BCS Member Group Chair's Report

Member Group Name:	**BCS Hampshire Branch**
Year:	2024 for year 2023/2024
Report Completed By:	Margaret Ross

Group Chair:	Margaret Ross
Group Treasurer:	Paul Jenkins
Group Secretary:	Geoff Staples
Group Inclusion Officer:	Neville Palmer
Group Early Career Officer:	David Braines
Other Committee Members:	Nina Bishop-Bolt, Ivan Carter, Dave Locke, Nick Whitelegg

The Chair's Report is a vital communication tool for the BCS Community Team to understand and support your activity as a group. The Programme, Practice, and Policy (PPP) Committee will review your submitted report, and suitable action points fed into the Community Board for strategic planning. As one of the critical communication points with our members, your completion of this report supports not only your group but ongoing support and development of other member groups and the BCS itself

Successes

Please list the top three successes the group has achieved in the past year.

Success	Additional Comments
1. The 31 webinars during 2023/2024,	There were **31 online presentations, of which 4 were hybrid, and 2 in person only,** during 2023/2024, many with other **BCS groups, the Royal Aeronautical Society, IET and WCIT –** the majority of the events were recorded Presentations from **Ghana, Germany, Japan, Norway, USA** and the UK , including The presentations included: • Emerging technology – Buzzwords, Hype and real Change, By Ian Hughes • **Hybrid,** Is your AI quality good enough to save humanity? By Tom Gilb HonFBCS from Norway • How to make underwater exploration with autonomous vehicles more reliable by Achille Martin, • **Hybrid** How to organize delivering Quality on Time, What are the secrets that make this happen? By Niels Malotaux from Japan • TickITplus - A Universal Model, by Dave Wynn • **Hybrid,** Introduction to Explainable Artificial Intelligence, by Dr Alex Gegov • Cyber Security and the importance of your security posture, by Bal Matu, • The Autonomous Systems Journey from Lab to Ubiquity, by Professor William (Andy) Wright FREng, FIET, CEng, PhD **physical only** at University of Southampton, organised by the Royal Aeronautical Society, with IET • **Hybrid**–Preventing cyber-crime: the role of the Regional Cyber Crime Unit and you, by Charlotte Knill,

- Aerospace, Digitisation and Data Science: Harnessing the power of data, by Professor Honor Powrie, FREng, FInstP, **physical only,** University of Southampton, by the Royal Aeronautical Society, with IET
- How we created in 7 years, a global tech company, by Andrew Radcliffe,
- AI driving force of Cyber Security, by Mazhar Malik
- Preparing children for artificial intelligence, by Dale Lane, about the free resource, Machine Learning for Kids [ML4K]
- Reviews and Inspections used in various ways, by Niels Malotaux
- Generative AI and Metaverse what a powerful combination! By Ian Hughes
- Using hydrogen from the sea to power ships and planes by Neil Kermode, Managing Director, European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC)
- Quantifying and reducing the carbon footprint of your IT infrastructure, by Rory Choudhuri and Vern Bolinius
- The Genie is Out of the Bottle, (about ChatGPT) by Martin Tate

Early Career related events included:
- Degree Apprenticeship – Chloe's three year journey to BSc by Chloe Baker, National Oceanography Centre,
- From novice to professional - Starting a career in Malware Forensics, by Andrew Moore
- Quality Management 2nd Cohauly Training Scholarship by Quality Management Institute, by Dr Larry Kennedy, Founder and CEO of the Quality Management Institute
- Decolonising Computing: Insights into mapping of UK activity within HE, by Zoe Tompkins, Kate Feliciello and Amaninder Singh,
- Delivering Cyber Education in HEI, by Mazhar Malik

Diversity is actively encouraged – approximately 30% female presenters Inclusion related webinars include:
- Encouraging girls, women and people of BAME descent into STEAM education, by Emefa Amoako
- All things digital health and social care at the ALLIANCE , by Chris Mackie
- Closing Digital Divide: Employing highly qualified vision-impaired professionals,
- Bridging the Digital Divide: Technology harnessed for children in care, by Rubi Kaur, Rowan Aderyn, Christian Brock, Mathew
- Digital for all: Building a connected digital inclusion ecosystem in Leeds, by Amy Hearn
- Designing an Inclusive Wearable Product to close the digital divide, by Elodie Draperi,
- #Joiningthedots to close the digital divide for the visually impaired, by Kirsty McIntosh and Kris Gibson

Request were made to help **with Careers Events**, say once or twice a year, the annual offer of **Prizes** of book tokens for **the top male and female computing students** in the approximate age range of 16 to 18, not in HE, based in various **schools, or 6th form colleges, and FE colleges in Hampshire.** It was necessary to postponed due to Covid our **student competitions** on **3D printing** for students, but this will be restarted in 2024/25.

Chair thanked the presenters, the committee and all those that helped with the BCS events,

2. University and School prizes,	Prizes for the best Final year students at Southampton University, Solent University and Portsmouth University, and for best male and female students at 6th Forms/FE colleges.
3. Career events	Various events in Hampshire and isle of Wight, including remote presentations relevant to lecturers, teachers and their students.

Plans

Please list the top three activities the group is planning for next year.

Planned Activity	Additional Comments
1. Additional webinar events and maybe physical events and visits,	**Webinars for 2024/25 planned, included future webinars from Overseas:** Various activities are being planned, usually jointly with other BCS MGs, including: • **Employing IT professional with mobility issues,** by Rob Trent, possibly the most inspiring BCS presentation the Chair had attended, • Pesky Malware, by Steve Shepherd MBE. • The (Positive) Effects of Playing Video Games, • World Quality Day- How to identify problem projects before they to start to fail? by Bal Matu , • Augmented Wildlife Experiences: AWE trails to support nature connection, by Professor Amanda Korstjens Dr Anastasia Vayona • **Hybrid -** BCS London : What's New in GreenIT 2024? by John Booth and Ewen Anderson, • Recycle Your Electricals and the use of AI in handling e-waste - look at some emerging trends in the world of e-waste., by Scott Butler
2. Networking events, either face to face, with break-out rooms and visits	Try Zoom's interactive capabilities, **with Break-out rooms,** Additional online events with break-out rooms as networking events. Subject to the virus situation, both physical networking events and visits,
3. University and School prizes, and Career events	To continue with the prizes for the best Final year students at Southampton University, Solent University and Portsmouth University, and for best male and female students at 6th Forms/FE colleges Subject to the virus situation, to hold the rescheduled 3D printing competition student and to continue with the Involvement with career events in Hampshire and Isle of Wight.

Impediments

Please list and describe the top three impediments stopping you from succeeding in your group's ambition and support the BCS vision of "Making IT Good for Society."

Impediment	Description
1. Increased physical events and visits	Issues with limitation of events and visits as of past years, held in various universities and organisations
2. Need to postpone our Student Hampshire Branch 3D printing competition, and various physical career events	Our competitions, scheduled for Spring 2021 /2/3 had to be postponed, as the students needed to be physically at the education establishments to access the 3D printers – sponsors agreed support for 2024/5
3. Problems in obtaining in obtaining permission to purchase a dedicated cheap laptop for use at Career event . Also we need help in publicising events to teachers to join webinars, and for their students to participate in the 3D Competition	We needed a laptop, rather than having to take a committee's members laptop, to be able to show our very effective 3D interactive animation at the career conventions, which used to be usually one of the most popular stand. We would like support with our 3D printing competitions, which we had to postpone, with both an international specialist judge from US and sponsorship from IBM previously organised. We need to find an efficient means of reaching the appropriate teacher/lecturer in schools and universities in the UK and overseas. We would like teachers to join in the webinars, – we would also like to reach the home educated children

Additional Facts and Figures

Please provide any facts and figures you think would be useful to the Community Team for further analysis and future activity planning.

Hampshire Branch membership is currently **2,005 members** (previously 2,071) which includes Fellows **173** (172) and Professionals **1,621** (1,661)
In 2023/24, there was **31 events,** of which 4 hybrid and 2 in-person only, sometimes with speakers from overseas, from **Ghana, Germany, Japan, Norway, USA** and the UK , often jointly with other BCS Groups, including the **Royal Aeronautical Society, IET and WCIT**   .

Further Comments

If you have any further comments you wish to provide the Community Team; please give them below.

We wish to hold more webinars, with speakers from the UK and overseas, and widen considerably the participation in these events, so would like **help with BCS publicity within and beyond the BCS members**.

We would like more physical events and visits, and events that can be accessed remotely and recorded, as are the current webinars, and would like to organise networking events, both face-2-face and via break-out rooms, and also more physical visits

We would like help in reaching teachers, and **using CAS to communicate with them**, particularly for greater involvement with career relating events

Nominations for Awards and Recognition

It is important that the BCS recognise deserving voluntary service. If you are aware of someone who warrants one of these awards, then please nominate them. It is easy to nominate someone, but, if you are unsure about completing the form, the Community team and your liaison in the Programme, Practice and Policy Committee can help. Please email groups@bcs.uk.

There are three levels of Recognition of Appreciation award:
- Certificate of Appreciation – going beyond the normal expectations of a single voluntary role by directly contributing to significant involvements, achievements or benefits to BCS.
- Meritorious Certificate – going beyond the normal expectations of two or more voluntary roles in different areas of BCS by directly contributing to tangible involvements, achievements or benefits to BCS.
- John Ivinson Award – significantly furthering the BCS's strategic aims and mission on a wide scope of BCS's areas of endeavour by directly contributing significant achievements and benefits to BCS. Typically, the BCS will present this prestigious award to 1-3 volunteers per year.

There are long-service awards for 5, 10, 25, and 30 years of contribution to the BCS.

Volunteer Recognition

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Please complete the table below and indicate if you wish to nominate a member of your team for an award of recognition. A member of the Community Team will get in touch to help you complete the process.

Group/Branch Member	Years of BCS Volunteering	Nomination
	We have some other nominations, but are confirming years of service, and obtaining supportive statements	

Honorary Fellowship

Nominees will have made an outstanding contribution to the charitable objectives of the BCS over an extended period.

The BCS award Honorary Fellowship under Byelaw 8 of the BCS's Royal Charter and Trustee Board Regulation 1.3 specifies that the BCS award may also make the award to non-members who may not be eligible for any other class of membership.

Community Board and Trustee Board will consider a candidate for Honorary Fellowship against the following criteria:
- At any time, both the contribution to BCS's work and the stature of the individual nominated should be commensurate with the standards set by previous recipients. There is no overall limit to the number of Honorary Fellows although it is unlikely that there will be more than two Honorary Fellows elected in any one year.
- To be elected, the nomination must be on the Trustee Board Agenda, and at least 3/4 of those present must resolve in favour.

If you are aware of a nominee for Honorary Fellowship; please add their details below and a member of the Community Team will raise this at the next appropriate meeting of the Community Board.