Final Submission

I have completed the Assignment for Computing for Voluntary Welfare Organisations (CVWO) AY20/21. Below are some of my takeaways from the assignment.

Learn Rails for Web Development

It is my first time using Ruby and Ruby on Rails for development. It is very different from other coding experiences I had in the past such as using C++, Java, or Python. At first, I found the conventions and usage of Rails "messy" and confusing, so it took me quite some time to follow, but the more I coded using Rails, the more I found it convenient and powerful. In addition, though I have some prior knowledge using React.js, it is really fascinating to see how I can use it together with Rails, and this project honed my skills in React.js as well!

Use Git and GitHub for Version Control

The assignment also prompted me to read up more about Git, GitHub and version control in general, and allowed me to put these into practice. The assignment made me have the habit of structuring my project properly, using branches for each development progress. It also corrected some of my bad practices, such as committing directly to the master branch (though I learnt it the hard way). I believe the experiences I learnt from doing this project will go a long way for my future development.

Use documentation for Development References

I have tried some web development in the past, and the most worrying thing to me at that time was the styling – it seemed so overwhelming. This time, when doing the assignment, I used Boostrap for styling, and learnt to refer to its documentation whenever I need (partially because I have just taken CS2030S last semester, and it required me to constantly refer to the Java API Documentation, so the process was similar). This learning process allowed me tap on the powerful open-source resources available to me, and I could finally make desired user interfaces for my project!

In conclusion, this assignment provides me with a great opportunity to learn more about web development. The application I have made might not be the best among all submissions for CVWO Assignment, but it is one I really put in my efforts, and I enjoy the process of learning and experimenting.

I wish I can have the opportunity of working with the CVWO Team in the future!