Personal Report:

Coming into this module, I realised that the course included a large piece of work that required you and a group of people to work on over around a four month period. I took a fairly lax approach to the idea of this, until I truly understood the complexity and hard work that was required to finish this task. The first aspect that threw me back slightly was the fact that the groups consisted of around nine or ten people, taking my experience from last year’s group project I worked on, I just naturally assumed that the groups would be a size of around three or four people. So it was fairly evident that we had to be able to co-operate and work efficiently in a large group, being able to do so consisted of delegating work around evenly and in essence being a “team player”, and I believe, for the most part I checked these two boxes. I completed any work that was asked of me, and in a manner that I would consider pleasant and within the spirit of the team. I never complained and I believe I was fairly understanding when others in the group were perhaps slightly stressed out when their workload became a slight hassle, whether that was easing the stress by helping out on the work in whatever way I could, or something as simple as buying them a coffee.

On a technical level, I would be the first to admit that there were aspects of this project that I either was incapable of completing, or perhaps other people were just better at the particular task. Specifically, I am addressing the technical coding and building of the website. While I do have a knowledge of JavaScript, HTML and PHP, my knowledge was limited compared to the coders that were working on the project. So in terms of the actual building of the website, I was unable to help to a large degree. Where I was a help, was the actual testing of the system, and discovering the bugs that were plaguing the website, the hours me and a few others spent hounding out these bugs really helped the coders in being able to complete their task, and I like to think that the project would not have worked as well as it does without mine and my colleagues contribution. So in this way, I believe I performed an important task while in the work week.

As I was predominantly a documenter for the project, my work can be seen in all the work away from the actual website. And overall, I believe I performed my tasks to a good level. The documentation that has been marked already has been given a reasonably good score, so with the improvement s we have added to the various pieces of documentation, I firmly believe me and my fellow documenters have produced a piece of good quality work.

In summary, I believe the project gave me a wider understanding of the professional world of creating a large piece of software, and will better prepare me for when I eventually move onto my selected career path. Finally, I believe this project also taught me the importance of working in an effective team, and in what way people working in a team should behave when deadlines on a project are set.

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