

Shane Hanna

Backend web developer working at the boundary of software and hardware

📍 London / Melbourne · ✉ shane@shanna.dev · 🌐 shanna.dev · 🌐 shanna · 📄 the-shane-hanna

Summary

Twenty-five years shipping backend web systems and the boundary problems around them — scaling high-traffic sites, cloud platforms, IoT firmware, and enterprise networks. Comfortable across Go, Rust, C, Ruby, Python and TypeScript; equally at home on a factory line, in a Kubernetes cluster, or tracing a packet through an 802.1x supplicant. I like reading the manual, solving the hard bits, and watching people use what I build.

Experience

Techspace, Technology

London, United Kingdom

- Build and run the technology for a coworking group with 3,500 members across eight locations in London and Berlin, the last five years as sole engineer
- Migrated network infrastructure from shared WPA2 to enterprise 802.1x at every site, enabling fintech and security-conscious scale-up tenants
- Built event-driven data platform and operational reporting from scratch, including an agentic query layer over membership, contracts and P&L
- Android tablets with status rings on every meeting room, Raspberry Pi digital signage platform across all sites, event and meeting room AV control software, access control system and management tooling
- AI-based people counting for fire regulation compliance, per-site observability and alerting
- Kubernetes, GKE, bare metal, Ansible — one engineer across cloud and on-premises

Dec 2017 – present
8 years 5 months

Techspace, Developer

London, United Kingdom

- Networks, integration and reporting software, security, people counting, access control, event and meeting room AV, digital signage

Aug 2016 – Dec 2017
1 year 5 months

LIFX, Founding Engineer

Melbourne, Australia

- Co-founded LIFX following a successful Kickstarter campaign for a WiFi-enabled smart bulb, joined as cloud development lead on a four-person engineering team
- Designed and shipped distributed Go cloud broker, 802.11 and 802.15.4 mesh firmware in C including colour interpolation, waveform generation and scheduling
- Hardware abstraction layer rewrite supporting iOS, macOS, Windows and Linux; iOS (Objective-C) and cross-platform Qt/OpenGL applications
- Automated end-of-line PCB and assembly testing systems
- Worked across C, C++, Go, Ruby, Lua and Objective-C

Nov 2012 – June 2015
2 years 8 months

Stateless Systems, Developer

Melbourne, Australia

- First full-time engineer at a self-funded web incubator founded by the creators of RetailMeNot
- Built caching and performance layers for RetailMeNot while it was in the Alexa top 100 — page cache, edge, database and Ruby GC all mattering at once
- Launched products on approximately six-month cycles including CushyCMS, BeatMyPrice, OurSignal, TheWall, Fundry and MetaURI
- Development in Ruby, C and JavaScript with PostgreSQL, MySQL, Sinatra, Merb, DataMapper and EventMachine

Dec 2007 – Apr 2012
4 years 5 months

<p>REA Group, Developer, then Lead Software Architect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Lead software architect on realestate.com.au during growth from under 100 employees to over 400, and revenue from \$19M to \$108M — Design, implementation and technical review of all new core business APIs — SAX-based streaming XML ingestion pipeline for real estate agent property feeds at Australia-wide scale, on hardware of the era — XSD / XPATH / XSLT, proprietary Perl DataMapper ORM — Introduced the engineering org to both Git (from CVS) and Ruby 	<p>Melbourne, Australia Dec 2004 – Dec 2007 3 years 1 month</p>
<p>BT Research, Web/Graphic Designer, Developer & Operations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Sole web designer, developer and operations at a pharmaceutical company; built proprietary MVC OO-PHP web framework — CMS, shopping cart, credit card gateway, accounting tools and automated GPS routing for daily salesperson assignments 	<p>Brisbane, Australia May 2003 – Nov 2004 1 year 7 months</p>
<p>Ebiz Management, Developer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Mod_perl and PHP based CMS, shopping carts, binary tree rewards systems, secure payment and VOIP gateways 	<p>Brisbane, Australia Oct 2002 – May 2003 8 months</p>
<p>iordy.com, Freelance Designer & Developer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Freelance contract web design and programming 	<p>Victoria, Australia Mar 2001 – Oct 2002 1 year 8 months</p>
<p>Network Technology, Web/Graphic Designer, Senior Helpdesk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Regional ISP servicing eastern country Victoria; multifaceted role as web/graphic designer, senior helpdesk and branch manager — Logo and corporate identity design, print and online advertising; HTML, CSS, Photoshop, Illustrator, 3D Studio MAX 	<p>Victoria, Australia Sept 1999 – Mar 2001 1 year 7 months</p>

Skills

Backend & Web: High-traffic web systems, caching and performance, API design, event-driven architectures, data platforms, integration, CI/CD

Systems & Infrastructure: Distributed systems, Kubernetes, GKE, hybrid cloud and bare metal, 802.1x / RADSEC / RADIUS, networking, observability, Ansible

Languages: Go, Rust, C, C++, Python, TypeScript, Ruby, Perl, Lua, PHP, SQL, Objective-C, JavaScript

Databases & Storage: PostgreSQL, MySQL, SQLite, Redis, DuckDB, BigQuery, event-driven data lakes

IoT & Embedded: 802.11 WiFi firmware, 802.15.4 mesh networking, BLE, PCB testing, hardware abstraction layers, Qt/OpenGL, digital signage, access control

Projects

<p>shanna.dev</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Personal brand site with LLM-powered career chat via RAG, React frontend embedded in Rust backend 	<p>Jan 2026</p>
--	-----------------

Education

<p>Self-taught, Software Engineering & Design</p>	<p>Jan 1995 – Jan 1999</p>
--	----------------------------