**Address Book Assignment**

Instructions on how to run this project on a Mac:

1. Download and install the latest version of XCode.
2. Download the “Address-Book-iOS” project from Github using the link: https://github.com/wonderlabs/Address-Book-iOS.git
3. Open the Example1.xcodeproj file located in the Example1 folder.
4. XCode should automatically launch. Once open, at the top select the device you would like to use to run the application (a simulator is recommended), and press the play button.

The requirement of this assignment was to create a mobile application, which was capable of pulling random user data from [Random User](http://randomuser.me/documentation) and displaying it as a list of contacts on the mobile device.

My overall approach to solving this was to simply pull the data from the url using a native framework web request, then to parse the data (serialize it) and save it to a model (in a mutable array). Once saved, I would load the “first and last name” category of each element in the array into each slot on the table view. Initially I would display a list of contacts on the first view, and if the user selects a contact, a second view would overlap the first and display the selected contact’s profile information.

I chose to use iOS to develop the application because iOS is the people’s favourite, and I wanted to experience developing a small iOS application. The features completed are as follows:

1. Pull user data from [Random User](http://randomuser.me/documentation) and store the results locally in the device’s cache.
2. On the UI, display all the contacts’ first and last names in a list.
3. When a contact’s name is clicked, show a second screen which displays the selected contact’s details.
4. Add a feature allowing the user to go back to the previous screen which displays the initial list of contacts.

Given more time, I would like to have:

* Crafted a better splash screen.
* Added a picture of the contact in the Profile page.
* Configure the cells on the main page to look more visually appealing and include a small thumbnail picture beside each name.
* Capitalize each of the pieces of data as grammatically necessary.
* I would like to have developed a better test-driven development setup within the project instead of using purely private methods throughout.
* A button on the initial screen allowing the user to reload the list of contacts, which would fetch a new fresh list of contacts.

These features would have taken several days to complete all together.

To make the program more robust, I would replace the exception throwing in cases where the device does not have an internet connection, or when the url link is down, with an error message in a pop-up dialog. I would also add a check to make sure the user data never overflows the cache for example if we attempt to pull an infinite number of users.