

11 September 2008**Joining up Business and IT**
Dr C James Bacon**Independent Consultant, Author & Academic**

This seminar and workshop, based upon global research with hundreds of business managers and academics, is about a Model and accompanying Process for effectively joining up Business and IT. It shares the knowledge and results gained thus far, and invites comments and suggestions.

9 October 2008**Amazon Web Services: Cloud Computing in Action****Jeff Barr, Senior Manager, Web Services Evangelism, Amazon UK**

This will discuss the evolution of web services, describe the advantages and business benefits of Cloud Architectures and explain how this relates to Amazon.

13 November 2008**Putting Games Technology to Serious Use**
Dr Sara de Freitas, Research Director, Serious Games Institute

Serious Games involve the use of electronic games technologies and methodologies for purposes other than entertainment. These include: e-learning, simulation, team building, collaboration and opinion shaping. Some recent projects are described implementing these technologies.

19 November 2008**BCS Careers Unlocked**
Venue Oxford Castle OX1 1AY

Whether just starting a career in IT or growing within your current role, the BCS will assist you to unlock your career. This is your invite to visit us in a very unique location and talk to successful businessmen and women in IT, browse the BCS professional services and receive advice to become a success in the IT industry.

4 December 2008 - Christmas Lecture**The Spy in the Coffee Machine****Venue Rewley House, Oxford OX1 2JA**
Kieron O'Hara, Senior Research Fellow, Southampton University

The talk subtitled "The End of Privacy as We Know It", is a new book about the implications of privacy in today's increasingly web-based world. It is written by Nigel Shadbolt and Kieron O'Hara, two prominent figures in the realm of Web Science. With chapters titled "They Snoop to Conquer" and "A Man's Best Friend is his Blog", the book treats a serious subject in a refreshingly light-hearted and accessible way. Kieron will talk about the issues raised in the book and the implications for us and the generations to come.

*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 7:00pm for 7.30 start and end at around 9:00pm. Light refreshments at 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 for 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@bcs.org.uk, oxon.secretary@bcs.org.uk, oxon.webmaster@bcs.org.uk.

22 January 2009**How to Solve IT Problems in 97% Less Time**
Paul Offord, Development Director, advance7

ICT Departments are coming under increasing pressure to fix problems quickly and fix them for good. In this presentation the speaker shows how method-based problem diagnosis can find the Root Cause of a problem consistently faster than any other approach.

19 February 2009**Real World RDF Databases**
Christian Davis, Development Director & Steve Harris, Head of Architecture, Garlik

An overview of RDF database methods, its real world application and use of RDF data and storage. The talk describes Garlik's development and use of RDF data storage capability. The design, architectural and development challenges and data store metrics (size, performance).

12 March 2009**Conferencing & Smarter Working**
Giorgio Bragoli & Neil Johnstone
DigitalMeeting

With advances in technology, audio visual conferencing has now reached the desktop. The aim of this talk is to promote the use of conferencing by showing its generic features and to put these in the context for companies of all sizes.

23 April 2009**Visit to Sophos Anti Virus Lab**
Venue Sophos plc, Abingdon OX14 3YP
Main speaker: Mark Harris, Director

Sophos receive around 20,000 malware samples, process millions of spam messages every day and find a newly infected web page every 6 seconds. How modern malware works, the link between spam, malware and the web will be shown. Real malware and the systems and tools that SophosLabs use in the response to protect their customers will be demonstrated. On arrival there will be light refreshments in the Atrium.

*Spaces will be limited so we shall ask members to book online***21 May 2009****Silverlight: The Art of the Possible & Branch AGM****Michael McClary, Web Agency Platform Strategy Advisor, Microsoft UK**

Silverlight is a cross-browser, cross-platform plug-in from Microsoft which enables rich user experiences; from widgets and games to interactive high-definition video and Rich Internet Applications. Michael will deliver an 'Art of the Possible' session in which the background and usage of Silverlight is interspersed with many demos and real-world examples, along with a discussion of its position in a growing software and service world.

Wine and cheese will be served from 7.00pm