

Michael Clark

Technical Founder / Staff Engineer

Cambridge, UK
michael@michaelclark.uk

Cambridge Computer Science MA and technical founder of Strength Level, a fitness platform serving 1-2M users per month. Built evolving strength and fitness standards from anonymised raw results, with experience spanning full-stack engineering, mobile apps, data pipelines, infrastructure, product growth, mentoring, and collaborative technical leadership.

Skills

Programming: C#, JavaScript, Kotlin, Java, PHP, R	Testing: PHPUnit, Behat, Jest, NUnit, NCrunch
Frameworks: Vue 3, React, Room	Databases: MySQL, SQLite, SQL Server
Cloud / Infrastructure: AWS, CloudFront, S3, Route53, Linode, Ansible, Terraform	Practices: Dependency Injection, OAuth
	Version Control: Git, GitHub

Employment

Strength Level, Founder - Jun 2020 to present

- Company Director with full responsibility for product, engineering, operations, data security, and accounting
- Built and scaled Strength Level to serve 1-2M users per month, developing evolving strength and fitness standards from anonymised raw results
- Released Plate Calculator on Android and developed the main Strength Level app in Kotlin
- Built data pipelines to produce personalised standards across 290+ exercises
- Designed and maintained the platform across PHP, JavaScript, MySQL, AWS, Terraform, and Ansible, with strong focus on speed and reliability
- Managed commercial partnerships and external stakeholders including Publifit, direct advertising partners, and academic institutions including USC Australia

Redgate Software, Technical Lead - Nov 2015 to Jun 2020

- Responsible for technical leadership, line management, and delivery across agile teams, using kanban, retrospectives, mentoring, and cross-team collaboration
- Led SQL Monitor 9 and 10, adding Azure SQL Database monitoring, estate-wide overview features, data warehousing for SQL Backup RPO calculation, webhook integrations with ITSM systems, alert suppression windows, and a REST API with PowerShell interface for alert configuration in large 500-server environments (Team of the Year 2016)
- Introduced Dependency Injection into SQL Monitor, laying foundations that later allowed Redgate to scale the product from 1 team to 6 teams as it became Redgate's most profitable software product
- Led SQL Prompt 8 and 9 plus SQL Prompt Core, adding code analysis, introducing a new formatting system for consistent SQL, and shipping a version bundled by Microsoft with Visual Studio to fill their database migrations gap (nominations: Outstanding Contribution 2017, Team of the Year 2017)
- Technically led the acquisitions of SQL Code Guard and ReadyRoll, including a trip to Sydney to complete the ReadyRoll technical integration directly with the founder
- Led the Coding Guild community of practice for two years, mentoring developers across Redgate through coding exercises ("code katas")

Spiral Software, Software Developer - Jun 2013 to Nov 2015

- Key contributor to major CSI releases for oil majors including Shell, BP, and Chevron
- Scrum Master for major releases, planning work and introducing sprint retrospectives

Kickstart Digital, Application Developer - Summer 2010; Oct 2012 to Mar 2013

- Major brand projects including Johnson & Johnson, MINI, and NHS Change4Life
- Built the Johnson & Johnson Gentle-O-Meter, scoring "gentleness" from drawings and quizzes and gathering **50,000+ unique drawings**

Tuenti Technologies, Frontend Developer - Jul 2011 to Sep 2012

- Worked at Tuenti during its peak as the dominant social network in Spain, reaching around 90% of Spanish 18-25 year olds
- Key contributor across core social network product areas: profile, registration, friends importer, settings, events, and chat (rewarded with VIP trip to the Madrid Open)
- Updated Web Chat's UI to group messages by date, serving **200+ million messages per day**

Premier Media Group, Web Developer - Sep 2007 to Aug 2008; Summer 2009

- Helped deliver a Sitecore CMS migration across major properties, with project management responsibility for a 200+ item implementation backlog (Team of the Month, August 2008)
- Invited back in Summer 2009 to simplify subscriptions and add article tagging

Education

Computer Science, MA (Cantab), University of Cambridge - 2008 to 2011

- Dissertation "Social Backup - Data redundancy on trusted machines" documents a software system to securely chunk and transfer data to a decentralised peer group
- Rowed with Queens' College Boat Club where we won a number of races including Lent Bumps (blades, +6), Bedford Head (IM2), University Fours

Sixth Form, The Ashcombe School - Sep 2005 to Jun 2007

- A-levels: Mathematics (A), Further Mathematics (A), Physics (A), General Studies (A)
- Advanced Extension Award: Mathematics (Distinction)
- UKMT Senior Maths Challenge: Gold Award, Best in School