

# Alan Cole

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<b>Current role</b>	Chief Architect & Typescript Engineer at Grow Walkies
<b>Experience</b>	Lifestyle, Pets, Recruitment, Healthcare, Travel, Hospitality, Sports, Fintech, Governments, Retail, Security, Marketplace, Gambling
<b>Technologies</b>	PHP, React, TypeScript, WebSocket, Tailwind CSS, Postgres, Next.js, Laravel, Datadog, AWS, Kafka, Elasticsearch, Go, Shopify, Python, MySQL, MongoDB, Kotlin, Swift, Symfony, Vue.js, RabbitMQ

## Work experience

**Chief Architect & Typescript Engineer, Grow Walkies** 🏢 Jul 2024 - Present (7m)

Secure, Private Dog Walking fields for hire.  
Lifestyle · Pets

PHP React TypeScript WebSocket Tailwind CSS

- Led the development of a new tech platform at Grow Walkies, including an online shop, advanced back office, and hardware integration.
- Developed the entire platform from the ground up using Typescript, React, and PHP technologies.
- Utilized Stripe and Nexmo for payment processing and gate control via GSM technology.

**Senior Software Engineer (Election Staff), The Labour Party** 🏢 May 2024 - Jul 2024 (2m)

Political Party

PHP TypeScript Postgres Next.js Laravel Datadog WebSocket

- Assisted in developing campaign tools for the election period at The Labour Party.
- Enhanced integrated voter calling functionality with new features.
- Contributed to creating an election dashboard to monitor Get Out The Vote activities using Next.js and Kafka.

**Senior Solutions Architect (Contract), CV Library** 🏢 Oct 2023 - Apr 2024 (6m)

Online recruitment company.  
Recruitment

PHP AWS TypeScript Kafka Elasticsearch Go Postgres Next.js

- Led MVP development as team lead and engineering manager based on my design.
- Managed migration from monolith to microservices using next.js.
- Implemented Kafka-based eventing backbone for enhanced data reporting through EDA pipeline.
- Engineered AI tools with Mistral 7b LLMs to elevate user interactions and customer experience.
- Developed microservices with Laravel, Symfony, and Go frameworks.

## Chief Architect, Chegup 🏠

Oct 2021 - Feb 2023 (1y 4m)

Medical testing  
Healthcare · Travel

PHP React AWS Laravel Shopify WebSocket

- Designed and developed a home blood testing platform, including healthcare partner integrations and customer reports and dashboards.
- Created a virtual GP service with audio and video capabilities using Websockets, Laravel and React.
- Developed an at-home and in-person COVID travel testing platform, incorporating clinic and customer portals and integrating with Government Agencies for reporting and travel authorization.
- Built an web shop frontend using Shopify Liquid and a custom Shopify backend app to integrate with our clinic and shipping portals.
- Managed a small team of contractors as team lead.

## Chief Technical Officer, Fanzo 🏠

Jul 2020 - Oct 2021 (1y 3m)

Helping sports fans and hospitality venues find each other.  
Hospitality · Sports

AWS Python Elasticsearch MySQL Next.js Laravel

- Led scaling of engineering team at MatchPint (now Fanzo) to facilitate company growth
- Designed and implemented a progression framework for engineers with learning incentives
- Cultivated a collaborative engineering culture within the team
- Acted as the lead developer and architect in transitioning to a Next.js stack

## VP of Engineering, Chip 🏠

Jan 2019 - Sep 2019 (8m)

An automated savings account with AI enhancements.  
Fintech

PHP MongoDB AWS Postgres Kotlin Swift Symfony

- Transformed a directionless remote team into a high-performing, delivery-focused engineering unit at Chip
- Revolutionized the release cycle from stagnation to weekly releases
- Expanded the engineering team from 4 to 24 members across three countries
- Implemented Agile methodologies to enhance productivity and efficiency
- Led the shift from monolithic architecture to a microservices infrastructure as the lead architect
- Served as the technical authority in board meetings and high-level discussions
- Represented Chip at conferences and roundtables, setting the overall technical direction for the engineering team

## Engineering Lead (Contract), The Labour Party 🏠

Jan 2018 - Dec 2018 (11m)

UK Political Party  
Governments

Postgres Vue.js RabbitMQ Laravel

- Designed and developed Labour member mobilisation platform using Laravel.
- Created Labour member calling platform capable of handling tens of thousands of calls daily. Using Twilio Voice, Laravel and React.

- Led a team of engineers in developing Labour's election tools and data systems.

## Contractor, Various

Dec 2005 - Apr 2017 (11y 4m)

Fintech · Healthcare · Hospitality · Retail · Security · Marketplace · Gambling · Sports

PHP React AWS Postgres Next.js Laravel Symfony Shopify

- Developed websites for top-tier clients such as Fenwick, Nestle, Cath Kidston, Ecotricity, Oliver Bonas, Habitat, and more.
- Specialized in Laravel and React with 12 years of experience as a PHP, NodeJS & Engineering Manager.
- Served as Architect, Team Lead, and Engineering Manager for globally recognized brands.
- Led the architecture and development of a video system for Mercedes.
- Managed the development of Australia's largest pharmacy online store.
- Acted as Lead Architect and Engineer for TimeOut Magazine's infrastructure upgrade.

## More about me

### Interests

Formula 1, Horse Racing, Quizzing, Poker, Pool.

Twice a winner of PayPays Charity Hack.

Once a winner of Best Banking App and the British Banking Awards.