CS4116 - Website Report

Group Number: 04

Group Name: Ride or Die

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Introduction

The 'Ride or Die' website is an online dating website targeted for people over the age of 55. The website allows people over the age of 55 to create an account and add details to what kind of person they are. You can then go and look at all the other profiles of the people who have signed up to the dating site. If you see someone you might like you can try to connect with them and if they accept your connection you can start messaging each other and try to grow your relationship.

The main goal of our website is to bring older people together who may have fallen out of love or just never found the one. This website will offer a place for people who have similar experiences with relationships to come together and try to make new friendships or other relationships.

High Level Functionality

In our webpage there are five main areas - login, home, search, messages and profile. Once a user has successfully signed up to the website and provided all the necessary details, they can then proceed to the home section of the dating site. Here, they are shown a summary panel of the activities they have been involved with which includes -
Current connections: where users can see all their connections.
Suggested connections: where users can browse potential new connections that the website has suggested for the user etc.
Notifications panel: where users will be notified of any new activity involving their account, such as new messages or connection requests from other users.

From there, the user will have a sidebar with several buttons corresponding to the different components of the website.

Messages:
Here, a user can view, reply and send messages to any person they have connected with. This is a live instant messaging service that allows connected people to communicate and possibly organise dates, get to know each other or whatever else the user desires.

Search:
When a user is looking to find new connections they must use the search function that is built into the website. From here the user can filter the results based on their preferences for the type of people they would like to meet. This will be based on

gender, age, interests and location. From here the user will be shown all the connections available that suit this criteria. If no connections are available the user will be suggested to increase the location range or perhaps change interests. From the list of connections that are available the user can see their name, age and location. Here they can click on a user and view their profile in more detail before deciding whether they want to send a connection request with this person and begin a conversation.

My Profile:
Finally, the user will have their own profile which will be shared publicly when people are looking for connections. The user can edit their profile picture, bio, interests and the general description of themselves. When edited, these newly updated sections will be updated in the database so the new information is displayed immediately.

Web Page Layout

The following screenshots are taken from the website and go through what the user will see and be able to do when using the website.

Here is the login/sign up screen that the user sees when the website is first opened.
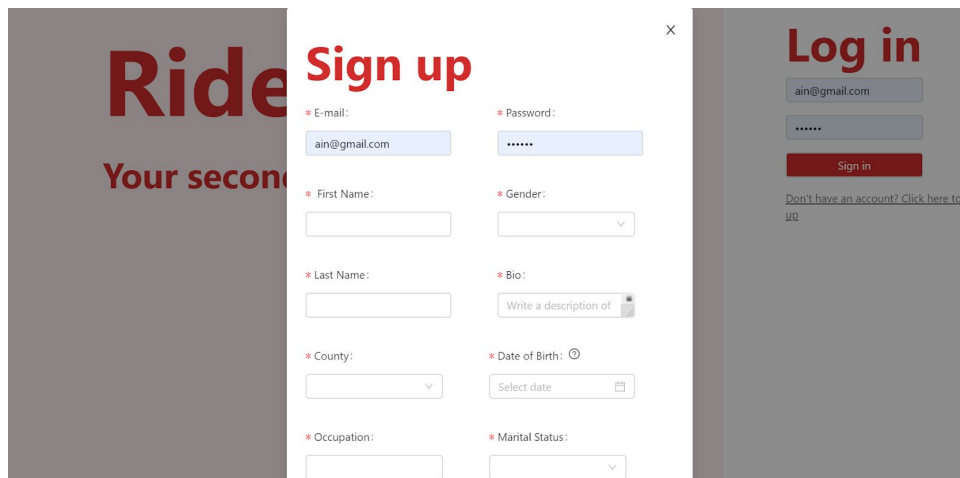
Here is the sign up form that a new user must fill out to register for the website.


Here is the user homepage where they can see their current connections, suggested users of who might be a good match and their notifications which inform them of connection requests and messages.
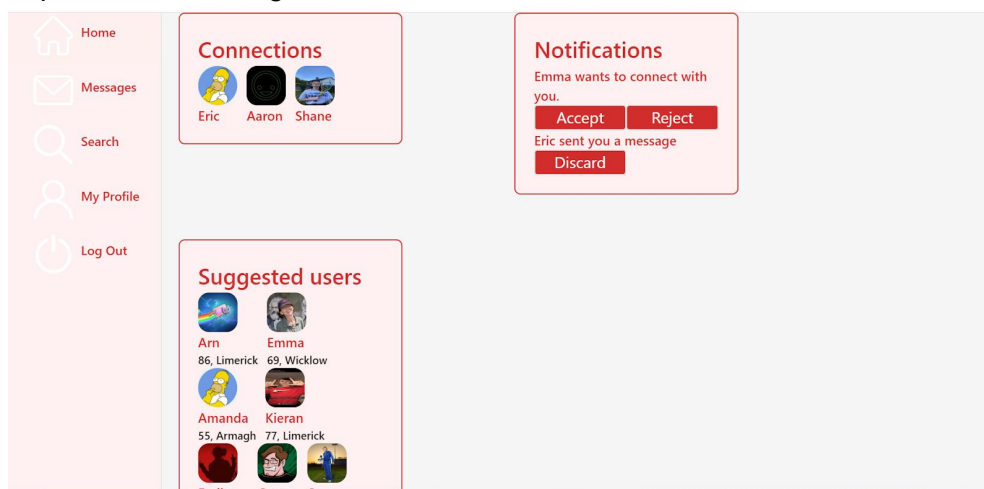

Here is the messaging page. A list of all the user's connections will be displayed. The user can select the user that they wish to message and then type what they want to say in the text area below and press send.
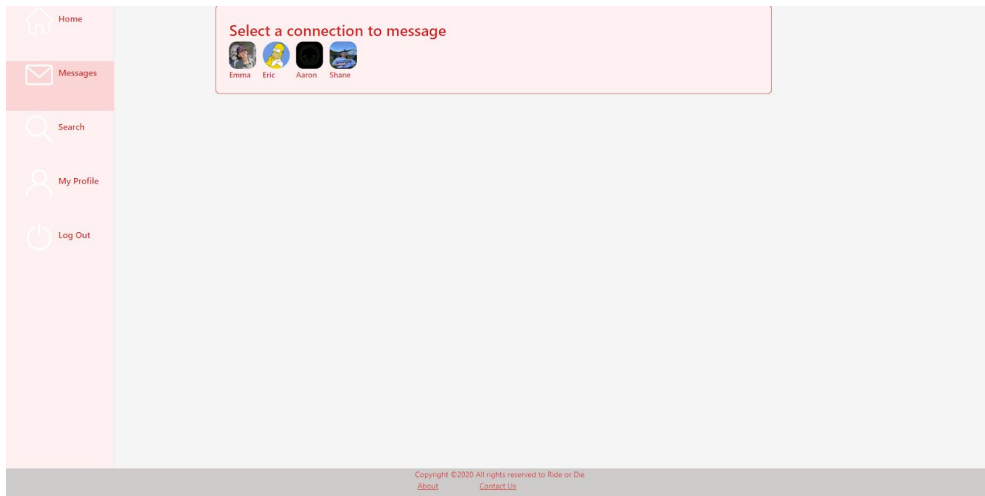
When the user has selected a user from the panel in the screenshot above, a new panel with the conversation and text input area will appear below.
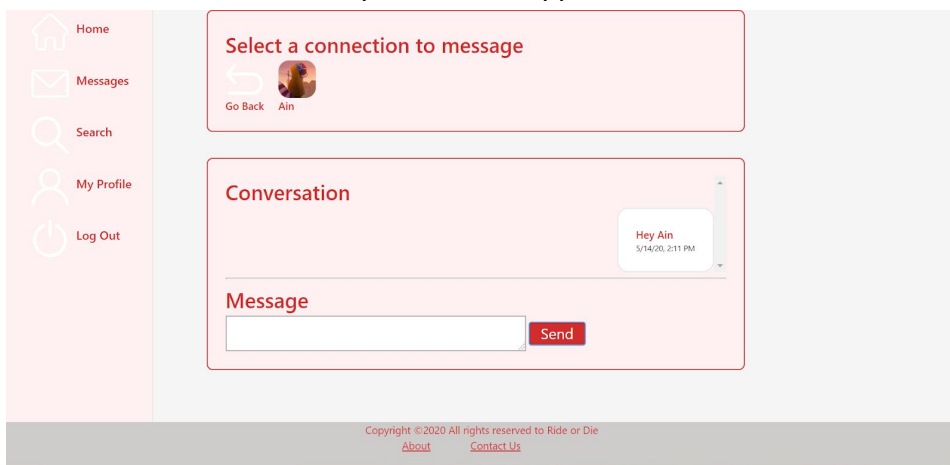

The search page allows the user to filter search results based on gender, age, interests or location.
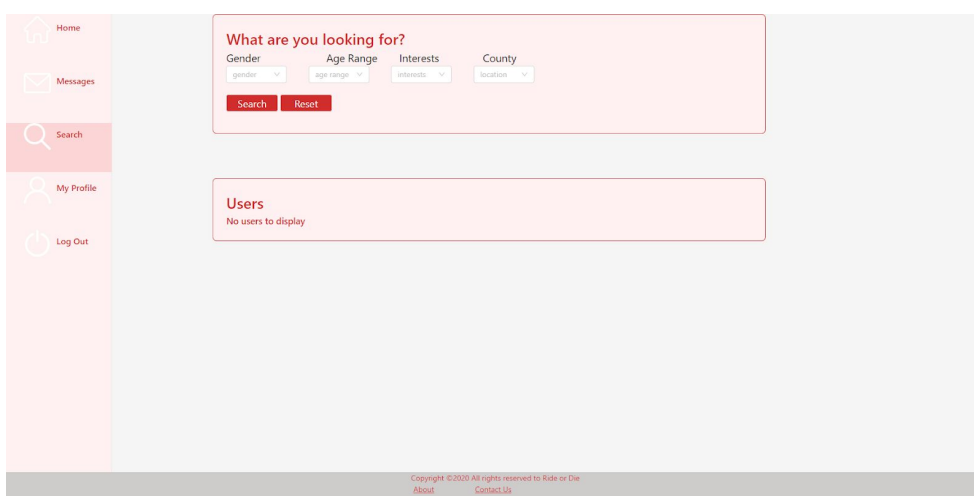
Once they press search, a list of relevant users will appear. From here, they can click on a user which will then lead to their profile where the user can find out more information about them.
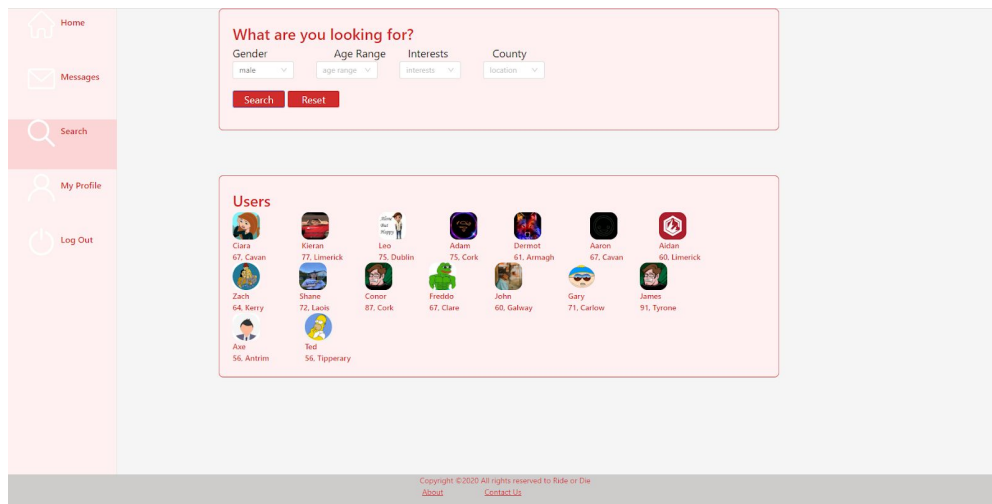
An example of another user's account is shown. Here you can see information such as their name, age, location, interests and other personal information about them.
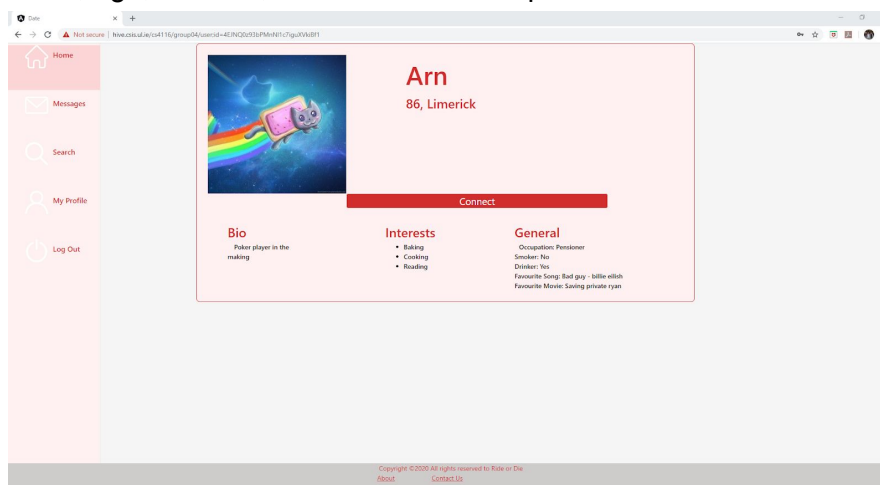
This is the profile of the user that's logged in. It allows them to see what they have written about themselves and also allows them to edit information such as their bio, profile picture, interests and general information.

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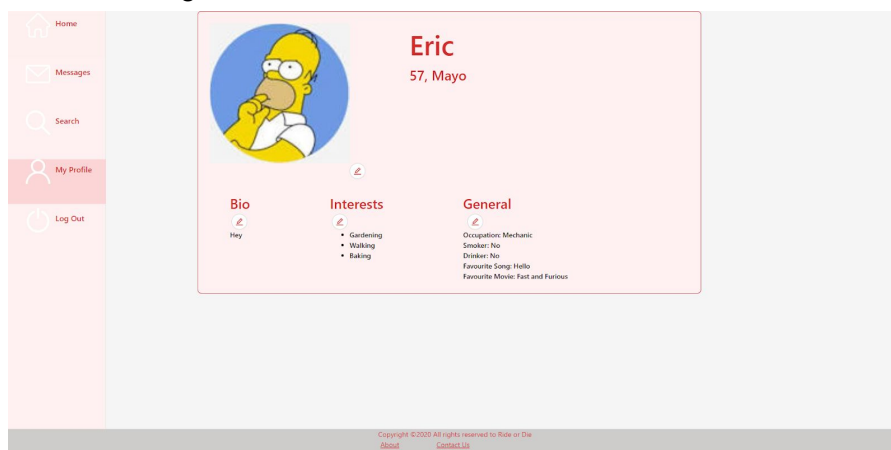
Admins have extra functionality and therefore have edit buttons on other user profiles and have the ability to disable or delete accounts or make that user an admin, which looks like the following:
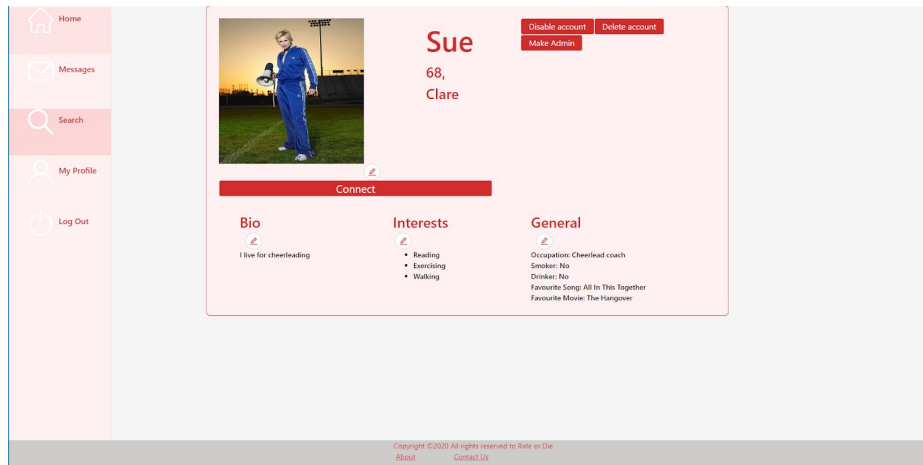
Database Tables

We used firebase as our database which gave us a different way of creating our tables then originally planned. The database tables we implemented for this project are as follows:

Table 1 - Users table. This describes each user.

Field	Type
uid	string
admin	boolean
age	number
county	string
description	string
disabled	boolean
drinker	string
email	string
favoriteMovie	string
favoriteSong	string
firstName	string
gender	string

interests	array
lastName	string
maritalStatus	string
occupation	string
profilePic	string
smoker	string

Table 2 - Connections. This table shows which users are connected.

Field	Type
accepted	boolean
userId1	Int(10)
userId2	Int(10)
date	Date

Table 3 notification. This table shows if its a message notification or a connection request.

Field	Type
connectionId	string
date	string
isConnection	boolean
notification	string
receiver	string
seen	boolean
sender	string

Or

Field	Type
date	string
isConnection	boolean

notification	string
seen	boolean
sender	string

We have two different types of tables for notification as there are two types of notifications. One is for when a user wants to connect with another user and the other is for when a user wants to send a message to another user. Both of these options are under the one heading of notification.

Table 4 - Chats

Field	Type
chatId	String
userId1	String
userId2	String

↓

Sub-Collection of chats, messages

message	string
receiver	string
sender	string
timeSent	timeStamp

As we used firebase we were able to have a sub collection of a table, we implemented a sub collection in the chats table as this allowed us to keep conversation between users in a separate table, which allowed for ease of access and more efficiency.

Site Access

To access our site you can visit: www.hive.csis.ul.ie/cs4116/group04

We used firebase for our database so all our tables are stored there under "CS4116-Group4 Dating" found here:

You may need to be added as a member of the project to be allowed to view these tables, if you require such access please just send on the email you would like us to add and we will make you a member of the project.

Key Functionality

Registration

Registration allows new users to sign up to use the website. The users are greeted with a friendly UI to help make the sign up process easier. Users must fill in all the options provided as these give vital information to users who are looking to connect with each other.

Users must be 55 or older to sign up to this website as it is for people who are looking to have a second chance at love.

New users are also asked a few general personal questions to make the matchmaking a bit easier for people such as if they are smokers, drivers and what movies and songs they like.

A profile picture must also be added in square form. So 300px x 300px or greater with the height and width being equal.

Once a user has successfully filled out all the details and sign up, they will be greeted with an interests modal. Here, the user must select interests to ensure that the suggested user functionality of the website works.This popup will not go away until the user fills out interests correctly

From here a user is then added to our databases along with their interests. A user can then sign in with the login they provided and will no longer be able to make an account with this email again as it is already in the system, unless the user has been deleted.

Connecting

The connection feature allows users to connect and show interest in one another. Initially once the user first signs up, no connections are displayed, this will shortly change. Users can search and look at different users profiles, presenting each user with a "Connect" button.

Once this button is pressed, the receiving user would be presented with a " User wants to connect with you" within their notifications which is located on the home page. The receiving user would then have the option to either accept or reject the notification request.

If the user chose to accept the request, it would create a connection between the two users. After this connection was created, it would be displayed in the connections area on the home screen. If the user decided to reject the request, the connection would not be made. The user also has an option of deleting a connection. Delete connection is represented by a button on the users profile, once the button is pressed, the connection is deleted and will no longer show up as a connection for both users.

Search
The search page allows users to browse through all the users of the website by refining their search by looking for specific attributes of a person.

The user has four filters available to them - gender, age range, interests and county. This function can work without any inputs, displaying every member of the site once the search button is clicked. If you want to be more specific, you can begin to use each filter to refine the search. The search features allows you to choose an input for one, some or all the attributes, this makes finding the perfect match for you a lot easier. When you are presented with the users from your search, you are able to click on the individual users and are taken to their profile page where you can see more information about them, such as their bio, what they do and other things they like.

If when you have inputted what you are looking for but don't like the results you can go back and reset some of the attributes or reset all of them at once.

Suggested Users
The suggested user function is located on the home page and displays users who have common interests with each other.

Once the user has signed up, they have to select their current interests. For example, John has selected painting, reading and baking. When he signs in, the suggested users section will fill up with any user that has two or more interests in common with John. This is why when you are signing up the minimum number of interests you can select is two.

Administrator

We implemented an admin functionality that allows an admin of the site to have extra access to user information and added functionality. When an admin is viewing other users profiles they have the ability to edit their information (except for their name, age and location). On top of this, admins also have the extra functionality to disable or delete any of the other users accounts. As the admins have the ability to disable other users accounts we added an extra function on the search page for admins so they can view all the disabled users at once. They can then go back into the user account and re-enable it so they can use the site again or they can still delete the account.

The final extra bit of functionality an admin has over a normal user is that they can make other users admins from their user profile page.

Extra Functionality

Messaging

We added a messaging feature to our website that allows users who have connected with each other to have a conversation. When using the messaging functionality you are only able to message a user that you have a connection with, this is done to ensure that both people actually want to have a conversation.

When you select the user you would like to message, a conversation box appears. Here, you can view any previous messages that were sent with the logged in user's messages being on the right of the screen in a white text box and the messages of the connection appearing on the left of the screen in a pink text box. This allows for an easy to read conversation.

When you are finished messaging a user you can go back to the messaging main page where you can see all your connections that are available to message and can start a new chat.

We also implemented a notification feature to inform the receiver of a message that someone has sent a message to them. This is done when the sender of a message clicks send. Then the next time the receiver is looking at their notifications they will see that the sender has messaged them and allow them to discard the notification when they have seen it. This will then prompt them to go to messaging and view the new message they have.

Delete Connection

We thought that the ability of deleting a connection would be a nice feature to have on this website. This allows a user to delete a previously made connection for whatever reason. The result of this would be that the other user can no longer message them.

Even if you delete a connection you can always change your mind and reconnect with that user again.

Sources

All icons got from www.flaticon.com.