

Emily Smithson

Senior Flutter Developer | Bristol, UK

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Open to permanent, contract & freelance roles • Bristol / Hybrid / Remote

Professional Profile

Senior Flutter Developer and cross-platform mobile engineer with 7+ years' professional experience delivering production-ready iOS and Android applications. Deep expertise in Flutter, Dart, Firebase, Clean Architecture and Bloc with a strong focus on code quality, testing, and scalable mobile architecture.

Proven ability to work across the full mobile development lifecycle: from greenfield architecture and UI/UX implementation to backend integration, CI/CD pipelines, App Store and Google Play delivery, and post-launch maintenance. Experienced working in agile teams alongside designers, product owners, and non-technical stakeholders. Comfortable leading technical direction, mentoring developers, running workshops and presenting work to clients and leadership.

Founder of Flutter SouthWest - Bristol's Flutter developer meetup. Available for senior, lead, and contract roles, hybrid or remote.

Flutter Development Experience

Co-Founder & Lead Flutter Developer | [Melody — Women's Health App](#) | July 2024 – Present

- Sole developer of a full production Flutter app: architected, built, tested, and delivered to App Store and Google Play as technical co-founder alongside a non-technical product co-founder
- Full Firebase backend: Auth (Google Sign-In, Apple, account linking), Firestore, Cloud Functions, Analytics, Crashlytics, Remote Config, App Check - complete backend ownership
- AI-powered in-app Menstrual Coach built with Vertex AI and Firebase Cloud Functions, including function calling, response caching, and performance optimisation
- Full monetisation stack: RevenueCat freemium subscriptions, in-app purchases, paywall implementation, and web purchase redemption flows
- Comprehensive quality suite: unit tests (bloc_test/mocktail), widget tests, golden regression tests, BDD integration tests with fake Firestore, Patrol end-to-end tests; strict lint via very_good_analysis
- Architecture: Melos monorepo, Clean Architecture, Bloc/Cubit, Auto Route with subscription-gated route guards, Widgetbook component catalogue, Shorebird code-push deployment
- Rich feature set: multi-step onboarding, trackers, fl_chart data visualisation, PDF export, deep linking, local notifications, WebView, in-app review, Sentry feedback

Lead Flutter Developer | [HomeLink](#) | Jan 2024 – July 2024

- Led complete greenfield rewrite of a Flutter social housing app (damp/mould reporting, Technology Enabled Care) using Clean Architecture and Bloc
- Built full CI/CD pipeline: GitHub Actions with local device runner executing Patrol integration tests on real iOS and Android devices on every commit
- Collaborated with design team to build a Widgetbook component library with golden tests for every widget and a full accessibility test suite
- Introduced BDD/Gherkin practices allowing non-technical product stakeholders to contribute directly to automated test coverage; targeted 100% code coverage

Senior Flutter Developer | [Nextbase](#) | Jun 2021 – Dec 2023

- Core member of a 10-person Flutter team delivering the flagship iQ dash cam mobile app to a large consumer audience - complex, real-time, data-rich cross-platform product
- Led major technical migrations: Flutter version upgrades, Navigator 2 / Go-Router, Dart 3, and complex UI refactors with minimal disruption to delivery
- Implemented logging, analytics, Crashlytics, push notifications, theming, deep linking, comprehensive testing suite, and Stripe payment integration
- Ran internal workshops on testing, Bloc, navigation, and GitHub Copilot; became team's expert for testing practices and quality standards; introduced Makefile for team workflow optimisation

Flutter Developer | **Shift** | Apr 2020 – Jun 2021

- Delivered key modules (notification centre, onboarding package) for a startup driver app using Flutter, Clean Architecture, GetX, and TDD in a small agile team
- Collaborated with designers and product team using Figma, Jira, and GitHub in a fast-paced startup environment

Software Tester & Trainer | **CTICI** | July 2000 – Sept 2001

- Software testing and training on high-security enterprise systems including National Savings & Investments; WinRunner, LoadRunner, ISEB testing methodology

Independent App Portfolio

8+ independently shipped apps across iOS and Android, demonstrating end-to-end product ownership, full App Store and Play Store delivery, and a range of technical implementations:

- **CareShare** - Family care coordination app (Firebase Auth, Realtime Database, Cloud Messaging, Cloud Functions)
- **Bristol Playgrounds** - Gamified city guide with Google Maps API, SQLite, Flare animations, interactive map (1,000+ follower blog)
- **Redland Green Bird Box App & Redland Green Trail** - Community nature apps; both nominated for Your Park Bristol & Bath awards
- **Petit Zouzous** - Toddler language learning app developed in collaboration with Alliance Française de Bristol
- **OpArt Lab** - Geometric design app with in-app purchases and SQLite
- **Friends of the Downs App** - Guide to the Downs and Avon Gorge for Friends of the Downs

Earlier Career

Mathematics Teacher & Private Tutor | **Various Schools, Bristol** | 2001 – 2020

Secondary school mathematics teacher for five years, followed by 12 years of private tutoring and exam marking. Developed strong communication, mentoring, and stakeholder engagement skills - highly applicable to technical leadership, knowledge sharing, sprint demos, and client-facing roles.

Community & Leadership

- **Founder & Organiser**, Flutter SouthWest - Bristol's Flutter developer meetup, supported by Women's Tech Hub. Running technical talks, workshops, and community events
- **Flutter Developer Mentor**, Women's Tech Hub - mentored an aspiring Flutter developer into the industry
- **Chair**, Redland Green Community Group • **Trustee (Secretary)**, Cabot District Scout Council

Education

2000: BA (Hons) Mathematics and Philosophy — University of Bristol

2001: ISEB Qualified Software Tester

2004: PGCE in Mathematics — University of Bristol

1996: European Baccalaureate (75%) — European School, Luxembourg

Languages: English • French • Italian • Spanish • German (basic)