As the British HCI conference has reached its 21st year, it has earned its status as being a conference with a mind of its own – a bit provocative and looking to the future. This is what we have tried to reflect in the Volume 2 proceedings. Short papers are an ideal forum for work in progress and late breaking results. This year we have also included a number of papers that are more thought-provoking, both for the future of HCI and our own practices. As such, this Volume captures exactly what “not as we know it” represents: papers that are all trying to say something new and different, whether at a theoretical level or in terms of research carried out in non-traditional areas or using novel methodologies. The present papers also compliment very effectively the full papers presented in Volume 1, and are categorised under the same themes for presentation at the conference: Creative and Aesthetic Experiences, Everyday Interaction, Communicating and Sharing Experiences, Mobile and Remote Interaction, Tracking Usability Issues, From Theory to Technique, HCI: Surveying the Domain, and Extending HCI.

As well as the 31 short papers and 8 student papers, Volume 2 also includes posters, interactive experiences, panels, organisational overviews, workshops, and tutorials, in addition to papers associated with the HCI practice day and the doctoral consortium. All of these events are at the heart of the conference as they give us the buzz, get us talking in a more informal way about our work, and provide opportunities to present and discuss work that is not yet finalised in the form of a full paper.

All submissions for Volume 2 have been rigorously reviewed using the same process that was applied to the full papers that were submitted to Volume 1. Submissions received an average of four external reviews and were then subjected to further meta-reviewing.

Producing Volume 2 has been the joint effort of the authors, reviewers, category co-chairs and the entire organising committee who contributed much time and effort. We would like to thank all contributors – without you this conference would not exist.

We hope that the essence of British HCI’s 21st birthday has been communicated to you through this Volume.

Devina Ramduny-Ellis
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