

Dr Peter McCann Strain

Founder, CTO, AI and Computer Vision Engineer

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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FOUNDER AND PRODUCT WORK

CTO and Technical Founder 2025 to Present

Conversico

AI voice operations for dental practices.

- I built the website, Greeta voice application, operator dashboard, architecture and product code. My clinical co-founders define the clinical workflows and requirements.
- The product is in production and in pilot across practices. Greeta handles missed, overflow and out-of-hours calls, supports booking within a practice's rules and hands difficult calls back to a person. We are developing a multi-agent approach to coordinate several processes inside dental practices.

[Visit Conversico](#)

Founder and Sole Engineer 2025 to Present

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 system reads compounds and generic Markush structures from patent drawings and was tested on held-out examples. It is in production and preparing to go to market.

[View in portfolio](#)

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 £300m 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](#)

EMPLOYMENT AND APPLIED AI

Senior AI Engineer | Founding AI Engineer 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 SThree's live recruitment platform, build and improve its AI backend and strengthen reliability.

CONTACT

- ✉ [Email me](#)
- 🌐 petermccannstrain.com
- 🌐 [LinkedIn](#)
- 📍 United Kingdom

EDUCATION

🎓 DPhil (PhD) in AI and Clinical Medicine

University of Oxford | 2017 to 2022

[Read the Oxford thesis](#)

🎓 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.

SThree plc

Senior AI Engineer | Founding AI Engineer | 2024 to Present

- Live recruitment platform.** It matches candidates to roles, analyses CVs and conducts phone interviews. Shortlists go to SThree recruiters or client hiring teams. Who makes the next decision depends on the workflow.
- 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.

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 and a synthesis ceiling under this evaluation setup. Publication pending. [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.

EARLIER APPLIED AI

Computer Vision Engineer

Astroscale

2022 to 2024

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

University of Oxford | Big Data Institute

2017 to 2022

Supervised by Professor Cecilia Lindgren.

- 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.

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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