David John Smailes

Senior Mobile Engineer & Tech Lead · iOS (Swift, SwiftUI) and Flutter

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PROFILE

Senior mobile engineer and technical lead with 10+ years of commercial mobile experience, specialising in native iOS (Swift, SwiftUI, UIKit) and production Flutter, with Kotlin Android and Kotlin Multiplatform alongside. I own features from product discovery to production, including the backend services behind them, and have led, hired and mentored mobile engineers. I lead proactive platform maintenance so teams across the business can do their best work on mobile, and I take business risks from problem to fix end to end, working with key stakeholders from the Django backend to the apps.

AI-first in how I build and how I lead: I ship AI-powered product features, build on-device AI apps with Apple Foundation Models, and design agentic engineering workflows that help teams move from idea to production without lowering the bar on review and testing. Founder of My Learning Apps, a solo studio with 20+ apps and 900,000+ downloads.

5 systems one business risk fixed end to end, Django to mobile (Numan)	**10 days** from engineering handover to new patients (Foundayo)	**Six figures** saved a year moving Google Maps to MapKit	**900k+** downloads across my own 20+ apps

EXPERIENCE

Senior iOS Engineer / Tech Lead Manager · Numan

May 2025 – present

Swift, SwiftUI · Kotlin Android · Kotlin Multiplatform · Python/Django mobile BFF

- Lead proactive platform maintenance across iOS and Android, keeping the mobile platform fast, stable and easy to build on so teams across the business can do their best work on it.
- Took a key coaching business risk from problem to fix end to end: worked with clinical operations and product stakeholders on the approach, then delivered coach-access throttling across the Python/Django monolith, the mobile BFF, the iOS and Android apps and operator tooling, giving clinical teams control of caseload.
- Led the mobile slice of the Foundayo launch across iOS, Android, shared KMP models and the mobile API; live for new patients ten days after engineering handover.
- Led iOS delivery of GPhC weight and comorbidity verification, with in-app photo capture and resumable upload, mitigating the flow's highest-rated churn risk.
- Delivered a production coaching AI experiment across Home, Care and Treatment, with per-user API overrides for safe testing, analytics, feature-flag rollout and clean retirement.
- Delivered secure cross-platform identity for AI-powered customer service and removed mobile-side JWT decoding to simplify the security boundary.
- Ran referral experimentation end to end with decision-grade analysis, raising referrals by about 10%.
- Introduced AI-first engineering with Pi, Claude Code and multi-agent delivery; deployed an internal skills marketplace and coached product colleagues to use AI safely and independently.
- Mentor engineers, lead mobile architecture interviews, and lead incident investigations to resolution.

Lead Mobile Engineer · YourParkingSpace

Mar 2024 – May 2025

iOS · Android · Flutter

- Set technical direction across iOS, Android and Flutter while staying hands-on in production delivery.
- Led integration of a shared Flutter module into the established native apps.
- Delivered Park and Go on the Uber Guest Ride API, coordinating mobile and service integrations.
- Shipped Live Activities, abandoned-cart notifications and Firebase Personalisation to lift conversion and engagement.

Lead iOS Engineer · YourParkingSpace — Dec 2022 – Mar 2024

SwiftUI · UIKit · Swift Package Manager · Flutter modules

- Led the migration from legacy UIKit to a modular SwiftUI architecture.
- Led proactive stability and performance work, improving reliability and release confidence for every team shipping on the app.
- Migrated mapping from Google Maps to MapKit, saving six figures a year.
- Shipped widgets and personalised experiences, and built reusable Swift packages.
- Led hiring, mentoring, performance management and technical development for the iOS team.

Senior iOS Engineer · YourParkingSpace — Aug 2021 – Dec 2022

SwiftUI · MVVM · Bitrise · Fastlane · Sentry

- Rebuilt a legacy UIKit app in SwiftUI and MVVM.
- Set up CI/CD with Bitrise and Fastlane, XCTest automation and Sentry observability.
- Integrated REST APIs, authentication and payments including Apple Pay, Stripe and PayPal.

Founder and Mobile Developer · My Learning Apps Ltd — 2016 – present

Swift, SwiftUI, TCA · React Native · Apple Foundation Models

- Built and maintain 20+ apps with more than 900,000 App Store downloads, owning research, design, engineering, release, analytics, marketing and support.
- Ship on-device AI with Apple Foundation Models, e.g. Mark My Work, which gives GCSE English feedback without student work leaving the phone.
- Use TCA and modular Swift to take new products from idea to release quickly with predictable state and testability.

OPEN SOURCE

dev-team · github.com/dsmailes/dev-team
Multi-agent delivery workflow: Architect, Designer, Executor, Reviewer and Tester roles with ticket routing, model selection, durable memory and independent review and test evidence.

AppDesignSystem · github.com/dsmailes/design-system
SwiftUI-first design system with semantic themes, Dynamic Type, high contrast and reduced-motion support, plus an Expo React Native sibling.

Skills marketplace · github.com/dsmailes/dsmailes-skills-marketplace
Agent skills for adaptive codebase quizzes, guided tech-test coaching, cross-platform mobile translation and safe iOS demo seeding.

skill-issue · github.com/dsmailes/skill-issue
Audits and cleans the skills, plugins, MCP configs and caches AI coding agents leave behind. Distributed through Homebrew.

SKILLS

Mobile	Swift, SwiftUI, UIKit, Kotlin, Kotlin Multiplatform, Dart/Flutter, React Native
Architecture	TCA, MVVM, Clean Architecture, modular Swift Package Manager
AI and ML	Apple Foundation Models, on-device LLMs, Core ML, LLM integrations, Claude Code, Codex, Pi, multi-agent workflows, MCP, prompt and skill design
Backend and APIs	Python/Django for the mobile BFF and backend changes behind mobile features, REST, OAuth, JWT, streaming and asynchronous mobile workflows
Quality and delivery	XCTest, CI/CD, Bitrise, Fastlane, Sentry, accessibility, performance
Experimentation	Amplitude, Statsig, Eppo, Firebase Personalisation, Google Analytics

EARLIER CAREER AND EDUCATION

Education leadership · Secondary schools — 2000 – 2021

Senior leader with 20+ years leading departments, mentoring staff and improving teaching outcomes, the grounding for how I mentor engineers and coach teams through new tools.

BA (Hons) English, 2:1, Queen Mary University of London (1999) · PGCE Secondary English and Mathematics, Durham University (2000)