

# Curriculum Vitæ

## Kevin Collas-Arundell

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## Summary

Linux Ops person. I know how to work with Go, Kubernetes and various cloud providers. I also occasionally help with some Lan parties. I've been in devopsy roles for more than 8 years with close interaction with developer teams. In my roles I have had to frequently and continually communicate across teams to reach success. What started as identifying and solving requirements for other teams at RMIT lead to working directly with Development teams to build new systems at Hitwise and Aconex and being a cloud team member at LIFX with duties split between software development and operations. At ME I have grown into a lead role with responsibilities to provide mentoring, training, design, planning and implementation duties.

## Experience

Jan 2019 - Current, Senior Platform Engineer - ME Bank, Melbourne, Victoria

Operations, cloud, service mesh and kubernetes specialist

- Maintain CI platform
- Work with service teams to build required features and support
- Upgrade and improve internal helm charts
- Implement redis operators
- Deliver training on Istio, gRPC and Kubernetes
- Mentor staff
- Develop design proposals
- Improve log processing tooling
- Develop GitOps pattern using flux
  - GitOps was implemented to give us isolated clusters with a more regular and regimented deployment process and reduce defects in deployments
- Implement automated policy control systems using Open Policy Agent
  - To reduce defects in deployments OPA was used to provide significant automated protections and compliance systems
- Participate with quarterly PI planning process
  - Discuss priorities with platform consumers
  - Identify capacity
  - Ensure value of delivered features while maintaining slack for operational duties

## September 2016 - Jan 2019, Cloud Engineer - LIFX, Melbourne, Victoria

Operations specialist with a focus on scaling, resilience and maintaining Go Codebase.

- On Call from the second week
- Maintained production and staging environments
- Rebuilt build infrastructure
  - Migrated to packer created images in static node count
  - Migrated to build container hosted in GKE
  - Migrated to dynamically scaling build hosts running in GCP nodes
- Designed, developed and implemented custom deployment tooling for mesos to improve deployment process
  - This deployment process reduced the risk and smoothed the impact of deploying the major products at LIFX. Allowing us to deploy much more frequently with smaller changes
- Lead migration from Mesos & Marathon to Google Kubernetes Engine
  - Moving to GKE allowed the team to maintain high rates of growth and improve focus on internal value
- Determined internal deployment processes for services on Kubernetes
  - Deployment improvements on Kubernetes let us deploy frequently and safely
  - Each service was deployed in an on demand pattern with little risk due to the methods used
- Maintained highly concurrent systems in Go
- Debugged production services to identify, triage and resolve faults
- Refactored internal services for higher resilience and performance
- Reduced median internal messaging latency from 100ms to ~1ms
- Maintained high volume nats messaging layer
- Created software design specifications
- Implemented solutions per design specifications
- Initial investigation into gRPC client side balancing
- Investigated and assisted in the implementation of gRPC internal APIs
- Interacted with external partners

## December 2012 - September 2016, Linux Systems Engineer - Aconex, Melbourne, Victoria

Operations team member focusing on platform migrations and remediation

- Was part of on call rotation for global support and escalation requests
- Responded to critical incidents in major production environments
- Build out infrastructure to deploy new production and QA instances on AWS
- Identify significant cost savings in deployments
- Trained new members on infrastructure and ops procedures
- Worked with development teams to build and deploy new products
- Maintained and improved Puppet infrastructure globally
- Investigated and implemented Packer for automated Linux and Windows image building
- Senior member of the team responsible for 6 data centre moves. Assisted new teams in 2 other moves
- Internal Puppet SME
- Migrated IMAP testing into performant Go utility
- Improved Postfix configuration in short notice and under significant pressure
- Managed, moved, monitored and assisted in the implementation of several SANs
- Internal presentation to spread best practices in Puppet
- Internal presentation discussing new QA environments
- Developed new isolated QA environments for use by Engineering teams
- Develop and maintain internal scripts to automate and improve services
- Perform production releases
- Discuss and plan with other teams improvements to QA and development environments

## Speaking

- 2019, [A brief introduction to gRPC](#), Internal presentation
- 2018, [Should you go](#), Internal presentation at [Mondo](#)
- 2018, Kubernetes at LIFX v2, Infracoders Melbourne Meetup. Details about the Mesos to Kubernetes Migration at LIFX
- 2018, [Kubernetes at LIFX](#), REA DevOps Guild. Details about the Mesos to Kubernetes Migration at LIFX
- 2018, [Exploring gRPC balancing](#), Golang-Melbourne Meetup. Exploring the various types and patterns of load balancing and service discovery with gRPC
- 2016, Traefik, Consul, Docker and you, InfraCoders Melbourne Meetup. A Look at service discovery options with Docker and Traefik

## Community

- October 2019, Assistant - Introduction to Programming in Go workshop, GopherCon Au, Sydney, NSW
- 2013 - 2018, Sysadmin - Server Team, Pax Australia, Melbourne, Victoria
  - Help attendees with questions of a wide variety
  - Bump in and out (unload, setup and cable 150+ PCs 10+ Servers, kilometres of network cables)
  - Setup of windows game boxes and Linux & windows game servers
  - Operation and implementation of infrastructure services
  - Work with competitive team to run servers to maintain the competition schedule
  - Assist other areas
- July 2015 Volunteer - Packer and Vagrant Workshop with Norton Truter, Infracoders Melbourne
  - Helped test plan in advance of workshop
  - Helped attendees as they came across issues and discussed use of packer

## Education

- 2012 Graduate Certificate of Information Technology Swinburne University