Dr Peter McCann Strain

Senior AI Engineer and Founder

Oxford PhD in AI and Clinical Medicine

I turn difficult problems into working AI products. My work spans voice systems, pharmaceutical patent research, recruitment AI, equal-pay software, medical imaging and satellite vision. I often take a product from the first idea through engineering and production.

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CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Senior AI Engineer | Founding AI Engineer
September 2024 to Present

SThree plc

- I joined as one of two founding AI engineers in a five-person group with the COO, Sales Director and Director of AI. Since then, I have helped conceive and design Juno, SThree's recruitment platform, build and improve its AI backend and strengthen reliability.
- **Juno.** Fully launched in August 2026 and now rolling out across the US, EU and Asia. SThree's CEO and COO describe it as the world's first end-to-end fully agentic recruitment platform. It matches candidates to roles, analyses CVs, conducts phone interviews and produces shortlists for recruiters or client hiring teams.
- **Aurum.** I conceived, built, tested and productionised this 25-agent system. It researches a company and job, then creates hundreds of configurable synthetic candidates, CVs and phone interviews. SThree's AI engineering, AI safety and testing teams use it to probe bias, edge cases and regressions. Real applicant data remains necessary for validation.
- **Engineering scale.** As AI engineering grew from 2 to 20, I contributed to hiring and engineering standards. I also helped establish SThree's AI education programme and secure £25m of board-backed AI investment. The dedicated platform team is now close to 100 people.
- **Skills Taxonomy.** I designed, built and evaluated the Skills Taxonomy work end to end while working with the SThree Skills Taxonomy team. I removed live language-model calls from CV tagging. Steady-state operating cost fell from roughly £1,800 to about £10 per million CVs compared with the as-shipped 2024 path. Precision was about two percentage points lower, the systems were evaluated on different benchmarks, and training costs are excluded.
- **Recruitment analysis.** Around 60% of the recruiters studied made no placement in a given month. Lower placement performance was associated with lower call and email activity; the analysis did not establish causation.

FOUNDER AND PRODUCT WORK

Co-Founder | Creator of SettleMise
2023 to Present

Datamise Solutions

Claims infrastructure and live equal-pay valuation software.

- GMB first asked me to recommend a consultancy. After reviewing the options, I co-founded Datamise. Datamise supports equal-pay claims involving Birmingham City Council and more than 40 other UK employers, including work in Leeds. Its use continues to grow across UK campaigns. It has handled tens of thousands of claims.
- Datamise supported campaigns in which more than £350m in claims were resolved. GMB, legal teams, unions and claimants led those campaigns.
- I built SettleMise from scratch as a Mac desktop application and a web application. GMB and Leigh Day used both in live Birmingham negotiations covering roughly 6,000 claims, changing assumptions to see individual calculations, totals and charts update during discussions. SettleMise is also used across equal-pay claims beyond Birmingham, and its use continues to grow.

Visit Datamise Open SettleMise



CONTACT

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EDUCATION

DPhil (PhD) in AI and Clinical Medicine
University of Oxford | 2017 to 2022

MPhys Physics
University of Strathclyde | 2012 to 2017

CORE CAPABILITIES

Agentic AI and evaluation
Multi-agent orchestration, synthetic data, adversarial testing, regression checks and statistical bias analysis.

Product engineering
Full-stack architecture, APIs, data systems, background jobs, testing and production delivery.

Computer vision
Detection, segmentation, 6DoF pose estimation, representation learning and synthetic-to-real research.

Applied research and statistics
Experimental design, measurement, statistics and careful interpretation of uncertain results.

FOUNDER AND PRODUCT WORK

Founder and Sole Engineer
Started December 2025

Praviar

Pharmaceutical patent intelligence built from first principles.

- A pharmaceutical patent researcher brought me a problem that connected legal text, chemical drawings and scientific evidence. I conceived, designed and built the complete product alone.
- Praviar combines AI-assisted research, software checks and specialist judgement. Its vision pipeline extracts fixed-molecule structures from patent drawings, with experimental Markush handling and was evaluated on recorded crop and page-level examples, with sampling and reproducibility limits. The project is open source and no longer in active development.

View in portfolio

CTO and Technical Founder
March to October 2026

Conversico

Voice and messaging operations for dental practices.

- As the sole technical founder, I built the complete platform: the website, Greeta voice and messaging application, operator dashboard and supporting systems. Clinical co-founders supplied the practice workflows and requirements.
- Greeta handled missed, overflow and out-of-hours calls, carried out authorised platform actions and supported booking recovery, reconciliation and staff review. The venture closed in October 2026; I retained the product.

View in portfolio

RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING

Computer Vision Engineer
2022 to 2024

Astroscale

Satellite vision for rendezvous and debris removal.

- Built ELSA-M 6DoF vision software to estimate its Eutelsat OneWeb target's position and orientation from camera images for autonomous rendezvous, reaching about four degrees of orientation error.
- Real orbital imagery was scarce, so training used synthetic images. AstroGAN reduced several proxy-measured gaps between simulated and laboratory images, but I left before completing downstream pose-estimation validation.

DPhil Researcher, AI and Clinical Medicine
2017 to 2022

University of Oxford | Big Data Institute

Supervised by Professor Cecilia Lindgren. **Read the Oxford thesis**

- Built a mouse placental histology pipeline that sorted cells into eight types at 89% accuracy, alongside radial clustering for duplicate detection and concave-hull tissue outlines.
- Explored whether self-supervised methods such as SimCLR could reveal variation within cell classes. The results were preliminary.

SELECTED INDEPENDENT WORK

Bounded Returns to Orchestration

My sole-authored study compared 11 architectures across 90 queries. The main comparison held GPT-4o and the tool layer fixed, with a separate local 7B comparison. A three-judge audit checked the scoring. It found bounded, task-dependent returns. The experiments suggest a possible synthesis ceiling. Public preprint. **Research repository** **Read the paper**

Personal Assistant AI

I built this private eight-agent assistant to reduce the mental overhead of capture, recall, review, planning and action. I use it every day. It is not a hosted product and has no external validation. The source is available as a public preview, while my deployment and data remain private. **View repository**

CivTech 11.5 Innovator

I was the only solo entrant selected, alongside 24 companies, for the £5,000 CivTech 11.5 Exploration grant. I designed a human-led approach across eight assessment types. The work concluded at the Exploration stage and was not deployed.

GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

Investment Committee Member

St Anne's College, Oxford | 2021 to 2024

Student representative on an eight-person committee overseeing an approximately £70m endowment. Quarterly review of fund performance, asset allocation and ESG policy. The other members included the College Principal, Treasurer, senior fund managers, professors and alumni leaders.

Physics Student Representative

University of Strathclyde | 2012 to 2017

Represented physics students for five consecutive years.

MCR Social Secretary

St Anne's College, Oxford | 2018 to 2022

£27,000 managed across approximately 4.5 years.

RECOGNITION AND FUNDING

Medical Research Council Scholarship

£125,000 | University of Oxford | 2017 to 2022.

Graduate of the Term

Two-time recipient, selected for contributions to the college at St Anne's College, Oxford.

Gold Saltire Award

250+ hours of volunteering.

NL Education Trust

£2,250 | three consecutive years.

For the full story behind this work, explore my portfolio or ask my Profile AI a question.

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