

Philip Roche – Cover Letter

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What kind of role am I seeking?

I would like to work on a project that:

- Has an interesting, diverse and knowledgeable team
- Solves real problems
- Forces me to solve difficult problems
- Uses interesting technologies
- Allows remote working

Why am I looking for a new role?

I have worked on the Canonical Public Cloud team for five years now. The team is well staffed and the automation we have built is mature and stable. I feel it is a good time to seek a new challenge with a new company.

Background

I am 41 years of age and live in a small rural village in the north west of Ireland. I have one daughter aged 5 and a young boy aged 3. My mother is Norwegian and I speak fluent Norwegian. I grew up near Dublin and I have one brother.

Education

I attended Dublin City University for four years studying Software Engineering. I received a first class honours BSC degree and more recently I have completed a post-graduate diploma in Advanced Software Engineering from University College Dublin with an option to complete a thesis to receive a full MSC.

Further education

I am constantly learning and feel a day unproductive if I haven't learned something new. I watch developer conference talk videos and read technical blog articles constantly.

Travel

I have spent a year travelling and working in Australia. I have lived in Liverpool, England for two years, North Wales for 4 years and in Dublin City, Ireland for 7 years. I have spent about 25 summers in Norway. I have also travelled Europe and East Coast North America.

Free time

I have many hobbies. I mountain bike, kayak, run, cycle, gym, kettlebell, hike, swim, DIY, camp, and fish. All to varying degrees depending on the weather.

Sport

Apart from hobbies I have competed competitively in quite a few sports. I have played fourth division soccer in Norway. I have played Gaelic Football for my local club for many years and represented my county (Meath) once at under 21 level. I have completed quite a few sprint triathlons in Ireland and Wales.

I have run many half marathons and seventeen full marathons. I have competed in Kettlebell Sport for a number of years and was the 2013 European amateur champion as well as two time Irish amateur champion (73kg weight class).

Remote working

In July 2013 I moved from Dublin to Cootehall, Co. Roscommon. Since then I have worked as a fulltime remote engineer. I also worked remotely for a few years when I lived in North Wales. I find working from home very productive. I have a fully equipped separated office with high speed internet and zero distractions.
