+64 27 302 1676
colls.lauren@gmail.com
www.laurencolls.com

LAUREN COLLS

Software Developer

I thrive on the challenge of finding creative solutions to complex problems.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Full-Stack Software Engineer
Xero, Wellington
February 2020 – Present

C#/.NET, React/Typescript role, developing and modernising cloud accounting software

.
Recently built, productionised, and had full technical ownership of a region-scoped plugin enabling Xero's AI assistant to answer queries using live tax data. This involved designing a plugin boundary (schema, data source, skill) for a shared multi-tenant AI host, and evaluation-driven development, writing and maintaining eval suites, distinguishing real regressions from scoring noise.

Other responsibilities:
• After-hours on-call rotation - resolving or triaging critical production issues and ensuring system uptime.

• Onboarding/mentoring new or graduate team members

• Hiring committee - interviewing and evaluating the technical skills of engineering candidates.

Full-Stack Software Developer
Todd Digital, Wellington
June 2018 – February 2020

AWS, Node/Typescript role, developing end-to-end functionality including desktop/mobile browser design and development, multi-factor authentication, encryption, microservices, and REST API integration and development.

KEY COMPETENCIES

• AI assisted coding and processes - Claude Code, Copilot, Evaluation driven development, Braintrust (LLM evaluation platform), Portkey (LLM gateway integration), Spec driven AI-DLC workflows

• Frontend development - React/ Typescript, Node, HTML, Javascript, CSS, Cypress, Playright, NPM, Yarn

• Backend development - .NET/C#, Nuget, Python

• Data Storage - SQL, PostgreSQL, DynamoDb

Collaborating with others and working effectively as part of a team are core qualities that I bring to any project.

KEY COMPETENCIES CONT'D

• AWS Cloud Services - Lambda, API Gateway, Cognito, SQS, SNS, SES, S3, DynamoDb, Secrets Manager, Parameter Store

• CI/CD & code quality- GitHub Actions, SonarCloud coverage gating, TeamCity, Octopus, AWS CodePipeline

• Versioning and code management - Git, Github, AWS CodeCommit

• Observability and logging - New Relic, Sumologic

WORK EXPERIENCE CONT'D

UI/UX Developer
VizExplorer, Wellington
August 2016 – June 2018

Heavy client-side application development (Angular/Typescript) for data analysis and visualisation.

EDUCATION

I am highly motivated in environments that encourage continuous learning and development.

Web Development
Enspiral Dev Academy (EDA), Wellington
February 2016 – July 2016

In the EDA web development program, I gained extensive practical experience in full-stack web development, object-oriented and functional programming, database design, MVC architecture, testing methodologies, engineering empathy, and agile development.

MSc (Distinction) - Behavioural Psychology
VUW, NZ
2015– 2016

In my master's program, I investigated gambling behavior by developing a slot machine application with Visual Basic in Visual Studio to explore the impact of various game stimuli.

BSc (Hons) - Psychology
VUW, NZ
2010 – 2014

As an undergraduate, I established a strong foundation in psychology through coursework in statistics, cognitive, social, and abnormal psychology.

INTERESTS

• Creating and experimenting with new apps, electronics hobbyist, automating the lives of friends and family ..etc

• Surfing (90% of my personality)

• Sewing, and subsequently unpicking

• Mothering my toddler