



London Central Branch

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DRAFT – Wed 6th Nov 2024

AGM 2024

Agenda AGM 2024

DATE TBC at 6.30pm

Location: Webinar - Online Zoom Meeting

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the AGM held on 4th December 2023
3. Chair's Report for 2023/24
4. Hon. Secretary's Report 2023/24
5. Hon. Treasurer's Report 2023/24
6. Elections
 - 6.1. Election of Chair 2023/24

Mr Dalim Basu
 - 6.2. Election of Officers 2023/24

Nominees for re-election
Honorary Secretary- Mr David Grundy

Honorary Treasurer- Mr David Lewis
 - 6.3. Election of Committee Members 2024/25

Nominees for re-election (flexible roles)
Ms Kitty Hung
Ms Diana Cojocar
Mr Harun Sendur
Mr Joe Woodhouse

Nominees for committee helpers (3 month initial period)
TBC
 - 6.4. Assignment of specific roles
Inclusion Officer – David Grundy
7. Any Other Business
 - 7.1. Event promotion schedule and advanced notice

Previous Annual General Meeting Minutes

The British Computer Society – London Central Branch

4th December 2023 at 6.30pm

Location: Online Zoom

Committee Members present: Mr D Basu (Chair), Mr D Grundy (Secretary), Mr D Lewis (Treasurer), Ms Diana Cojocar

It was noted that there were 20 members in attendance.

8. Apologies for absence

Ms Kitty Hung, Ms Aashi Sahu

9. Minutes of the AGM held on 8th December 2022

The minutes were approved.

10. Chair's Report

Mr Basu presented the Chair's report. It was noted that we had several event initiatives in the past year, all with the goal of supporting BCS' objectives of making IT good for society.

Mr Basu shared some showreels showcasing examples of the events from the Wominspiration, Quantum and Business Analysis initiatives.

The Chair's report was accepted.

11. Hon. Secretary and Inclusion Officer's Report

Mr Grundy presented the Secretary's report. It was noted that we had an increase to 41 events in the past year. These were a mixture of hybrid, in-person and webinars. Our most successful event was "What is all the hype with AI, and why now?" which had 174 participants. The attendee numbers are very variable depending on the event topic.

A member commented that some of our attendee numbers are very impressive and we discussed the possibility of further collaborations with other BCS groups.

Mr Grundy gave an overview of the branch's diversity and inclusion related activities which included attending Black Tech Day in Croydon at the invite of the organisers. We were able to source some speakers when we attended the event.

Mr Grundy shared the latest membership figures which now stand at 6,036. Mr Grundy also shared some attendee stats showing that webinar attendees are predominantly BCS members whereas attendees at BCS London are more equally split between members and non-members.

The Secretary's report was accepted.

12. Hon. Treasurer's Report

Mr Lewis presented the Treasurer's report.

Mr Lewis presented our approved budget for the coming year, which has been slightly increased to £1,600. Mr Lewis noted that it's very likely we will need to submit a Supplementary Funding Request to obtain additional funds to maintain our current rate of hybrid events.

There is still the possibility of obtaining funds to award student prizes but the funds no longer appear in our budget because they are held centrally by BCS.

The Treasurer's report was accepted.

13. Event Success Report

Ms Bivol shared examples of some of the feedback we have received from event attendees. The feedback is predominantly positive with most attendees rating 4 or 5 stars out of 5.

The Event Success report was accepted.

14. Elections

All elected Branch officers and committee members were nominated in conformity with the Member Group Rules.

14.1. Election of Chair 2023/2024

Mr Dalim Basu was re-elected Chair for the forthcoming session.

14.2. Election of Officers 2023/2024

The following Officers were re-elected:

Honorary Treasurer: Mr David Lewis

Honorary Secretary: Mr David Grundy

14.3. Election of Committee Members 2023/2024

The following members were re-elected to the committee:

Ms Kitty Hung

Ms Diana Cojocar

Ms Aashi Sahu

The following members were newly elected as committee helpers for a 3 month initial period:

Ms Verónica Romero Cores

Mr Mustafa Harun Sendur



Mr Joe Woodhouse

14.4. Assignment of specific roles

The following committee roles were assigned:

Inclusion Officer – David Grundy

15. Any Other Business

None

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 7.05pm

Chair's Report for the Year 2023/24

IT's for YOU!

How are you coping with the rollercoaster ride of IT advances in the mid-2020s - speed, diversity and multi-directional reach across society? And especially AI? Huge challenges and changes in so many tech and techno-social fields – AI, eco/climate tech, ethics, health IT, autonomous fighting drones, energy, GPS, photographic advances and so much more...

Post-pandemic political instability, shockwaves from war in Ukraine and Sudan, Palestine and now Lebanon, economic downturn, starvation in Gaza and the Horn of Africa, spiralling food and energy prices, and other challenges to society as we know it. Changing work patterns and financial rewards and personal priorities, increasing mental issues. And of course the huge tsunami of AI, its uses and implications. What about Ethics? Where's the 'Pause & Think' button?

For our BCS London Branches, in our key role in The Chartered Institute for IT and our shared aim of "making IT good for Society", it's been another very busy year. I hope that you have helped, enjoyed and benefited from our initiatives examining key issues and choices.

We planned to run fewer events in 2024 than the 44 London Branches events Jan-Dec 2023. We continued our planning and delivery of IT-related topics for the benefit of BCS members and others. Our product and service delivery activities included more topics, speakers, deliverables, use of BCS facilities and products (including communications, AV, venue, books and publications).

We continued to focus on events involving great speakers from large/medium/small organisations, many of whom have become great supporters of BCS. We expect to run 38 events for our members and others in the year from January to December 2024. Events are listed in our Honorary Secretary's Report. Events were delivered in up to three formats – 'in-person', 'hybrid' and especially by live webinar. Video recordings of events were edited and made available faster to wider audiences via YouTube and Branch channels.

We increased our range of initiatives involving our great committees of enthusiastic volunteers and showcasing their skills and interests. Our initiatives now include 'AI', 'Business & Business Analysis', 'Cloud', 'Cyber & Security', 'Data', 'Diversity', 'Early Careers', 'Eco', 'HEIT' (Higher Education IT), 'Quantum', 'RecruIT' and 'Risk'. We also grew our own communities. Until October 2022 we comprised two Branches – Central and North London Branches (the CeNLB community). In October 2022 we welcomed the active collaboration of the London South Branch, and are now working together as the 'London Branches' community, with the ability to reach over 10,000 BCS members, as well as other groups and external organisations. This gives us access to a huge range of IT-related experience, capabilities, innovation and entrepreneurship. We associate with a growing number of other branches and Specialist Groups such as BCSWomen, Business Change, Consultancy, Digital Divide, F-TAG, Green IT, IRMA, NeurodiverseIT and SPA. We also have external associations with universities (East London, Essex and Kingston) and organisations (SANS Institute and UKsec CyberSecurity Summit).



Want to know more? Come and meet us!

Get involved. Share your inspiration and skills.

Collaborate to benefit. Let's help make IT good for Society!

*Dalim Basu BSc(Hons), FBCS, CITP, CISA CRISC
Chairman, BCS London Branches Community (Central, North & South London
Branches)*

6th November 2024

Honorary Secretary and Inclusion Officer's Report for the Year 2023/24

I am pleased to present this report for the past year, in which we held 38 events.

Event Attendance

Similar to last year, our annual event participation was 2,727. The largest event had 193 participants (60 in-person and 133 on Zoom). We weren't setting out to have as many events as last year but the volume remained high as a result of various speaker opportunities and committee members investing a large amount of time leading on their event initiatives. We continue to have a varied and accessible programme with both in-person and webinar options.

2023			
Sep	Hybrid	The role of Business Analysis in the era of Generative AI	193
Sep	Hybrid	Neurodiversity in Business - how can you help IT?	67
Sep	Webinar	AI and Protecting Data	59
Oct	Webinar	Quantifying and Reducing the Carbon Footprint of your IT Infrastructure	48
Oct	Webinar	Wominspiration: Passport to Success ep 2. Guest Catharine Dass	17
Nov	Hybrid	The Quantum Computing industry in the UK	135
Nov	In-person	UKsec Summit (BCS Partnership) 7-8 Nov	28
Nov	Webinar	Innovation Begins at Home	75
Nov	Hybrid	Wominspiration & AI - Katrina Young FBCS	68
Nov	Hybrid	Being John Hackovich: Inside the Mind of a Hacker	115
Dec	Webinar	London Central AGM	20
Dec	Hybrid	Are we ready for Quantum Advantage?	85
Dec	Hybrid	Beyond Disruption: How Generative AI Empowers The Consultancy Sector	109
2024			
Jan	Webinar	Wominspiration: Holly Porter, Managing Director at BCS	73
Jan	Hybrid	Do You Walk or Talk People Centric Change?	105
Feb	Webinar	London South AGM	15
Feb	Hybrid	Kotlin - bits of history	38
Feb	Hybrid	Using LLMs for purposeful AI conversations in the enterprise	115
Feb	Webinar	NLB AGM	20
Feb	Hybrid	AI Demonstration for All: its benefits and dispelling Fears (2pm to 4pm)	162
Feb	Webinar	How to get your first Cyber Security Job	84
Mar	Hybrid	AI & Business Analysis	99
Mar	Hybrid	Data Governance: How does personal data impact the IT department?	49
Mar	Hybrid	Software Estimation - evidence for and against common practices	16
Mar	Webinar	Wominspiration - Nicola Martin interviewed by Jo Stansfield	29
Mar	Hybrid	AI + Data + CRM + Trust	89
Apr	Webinar	Wominspiration: Judith Blanco - A view from Peru	15
Apr	Hybrid	Early Careers - STEM at primary school - 'Train kids for IT'	36
May	Webinar	A* CV and LinkedIn Profile	86
May	Hybrid	Wominspiration - Lella Halloum Interviewed by Jo Stansfield	31
Jun	Hybrid	AI, Ethics and You: Ethical AI - Innovating responsibly	81
Jun	Hybrid	Where does Quantum meet AI?	133
Jun	Webinar	Exploring the Relationship between Deepfakes and Generative AI	66
Jun	Webinar	Wominspiration, Cyber Insights and Team Dynamics - Wendy Goucher FBCS	23
Jun	Webinar	Generative AI & Deepfakes: Ethical Issues & Detection Techniques	81
Jul	Hybrid	Behaviours and Team-Building	60
Aug	Hybrid	Data Needs Testing Too	121
Aug	Webinar	Cyber, Cloud, Compliance – and AI	81
Grand Total			2727



Social Media

We continue to upload recordings of many of our events to YouTube.

Number of new videos: 23

Number of views: 3,800+

Our most watched video was “The Role of Business Analysis in the Age of Generative AI” which has more than 1,000 views and is one of our best performing videos ever. The presentation was by our committee member Dr Kitty Hung and in collaboration with the Business Change Specialist Group.

Our LinkedIn group is growing at a steady pace and now has 333 members. We primarily use it to post event flyers so that members and speakers can share them with their own network.

Member Discounts

In November 2023 we had a partnership with the UKSec Cybersecurity Summit with 28 of our members being able to attend the conference with our exclusive discount code. Our partnership continues for the 2024 summit.

Diversity and Inclusion

I’m the branch’s Inclusion Officer. We collaborated with several of BCS’s diversity focused specialist groups such as the Digital Divide SG, BCSWomen and NeurodiverseIT. We also looked at diversity and inclusion from a management perspective with events on teambuilding, behaviours and business change.

A focus of many events across BCS in the past year has been inclusive and ethical use of AI. We had a particularly successful event in collaboration with the Digital Divide SG targeted towards beginners, people with disabilities and older people. 35 people attended an afternoon generative AI demonstration at our London office as well as a further 127 people watching online.

David Grundy
Honorary Secretary
3rd November 2024

Honorary Treasurer’s Report Financial Year 2023/24

I am pleased to present the Honorary Treasurer’s Report for the London Central Branch for the financial year 2023-24, this being September 2023 through August 2024. This report is presented at the Branch’s Annual General Meeting on a date to be confirmed and it contains information correct as at Monday 4th November 2024.

Financial Year 2023/24

To fund our operations during this period, we submitted a budget request which was reduced to £1600 which included no provision for student prizes. Under the chairman’s leadership budgets were also agreed for London South and North and these were used in part to fund shared events. The information below relates only to London Central.’ During this further hybrid financial year, the branch spent £1711, despite sharing event costs with the two other London branches because we ran an extensive programme of webinars and events that kept the membership engaged, active and entertained. We had only £58 (budget £500) speaker expense claims (mainly thanks to the generosity of our speakers and continued use of Zoom etc.), The significant overspend was on catering and it was necessary to submit an SFR for £1499 to cover the cost of the last few events. “Following the Finance Committee meeting on 17 June 2024, I am pleased to advise that your SFR FY2024.51 was approved for £1499 for additional events, which is to come from the London North, South and Central branches allocations first. The finance committee can support any remaining funding from the SFR allocation.”

	Actual Aug 2024	Budget Aug 2024	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget	Actual Full Year	Budget Full Year	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget
Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Expenditure	(12.17)	160.00	172.17	-7.61%	1,711.54	1,600.00	(111.54)	106.97%	1,711.54	1,600.00	(111.54)	106.97%
Net Profit/(Loss)	12.17	(160.00)	172.17	-7.61%	(1,711.54)	(1,600.00)	(111.54)	106.97%	(1,711.54)	(1,600.00)	(111.54)	106.97%

Income Account	Actual Aug 2024	Budget Aug 2024	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget	Actual Full Year	Budget Full Year	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget
Total Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%

Expenditure Account Number Account Name	Actual Aug 2024	Budget Aug 2024	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget	Actual Full Year	Budget Full Year	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget
3010 Travel/Subsistence (Other)	0.00	10.00	10.00	0.00%	76.10	100.00	23.90	76.10%	76.10	100.00	23.90	76.10%
4130 Speakers expenses	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00%	58.10	500.00	441.90	11.62%	58.10	500.00	441.90	11.62%
4150 Catering	(12.17)	100.00	112.17	-12.17%	1,524.11	1,000.00	(524.11)	152.41%	1,524.11	1,000.00	(524.11)	152.41%
4900 Other Costs General	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	53.23	0.00	(53.23)	0.00%	53.23	0.00	(53.23)	0.00%
Total Expenditure	(12.17)	160.00	172.17	-7.61%	1,711.54	1,600.00	(111.54)	106.97%	1,711.54	1,600.00	(111.54)	106.97%
Net Profit/(Loss)	12.17	(160.00)	172.17	-7.61%	(1,711.54)	(1,600.00)	(111.54)	106.97%	(1,711.54)	(1,600.00)	(111.54)	106.97%

Financial Year 2024/25

For the forthcoming financial year 2024/25, being September 2024 through August 2025 we prepared a full budget submission but instead received an email notification from head office. Thank you for your budget submission.

Budget 2023/24 and 2024/25 Summary

Whilst we are yet to complete end of year accounting, the figures until close of July indicate a continued underspend against budget, we anticipate ending the financial year at about 40% underspend, compared to 60% in the previous year. Income against budget has also been closer to anticipated budget, as groups seek to fund additional expenditure/ larger events through event sponsorships. Going into the 2024/2025 budget year, group allocations remain largely in line with the previous year with some localised adjustments where spending has increased or been underspent. The supplementary funding pot has increased to ensure access to additional funds are available to group’s whose activity requires it – our message to treasurers is that funding is available, please utilise your budget and the supplementary funding process should you need more. Our approach aims to ensure we minimise underspends against individual groups so that those that need more funding have access to it. The treasurer role is one of the more time-consuming voluntary roles, thank you for your service to BCS over the last year and please do reach out if you need any support or guidance

in the year ahead either by contacting your coordinator, the finance committee, or head of community.

Budget Allocation

We wish to inform you of your budget allocation for 2024/2025 as agreed by the Trustee Board. This allocation is broken down into two sections from the information you supplied in your budget submission for 2024/2025

Operational Spend : £2052.00

Income : £0.00

Review Comments:

Catering limited to £100 per month

	Actual Sep 2024	Budget Sep 2024	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget	Actual Full Year	Budget Full Year	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget
Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Expenditure	100.68	171.00	70.32	58.88%	100.68	171.00	70.32	58.88%	100.68	2,052.00	1,951.32	4.91%
Net Profit/(Loss)	(100.68)	(171.00)	70.32	58.88%	(100.68)	(171.00)	70.32	58.88%	(100.68)	(2,052.00)	1,951.32	4.91%

Income Account	Actual Sep 2024	Budget Sep 2024	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget	Actual Full Year	Budget Full Year	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget
Total Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%

Expenditure		Actual Sep 2024	Budget Sep 2024	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget	Actual Full Year	Budget Full Year	Budget Variance Over/Under	% of Budget
Account Number	Account Name												
3010	Travel/Subsistence (Other)	0.00	28.50	28.50	0.00%	0.00	28.50	28.50	0.00%	0.00	342.00	342.00	0.00%
4130	Speakers expenses	0.00	47.50	47.50	0.00%	0.00	47.50	47.50	0.00%	0.00	570.00	570.00	0.00%
4150	Catering	100.68	95.00	(5.68)	105.98%	100.68	95.00	(5.68)	105.98%	100.68	1,140.00	1,039.32	8.83%
Total Expenditure		100.68	171.00	70.32	58.88%	100.68	171.00	70.32	58.88%	100.68	2,052.00	1,951.32	4.91%
Net Profit/(Loss)		(100.68)	(171.00)	70.32	58.88%	(100.68)	(171.00)	70.32	58.88%	(100.68)	(2,052.00)	1,951.32	4.91%

This report is presented for the consideration of the meeting, supported by a summary of the Branch's expenditure as at the end of August 2024 and the budget for 2024/5 as shown on the September 2024 accounts report.

David J W Lewis Honorary Treasurer 4th November 2024