK to manage AWS services including lambdas, DynamoDB, SQS
- Supporting apps which use other AWS features including IoT, Cognito
- Creating a React component library based on MUI, and documenting and testing this with Storybook
- Building an iOS app with Flutter/Dart

LAMP stack

I'm also right at home on the LAMP stack, with particular expertise in:

- Writing well-factored, object-oriented PHP code
- Designing and developing RESTful APIs and consuming third-party APIs
- Payment solutions, including DPS, ANZ eGate and Stripe
- The Symfony2 framework and Doctrine2 ORM
- Commercial exposure to other PHP frameworks including SilverStripe 2.4 and Laravel
- mysql – query optimisation, ad hoc reporting, and designing and migration schemas
- Commercial exposure to other DBs including mongodb, SQL Server, Oracle, Teradata, a couple of weird abandoned open-source projects...

Other tech

- Web and desktop Java applications, especially the java.util.concurrent, javax.print and javax.swing packages
- Some commercial experience in Ruby on Rails and Perl

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Science (Computer Science) – Victoria University of Wellington, 2007
- Sun Certified Java Developer (J2SE 6) – 2009
- A variety of MOOCs covering topics including Ruby on Rails, Python, Android, Google Analytics, SEO, content writing and online advertising

Other Achievements

- I've competed in dog agility for 25 years, and had great success at the nationals in 2003, 2007 and 2010. More recently I have been allowing others to have a turn at winning on the field, before claiming victory in the pub quiz component of the event.
- South Island representative on the NZ Kennel Club Agility Committee from 2011 to 2013. Show Secretary for three dog agility national championships. Former President of Wakatipu Dog Agility Club. Dog agility instructor for over 20 years, currently agility training coordinator and head instructor at South Canterbury Dog Training Club.