

JOEL RUSSELL

Computer Science Graduate



PERSONAL PROFILE

Having recently graduated from the University of Surrey with a first-class degree in Computer Science, I have been doing some freelance app development for the University during lockdown. Spent a placement year at a central London software firm working on Java and Oracle projects for public sector clients.

EXPERIENCE

- 2020 **Freelance — 'Surrey Tap and Trace' Android App** **University of Surrey**
Contracted by the University and Students' Union as a freelance graduate to create an Android application to read data from encrypted campus ID cards for contact tracing at high-attendance unbooked areas of campus.
Involved at every phase including initial pre-development planning, a few weeks of solo development and changes with tight deadlines, and in deployment and troubleshooting during Freshers' week.
Android / Java / NFC / Freelance
- 2018 – 2019 **Junior/Trainee Application Developer** **Fivium Ltd.**
14 month University placement, working on award-winning bespoke applications created for the public sector, developing both with modern Java web frameworks such as Spring, and Fivium's in-house Java-based XML forms engine, Fox. Work included large workflow and BPM related applications used by Government departments, in complex Oracle databases and PL/SQL packages.
Java / Oracle
- 2019 – 2020 **Tech Assistant, Photographer, Bar Team Member** **University of Surrey SU**
part time
Occasional paid work in addition to hundreds of volunteer hours of technical or event roles (see Voluntary Experience). Paid work most mostly consisting of event photography and bar work, including working to establish the largest COVID-secure student venue in the UK.
Customer Service / Teamwork / Photography
- 2017 – 2020 **Lab Assistant, Open Day Speaker, Meet and Greet** **University of Surrey**
part time
Over the course of my degree, a variety of student- and public-facing roles. Open/Applicant day ambassador for Dept. of Comp. Sci., showing prospective students the Department. Supervising and assisting undergraduate labs on topics including Machine Learning. Part of a dynamic 'Meet and Greet Team' both on campus and at major London airports collecting international arrivals and getting them safely to Guildford and to their accommodation, and helping with whatever queries they may have on their first day.
ML and AI / Customer Service / Teamwork / Communication

EDUCATION

- 2016 – 2020 **BSc (Hons) First Class, Computer Science** **University of Surrey**
Notable topics include: Three years of web development modules, including PHP, Javascript, Java (Spring), MySQL, Ruby on Rails, and work outside of these modules in Node, and Python. Modules in Java development and software engineering best practices. Two years of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning modules. Includes a 'sandwich' placement year (see Experience).
- 2014 – 2016 **A-Levels** **Poole Grammar**
AAB A-Levels (Computing, Maths, Physics), 6 AS-levels, 12 GCSEs (9 at A*–A).

VOLUNTEERING EXPERIENCE

- 2020 **Quizmaster** **University of Surrey Students' Union**
In April 2020, offered the role of host and Quizmaster of *Hari's Challenge*, the SU's student pub quiz with sometimes hundreds of participants, as a virtual online event for lockdown. Prepared the first stream with 8 hours notice, and continued weekly throughout lockdown. Resumed as in-person quiz host in September 2020 and continued online through the November lockdown, including custom live graphics and a remote co-host.
- 2018 – 2020 **Debate Moderator** **University of Surrey Students' Union**
Believed to be the highest production value SU election event in the UK, *SurreyDecides* is watched by hundreds of students live in person and online each year. Spent three years as the head debate chair, hosting eight debates including chairing three Presidential debates. Involves a combination of public speaking skills, thinking under pressure when things get heated, and dynamically changing plans as the course of the debate changes.
- 2018 – 2020 **Stage Crew Member and Webmaster** **Surrey Stage Crew**
Involved in the organisation of countless events with Stage Crew, the most active student society on campus with a history dating back to the founding of the University. Events ranged from club nights sound and lights with chart-topping acts, to society events, to awards balls in external venues, to equipping an empty marquee with all of the tech required to become the largest COVID-secure student venue in the UK.
- 2018 – 2020 **StagTV Member and Technical Manager** **StagTV**
Working closely with Stage Crew is StagTV, the student-run broadcaster and video community. In my time as a member, including a year as Technical Manager, I have seen StagTV evolve from a very small operation making occasional amateur YouTube videos, to providing professional-quality broadcast and video production services to departments and clients across campus and beyond. As Technical Manager, I was responsible for all of the equipment, including ensuring it could be borrowed for free by our members, and making sure the equipment would be in a fit and working state for this.
- 2017 – 2018 **Computing Society President** **University of Surrey Computing Society**
In my second year of University, I was the elected President of the Computing Society. During this time we organised academic events, secured sponsorship from Goldman Sachs, and arranged social events for Computer Science students to meet up and blow off steam. Events and membership reached record numbers in my year as figurehead, and we received awards for our efforts.
- 2016 – 2020 **Course Representative** **University of Surrey**
Elected by peers four years in a row to represent the cohort and resolve any issues arising with a module or the department, by communicating both with the cohort and up to faculty management. Consistently willing to ask tough questions of the senior management of the University at public meetings, and engaging with the response. Awarded PTY Course Rep of the Year, presented by the Vice-Chancellor, for a year of work on ensuring that placement year students do not feel left behind by their department while away from campus.