OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH

THE BRITISH COMPUTER SOCIETY

2004/05 Programme

Meetings:
- are held monthly from September to May
- take place, unless otherwise stated, at the Computing Laboratory, Wolfson Building, Parks Rd Oxford
- begin at 7.30pm, with light refreshments usually available from 7.00pm
- end at around 9.00pm
- ARE OPEN TO NON-MEMBERS.

After each meeting, some of the committee visit the Lamb and Flag public house (5 mins walk).
All are welcome to join for informal chat.

For more details, or any late changes, see http://www.oxon.bcs.org/

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---Thursday 21 April 2005---

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY: WHAT DO I OWN?
Jennifer Pierce, Partner at Charles Russell

Intellectual property affects hardware, software and many aspects of computer and internet use.

Jennifer will explain what the intellectual property terms of software licences mean in practice (such as terms relating to interfaces and decompilation), some of the pitfalls of joint development and further development of licensed software. She will also cover the protection of databases, web-sites, trade marks, domain names and other internet-related issues.

Jennifer is a contributing author to the new BCS book A Manager's Guide to IT Law.

---Thursday 19 May 2005---

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
(after Cheese & Wine buffet), followed by
MANDATORY PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION
IN THE IT INDUSTRY - FUTURE OR FICTION?
Charles Hughes, BCS Deputy President (Elec)

A presentation to debate the BCS strategy to promote and establish professionalism in IT.

As future President of the BCS, Charles Hughes will be central to taking Professional IT recognition through BCS membership to industry, and the value in the BCS as the only professional IT body.

We are running the popular BCS Oxfordshire SCHOOLS WEBSITE COMPETITION again this year. The competition will be launched in the early autumn with the prize giving in June 2005 at Cranfield University in Shrivenham. If you know any schools who might like to take part, point them at www.oxon.bcs.org/webcomp2005/
COMPUTER FORENSICS: THE ROLE OF THE EXPERT WITNESS
Prof. Neil Barrett BSc PhD CEng FBCS CITP
Neil Barrett is Visiting Professor of computer crime at Cranfield University and author of the book *Traces of Guilt*.

His talk will include the following topics:
• What is Computer Forensics?
• Issues of Evidence from Computers
• The Law and Computers
• Preparing statements for Court
• The Role of the Expert Witness
• Issues with the ‘Trojan Defence’
• Examples of Cases.

A LIVELY DEBATE ON THE MERITS OF WINDOWS AND OPEN SOURCE AND THE FUTURE OF OPERATING SYSTEMS
Speakers from Microsoft, Sun, Novell & HP (tbc)
With Novell's acquisition of SuSE and the emergence of Sun's Java Desktop, some experts are arguing that Linux is ready for prime time on the front end as well as the back end.

What do vendors have to say about this? Are the claims borne out by user experiences, or does Windows provide the most future-proof platform for growth?

BCS OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH CHRISTMAS LECTURE 2004
As arranged for the very successful prestige Christmas Lectures in previous years traditional seasonal drinks and mince pies will be provided prior to the talk.

Speaker and date to be confirmed – watch out for details on the branch Web site.

THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF ACADEMIC NETWORKING
Dr Bob Day, Network Development Director and Tim Kidd, Production Services Director, UKERNA JANET, the UK’s education and research network is 20 years old and connects over 16 million users in universities, colleges, research councils and schools.

The speakers will outline the history of the network and look at the challenges that they face in running and developing JANET including the technologies that JANET employs and developments in network engineering.