

CIARAN MCKEY

Software Engineer

ciaranmckey@gmail.com [+44 7472 557 891](tel:+447472557891) [Cambridge, UK](#) <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ciaran-mckey/>

EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer

 Darktrace

 Apr 2021 - Present  Cambridge, UK

- **Authentication:**
 - Developed and deployed AWS authentication server with proficient permissions management.
 - Developed and deployed secure inter-server authentication across internal systems.
- **Database Design and Management:**
 - Designed 3NF relational DB tables and managed production data migrations.
- **Microservices Expertise:**
 - Designed a microservice-oriented architecture within Kubernetes.
 - Developed microservices using Python and crafted corresponding Helm charts and infrastructure using terraform.
 - Implemented and fine tuned microservice scaling using Prometheus metrics and Keda.
 - Acquired a comprehensive understanding of fault tolerance principles in microservices and translated these principles into robust, code-based implementations.
- **Kubernetes Dev Flow Optimization:**
 - Researched and established a streamlined Kubernetes development flow for developers, optimizing the development cycle by simplifying deployment, testing, and iteration processes. (Docker, DevSpace, Kind, Teleport)
- **Metrics and Monitoring in Kubernetes:**
 - Researched and contributed to the implementation of a monitoring stack for Kubernetes microservices, focusing on realizing the three pillars of observability.
 - Metrics (Prometheus/ Grafana)
 - Logs (Loki)
 - Traces (OpenTelemetry)
- **CI/CD Pipeline Dev:**
 - Created a GitOps-driven CI/CD pipeline utilizing Flux, ArgoCD, and GitLab CI/CD to deploy to EKS securely.
- **Efficient Customer Provisioning:**
 - Engineered streamlined customer on-boarding using ArgoCD and microservices.
- **Key AWS Services:**
 - Foundational AWS knowledge, focused on networking, firewalls, and permissions.
 - Skillfully used AWS services: ECR, EKS, SQS, Lambda, S3, IAM, etc.
- **Effective Soft Skills:**
 - Successful 2-15 member on-boarding, coordinated team efforts, effective collaboration.

System and Backend Developer

 Play Well for Life


 Jan 2020 - Apr 2021  Surrey, UK

- **System Design and ECS Development:**
 - Designed and developed containerized ECS services.
- **Dynamic Systems Programming:**
 - Programmed microcontrollers, API's, and databases.
- **Java Development:**
 - Proficient in Java programming.

LIFE PHILOSOPHY

"Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid"

EDUCATION

 BScEng Hons in Computer and Electrical Engineering

University of Cape Town


Grade: 2.1


 2016 - 2019  Cape Town, South Africa

TECHNICAL PROFICIENCIES

Python	●●●●●●
Docker	●●●●●●
Kubernetes	●●●●●●
System Design	●●●●●●
AWS	●●●●●●
Networking / Security	●●●●●●
Helm	●●●●●●
Soft Skills	●●●●●●
Linux	●●●●●●
Terraform	●●●●●●
Prometheus / Grafana	●●●●●●

MOST PROUD OF

-  **Presentation skills**

Presented to the dev department at Darktrace (roughly 200 people) about microservice design, fault-tolerance and development flow optimisation.
-  **Developed a product and its processes from scratch and taken it to production.**

Comprehensive understanding of the entire project lifecycle, from team coordination to coding, in order to successfully deploy applications to production.

STRENGTHS

Hard Working	Pragmatic	
Problem Solver	Communicative	
Goal Oriented	Generalist	
Team Leader	Adaptable	Mentor

- **CI/CD Pipeline Building:**
 - Created effective CI/CD pipelines.
- **Customer Portal with Bubble.io:**
 - Developed customer portal using Bubble.io.
- **Goal-Oriented People Management:**
 - Efficiently managed teams to achieve objectives.

Professor's Assistant

University Of Cape Town

 June 2019 - November 2019  Cape Town, South Africa

- **Low-Cost Radar Feasibility Testing:**
 - Assessed low-cost radar viability using LimeSDR.
- **C++ Development:**
 - Proficient in C++ programming.
- **Antenna Design:**
 - Designed effective antennas.
- **Hybrid Systems:**
 - Expertise in hybrid system architectures.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE



Customer-facing high load application.

Due to the nature of the product and its stage of development, I am unable to disclose details. This project is built on Kubernetes with a microservice architecture and SQS as a message broker for asynchronous processing. This was the first of its kind, and so we were a platform for accessing feasibility and effectiveness of Kubernetes as a solution. We built everything from the ground up, from the developer tools, monitoring stack to the customer provisioning. This product is in its early adopter phase, to be released to the general public in the coming months.



Educational Minecraft platform.

At Play Well for Life, we developed a product which aimed to use Minecraft as an educational platform. In order to cope with scale, I designed it around containerised servers using ECS. These containers were only accessible through a BungeeCord Proxy Server which authenticated and redirected players to their servers. I also created a website using bubble.io that was the platform to rent a server that would provision a server for new customer on purchase and allow them to add a list of allowed Minecraft Users to join.

REFEREES

References available on request

HOBBIES



Rock Climbing

3 Times a week for 3 years



Traveling

Exploring new countries and having new experiences



Coding

Creating apps and learning new skills for fun.