

# STEVE WADE

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<https://www.stevenwade.co.uk>

## SUMMARY

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As a dedicated Platform Engineer, I excel in designing and implementing self-service platforms on Kubernetes tailored to empower developers and enhance operational efficiency. With a strong passion for containerisation and cutting-edge technology, I bring a versatile skill set to deliver advanced software solutions across diverse business environments. Known for my approachable demeanour and effective collaboration with clients and colleagues, I consistently drive innovation and streamline processes to meet and exceed project goals.

## SKILLS PROFILE

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- Container Orchestration using Kubernetes since version 1.2.
- Continuous Delivery (CD) of docker containers using Helm, Kustomize and GitOps principles.
- Continuous Integration using tools such as GitHub actions and Goreleaser.
- Monitoring and Observability using tools such as Prometheus, Thanos, Istio and Jaeger.
- Infrastructure as Code using Terraform by Hashicorp.
- Team leadership, mentoring and customer engagement.
- Regular meetup and conference attendee.
- Confident public speaker (<https://github.com/swade1987/public-speaking>).
- Founder of the Cloud Native Club (<https://x.com/cloudnativeclub>)
- Open source contributor and maintainer

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### Career Break

Jan 2024 - Aug 2024

- Took time to travel and spend quality time with family and loved ones.
- Founded the Cloud Native Club, a community for learning cloud-native technologies
- Delivered multiple conference talks on Cloud Native technologies.
- Conducted several multi-day workshops on Kubernetes, GitOps, and Cloud Native Development.

### Principal Engineer, KSOC

Oct 2021 – Dec 2023

- Co-founded the engineering team and expanded it from 1 to 11 engineers.
- Implemented scalable engineering processes and tools to enhance productivity.
- Directed technology strategy and drove the innovation roadmap.
- Successfully migrated Flux v1 to Flux v2 with no customer impact.
- Led the initial implementation of the core product offering using Go and Goreleaser
- Designed and managed a real-time graph to map cluster components across the Kubernetes lifecycle.

### Senior Platform Engineer, UnderwriteMe

Sept 2020 - Oct 2021

- Led the migration of the AWS estate to Kubernetes.
- Built and managed a multi-region, multi-tenancy, self-service Kubernetes platform.
- Trained the engineering team in Cloud Native Development, Docker, Kubernetes, and GitOps.
- Directed the migration of six product teams onto the new Kubernetes platform.
- Implemented safeguards against Kubernetes deprecations using Conftest and Open Policy Agent.
- Utilised tools including GitLab, Terraform, Atlantis, Prometheus, Thanos, Flux, Istio, and Jaeger.

## Platform Lead, Mettle

Mar 2018 - Sept 2020

- Led the Platform Team in building a secure Kubernetes-centric platform on AWS for SMEs.
- Architected and implemented Helm and Kustomize across development teams.
- Enabled a self-service platform using GitOps principles organisation-wide.
- Implemented monitoring and alerting mechanisms using Prometheus and Thanos.
- Deployed Istio across platforms to enhance request tracing and observability.
- Trained the engineering team on Kubernetes and Cloud Native best practices.
- Utilised tools such as Terraform, Prometheus, Grafana, Fluentbit, Helm, and Weave Flux

## Principal Kubernetes Consultant, Apprenda

Sept 2016 - Mar 2018

- Served as the strategic point of contact for Kubernetes service offerings to clients globally.
- Designed and implemented production-ready Kubernetes platforms for clients.
- Provided training to clients on Cloud Native Development, CI/CD, Docker, and Kubernetes.
- Led the construction of Kubernetes platforms, including CI/CD pipelines, with clients.
- Managed a global team of Kubernetes consultants, utilising AWS, Azure, and on-premise solutions.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

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- Presented a workshop to 100 attendees at the KubeCon Detroit conference.
- Presented Hands-on Kubernetes workshops globally to over 600 people.

## EDUCATION

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### University of Portsmouth, Hampshire

2006 - 2010

BSc (Hons) Computer Science (Achieved 2:1)

### Alton College, Alton, Hampshire

2004 - 2006

3 A Levels & 1 AS Level (Mathematics, Computing, Physics and Further Maths)

## INTERESTS

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- Football
- Coffee enthusiast
- Learning new technologies
- Content creation for the Cloud Native Club community

## REFERENCES

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Available upon request