



Oxfordshire Branch 2009-2010 Programme

www.oxon.bcs.org

17 September 2009

Energy in the home: are we using too much?

Neil Watson, Technical Manager, Digital Living Ltd

The 26m homes in the UK account for 27% of the carbon emissions according to the 2007 Energy White Paper. Do we know where that energy is used and can we reduce it? Monitoring and automatically reducing energy usage is very topical: energy will become more expensive as stocks shrink so it is not solely a matter of conscience. What can we do about it and how?

15 October 2009

Agile Project Management

**Iain McKenna CSP MBCS CITP
Project Success Ltd**

A talk subtitled "The Prince of Scrum" - An introduction to the real world application of agile project management using Scrum and how to apply Scrum in a Prince 2 Environment. Agile is now a top business issue, not just a computing issue, because our global village is one of rapidly increasing change, and windows of opportunity are brief.

12 November 2009

Innovative ICT in Oxfordshire Joint meeting with Science Oxford

Oxfordshire is home to a great number of innovative ICT entrepreneurs. We will hear from three or four different ICT businesses about their technology and how they are taking it to market.

This event is run in collaboration with the Science Oxford Networks 4 ICT programme www.scienceoxfordnetworks.com

3 December 2009 - Christmas Lecture

Cryptography: From Black Art to Popular Science

**Professor Fred Piper
University of London**

Venue: Rewley House, Oxford OX1 2JA



Professor Fred Piper gave the BCS Turing lecture in 2004 and is recognised worldwide as an authority on the subject of Cryptography and IT Security. He is a popular author on the subject and currently has a number of books in print. We are promised that the talk will contain something for the whole audience from subject matter experts through to non-technical but IT-literate users.

Mulled Wine & Mince Pies will be served from 7:00pm

The Meetings:

- Unless otherwise stated, take place at the Oxford e-Research Centre, 6 Keble Road, Oxford OX1 3QG.
- Begin at 7.30 pm and end at around 9:00pm. Light refreshments are available from 7:00pm.
- **ARE OPEN TO NON-MEMBERS AND FREE.**

After the meeting, we visit the Lamb and Flag on St Giles 5 minutes walk away. All are welcome to join us for an informal chat.

For more details of these events and speakers, or of any late changes to the programme, please see www.oxon.bcs.org

Branch email addresses: oxon.chair@bc.org.uk, oxon.secretary@bc.org.uk, oxon.webmaster@bc.org.uk.

21 January 2010

Is IT a Profession?

Adam Thilthorpe, BCS Director for Professionalism

IT often assumes the role of a servant but IT doesn't just support business, it powers business. Has the IT profession come of age and is it seen as equivalent to the other professions represented in Boardrooms? An alternative view: that IT is a 'trade' and does not have the professional status of the law or accountancy will also be debated.

18 February 2010

An introduction to Geospatial systems

Dan Rickman, Chair of the BCS Geospatial SG

This will explain geospatial systems, their key defining features and how they can integrate with other key information systems in the enterprise. It will also discuss examples of applications, including those from Google, Yahoo and Microsoft, and the privacy issues they provoke, as well as future developments in the field of geospatial systems.

11 March 2010

Testing Software Quality

**Venue: Sophos plc, Abingdon OX14 3YP
Julian Harty, Google**

The quality of software has a massive impact on its success or failure. Yet, paradoxically, few people actually test any of the quality aspects of their software. Come and learn practical ways to test your software, ranging from accessibility to performance, security and usability.

29 April 2010

Visit to UKAEA Fusion & JET

Venue: UKAEA, Culham Science Centre OX14 3DB

JET – The world's largest nuclear fusion research facility. Guided tour of JET organised by the UKAEA Fusion Public Relations Team including a visit to the JET Torus Hall and the Remote Handling control room (both subject to the operational conditions at the time). Followed by a presentation of the Control and Data acquisition computer systems by Dr Jonathan Farthing, Assistant Director and Head of CODAS & IT.

Registration at 1:30pm, programme starts at 2:00pm.

Space will be limited, so we will be asking you to book online

20 May 2010

Sciences in Oxford's History

An afternoon guided walking tour

A fascinating tour to hear of the transformation of the study of sciences at Oxford. By the 14th century, Oxford was famous for the work of Bacon and Grosseteste, for developments in mathematics and astronomy. The 17th century saw Boyle, Hooke and Halley make their respective discoveries. Hear about the impact of medical research under Florey and of 21st century programmes.

Followed by cream tea