

Darren Fawcett

Cloud & Python — AWS, serverless, automation

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Summary

With 20 years of experience in the motor trade, currently employed at BMW Vertu York, I'm seeking a career change into tech. Since 2020, I've been learning and trading in the forex market and discovered a passion for coding along the way. I began with JavaScript, HTML, and CSS before transitioning to Python and AWS, where I've developed multiple small test projects to explore new services and understand how they integrate. I'm eager to enter the tech industry, continue expanding my skills, and apply my hands-on learning approach to real-world projects.

Personal Description

I'm an open-minded problem solver who thrives on finding innovative approaches and refining processes for greater efficiency. With a strong inclination toward structure and organization, I excel in small group settings but also contribute effectively to larger teams when confident in the subject matter. I enjoy creating small test projects to explore new technologies and see how services fit together, as I believe hands-on experimentation is the best way to learn. My passion for teaching drives me to make complex ideas accessible, using clear explanations and relatable metaphors to support different learning styles.

Goals

- Deepen my coding knowledge and broaden proficiency across multiple languages through real-world projects.
- Continue building strong Python skills while refining my ability to adapt and debug in Bash, HTML/CSS, JavaScript, JSON, and PowerShell.

- Strengthen my ‘big picture’ approach, designing, connecting, and delivering complete systems, often leveraging AI tools to speed development.
- Regularly create small test projects to experiment with new services and understand how they integrate.
- Secure a role in the tech industry through hands-on projects and internships.
- Build the skills needed to work remotely, allowing me to continue developing personal projects from home.
- One day, teach technology in my own style, accessible, honest, and driven by relatable metaphors.

Technical Skills

I focus on the bigger picture — designing, connecting, and shipping complete systems. I use AI to accelerate coding while I keep improving my language depth.

Languages & Code

- Python
- Bash
- HTML/CSS
- JavaScript
- JSON
- PowerShell

AWS

- Lambda
- DynamoDB
- S3
- EC2
- API Gateway
- IAM
- CloudFormation
- Serverless Architecture
- CDN
- With many more.

Tools & Tech

- Docker
- Git
- GitHub Actions
- CI/CD
- REST APIs
- Pandas
- Unit testing

Soft Skills

- Creative problem-solving
- Clear technical communication
- Focus
- Simplifying complexity

Projects

GPT Assistant

AI-powered assistant combining OpenAI's GPT with a serverless AWS backend. Includes calendar event detection and image uploads to S3 via a clean React UI.

Stack: React · Tailwind · Vite · AWS Lambda · API Gateway · S3 · OpenAI · Python

Demonstrates end-to-end GPT integration and serves as a foundation for lightweight AI agents.

GitHub

Finance Tracker

Parses PDF bank statements and detects recurring patterns like wages or rent using Python and pandas.

Stack: Python · pandas · Regex · PDF Parsing

Cut financial reconciliation time from hours to minutes via automated categorization.

GitHub

Personal Tracker App (evolving into Mind Mirror)

Wellness tracker logging daily goals, scores, and progress via a serverless AWS backend. Now evolving into 'Mind Mirror' — a self-reflection and mood analysis tool powered by GPT.

Stack: AWS Lambda · API Gateway · DynamoDB · S3 · HTML/JS

Automates weekly summaries and self-tracking; reducing manual effort and improving insight.

GitHub

Job Scraper (Docker) — evolving into Email Job Search Agent

Initial version scrapes AWS/Python job listings. Now transitioning into a smarter agent that parses LinkedIn email alerts to track and prioritize job opportunities.

Stack: Python · BeautifulSoup · Docker · EC2 · Cron · IMAP

Reduces manual job hunting with automated scraping and email parsing logic.

GitHub

EC2 Email Sorter Agent

Dockerized Python agent that connects to an email inbox via IMAP, scans unread messages, filters out junk, and auto-sorts valid emails into folders based on sender or subject.

Stack: Python · Docker · EC2 · IMAP

Reduces inbox clutter and improves productivity by automatically organizing incoming emails.

GitHub

Online CV Website (ATS-Friendly)

Built a modular, JSON-driven online CV hosted on AWS S3 and delivered via CloudFront, designed for both human readability and ATS compatibility.

Stack: HTML · CSS · JavaScript · S3 · CloudFront · JSON

Provides a clean, mobile-friendly, and ATS-optimized personal website that can be easily updated by editing JSON — no code or redeployments needed.

GitHub

NAT-less EC2 Update Design

Built a NAT-less, immutable EC2 architecture using AMI-based deployments and autoscaling to save on AWS costs.

Stack: EC2 · AMI · Auto Scaling · ALB (planned)

Eliminates NAT Gateway costs by leveraging pre-baked AMIs and secure design.

GitHub

Earthworm Lab App

Lightweight test project using Lambda and API Gateway to explore request/response flows.

Stack: HTML · JS · AWS API · Lambda

Served as a playground to experiment with serverless request handling.

GitHub

Lambda Testing

Minimal AWS Lambda + DynamoDB project for CRUD operations and API Gateway integration.

Stack: AWS Lambda · DynamoDB

Tested and validated backend serverless patterns for learning and reuse.

GitHub

Work History

BMW Vertu (Mini), York — Technician

2022–Present

- Optimized diagnostic workflows, reducing repeat visits through improved root-cause analysis.
- Pivoted to cloud/dev by building AWS + Python projects during off-days.

- Implemented process improvements that saved ~3 hours/week in workshop time.

Stoneacre Ford — Assistant Manager & Senior Technician

2012–2022

- Managed department operations, including scheduling, resource allocation, and team performance.
- Specialized in diagnostics, engine and gearbox replacements, and post-COVID commercial department recovery.
- Trained and mentored junior staff, improving technical capability across the team.

Northeastern Tyres & Autocare — Fitter / Assistant Manager

2008–2012

- Oversaw operations across York and Goole branches, ensuring consistent customer service standards.
- Trained new staff on safety, repair procedures, and customer interaction best practices.

Kwik Fit — Fitter / Assistant Manager

2004–2008

- Performed tyre and exhaust fitting, diagnostics, and daily workshop operations.
- Maintained high levels of customer satisfaction through efficient service delivery.

Work in progress — I'm wiring up more write-ups and links. Latest code on GitHub, connect on LinkedIn.

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