Dear Member

Re: BCS Oxfordshire Branch – 2004 Annual General Meeting

This AGM marks the end of my first year as Chairman of the Oxfordshire Branch. I have enjoyed this role, and hope to continue for another year.

2003/2004 has been another excellent year for the branch, with good attendance at most meetings. We believe the topics covered have been of great interest, and the speakers have been excellent.

This year's program has seen a wide range of topics from Computer Restoration and Internet Archiving, through to Quantum computing. The Christmas lecture followed our traditions of filling the hall, with Steve Grand introducing his first developmental robot orang-utan, Lucy, and talking about how to create artificial life in 10 easy steps! Next month, our annual trip takes us to Bletchley Park, the home of the ENIGMA machine.

Our Branch website has also gone from strength to strength. Adrian Walmsley has, this year, taken over and maintained the site. He has made considerable improvements to the interface and the content. Next year will see yet more changes, as we move to a new host and Adrian develops new features to provide more dynamic content.

During this year, we have also seen some changes with the society as a whole. The largest of these is in the membership structure and the introduction, from the 1st May, of new post nominal letters CITP (Chartered IT Professional) for all existing full members of the society. Under the new scheme, anyone can become full MBCS members of the society with relevant experience and the recommendation of an existing chartered member. The application process to charted membership will follow the same rigorous process as for the old full MBCS members. More details of the changes are at http://www.bcs.org/thewayforward.

Looking forward to next year, your committee is starting planning the meeting program. We have also formed a sub committee to plan the successful bi-annual school's web competition for 2004/2005.

Finally, I would like to thank the committee for all the hard work they have put in over the last 12 months, and also to thank them for volunteering to continue on the committee for another term. This year the committee have had 5 committee meetings and had representation at 2 national congresses and 3 regional meetings! If you wish to join the committee, please make yourself known to us.

If you have not recently looked at out website, I would encourage you to take a look. The site now has a summary of some of the past presentations, and details of upcoming events.

If you have any comments for the committee, please let us know. You can speak to us after any branch meeting; fill out the form on our website; or send an e-mail to the address below. We would love to hear from you, especially if there is a subject you wish to be covered during a meeting, on the website or any speaker volunteers!

Robert G M Ward. CEng MBCS MSc BSc (Hons)
BCS Oxfordshire Branch - Chairman
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Richard Pawson, founder of Naked Objects

Steve Grand with Lucy

Tim Lambertstock 'Moving BACS Forward'

Roger Blake IBM / Wimbledon

Branch Website www.oxon.bcs.org

BCS OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT 2003/04
01/05/03 to 30/04/04

Allocation			3,079.00
Income			
Bank Interest		3.89	
Book Sales		44.80	
Total Income			48.69
Expenses			
BOG Group		-35.00	
Committee			
Venue	-66.75		
Refreshments	-35.80		
		-102.55	
Meetings			
Venue	-910.00		
Speakers	-156.65		
Bletchley Park (budget)	-500.00		
Refreshments	-474.29		
		-2,040.94	
Publications			
Printing	-122.94		
Publications	-230.00		
Postage	-182.40		
Internet	-55.00		
		-590.34	
Web Competition			
Mailing	-16.60		
Presenters	-14.98		
Prizes	-217.73		
Refreshments	-108.18		
		-357.49	
Total Expenses			-3,126.32
Net Expenses			-3,077.63
Allocation less Net Expenses			1.37

Tony Cox
Treasurer
22-Apr-04