

Sven Struan Finlay

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Home Address: 64 The Mount, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 4JB

Education:

University of St Andrews:

BSc (Hons) in Computer Science

September 2015 - Present

St Andrews, Scotland

- Currently in 2nd year (graduating 2019)

South African College High School (SACS):

National Senior Certificate (A level equivalent)

January 2010 – December 2014

Cape Town, South Africa

- Graduated Cum Laude First Class (Highest academic achievement)
- Best Subjects: Mathematics, Physics, Computer Science, Music
- Awarded full school colours for Academics and Music
- On school board for exceptions performance in academics
- Science Society Committee Member
- Mentorship Program (volunteer maths, physics and IT tutor)

Recent Awards:

1st Place StacsHack (hackathon):

March 2017

St Andrews Computer Society

- Awarded for our project Star Wars Dungeon.

Amazon Social Alexa Competition Winner:

March 2017

Amazon Development Center Scotland

- Awarded by amazon for the same project as above.
- The challenge was to create a social skill for Amazon's Alexa Assistant.

Skills:

Programming and Scripting Languages:

- Proficient: Java;
- Medium: C, Python;
- Basic: JavaScript, Haskell, HTML, SQL, CSS3, Assembly, XML, JSON

Operating Systems:

- Windows,
- Linux

Tools:

- Latex
- JQuery
- AngularJS
- Mocha
- Chai
- Git
- Mercurial

Database Tools:

- Solr
- CouchDB
- SQL

Projects:

Private:

SaintsBoard

Hack the Bubble 2016

- A reddit clone that my team designed and built during a 12-hour hackathon to be implemented into the university student portal.
- Implemented using Solr and JavaScript.
- Can be found on my github page: <https://github.com/SvenStruanFinlay/SaintsBoard>

Star Wars Dungeon

StacsHack 2017

- which as a combination of Star Wars and Dungeons and Dragons represented in 2.5D where the game master controls the environment via voice control through the Amazon Alexa.
- Implemented using TCP, Java, HTTP
- Can be found on my github page: <https://github.com/SvenStruanFinlay/InternalServerError>

Academic Performance and CS Projects Completed at St Andrews: During my 2 years through to May 2017 while studying computer science at St Andrews I will have completed over 30 CS projects both team and individual. These include a Loco -> postscript compiler, an implementation of backgammon with GUI a basic AI and an implementation of Hunt-the-Wumpus. I have achieved First's for most projects and for my most recent one I achieved 100%. This project in python the redefined the basics of math's to be modules and built a GUI component to the project.

Personal Strengths and Character:

Testimonials:

- **Mrs. Parker (Head of year 12 and 2-year mathematics teacher at SACS):** "Sven is an intelligent and absolutely dedicated and conscientious young man and has consistently achieved outstanding academic results particularly in mathematics, computer science, physics, and in music. He has an enquiring mind and a positive and enthusiastic attitude. He is of excellent character and is a well-liked and friendly young man"
- **Lillian Barry (FoodBarn Restaurant Cape Town):** "His impeccable manners stood out to me. Sven was never late and learned very quickly how to deal with clients and staff and carried out his duties diligently."

Work Experience:

Computer and technology related holiday jobs were limited during my South African school years. I did however find holiday jobs with a small niche Software Company focussed on cloud and software management where I help install server stacks and worked the remote service call centre (Orange Street Software, Cape Town), and in another holiday with MTN a leading South African mobile phone and telecommunication company. The work involved fixing the company's website and learning about java. I also worked in a front of house position in one of Cape Town's best restaurant where the French Chef is Michelin star rated. I received an excellent reference from them.

In my first St Andrews university summer holidays' last year I worked in London for Adolphus who provide front of house staff for leading hotels such as The Churchill, Westbury in Mayfair, and the Chelsea Harbour hotel. I received very positive feedback on my diligence, ability to learn quickly, as well as my good customer and guest relations.

References:

Available on request.