

# **THE BRITISH COMPUTER SOCIETY**

## **Lincolnshire Branch Chair's Report 2008**

Since 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2007, we have been operating a fully fledged branch of the BCS. The membership of the Lincolnshire Branch currently stands at over 500 members, of whom over 100 are student members. Mary Clarkson, Chair of the Leicestershire Branch, has continued to support us as branch Mentor throughout this period. I would like to record here our thanks to Mary in this role.

The committee elected at last year's AGM has served throughout the year without any changes. Beth Massey has been co-opted by the Chair to serve on the committee as the BCSWomen representative; and in this role will be escorting two of our women student members to the BCSWomen Lovelace Colloquium for undergraduate women students of Computing in June 2008. All committee members are prepared to continue serving if re-elected.

Throughout 2007–2008, the branch has held a number of events: professional meetings, a social event, and an educational outing. All events have been open to the public as well as BCS members. Below is the diary of events held in this past year. Fuller details are available on our website (<http://lincolnshire.bcs.org/>).

Throughout the year, we have been fortunate to have the use of the University of Lincoln's EMMTEC Building as a meeting venue. In appreciation of this, the Chair on behalf of the branch has recently made a donation of £400 to the university's book fund. We also successfully applied for student prizes to award to Computing students at the University of Lincoln, Lincoln College, and North Lindsey College; the second round of these will be awarded to students in the summer of 2008.

This first year as full Branch has been exciting. We have established ourselves within the wider BCS community and locally within our region. We are looking forward to the another year with an exciting programme of events and activities: the OLPC outreach project, links with the Lincoln Astronomical Society and its computer controlled telescope project, to name but a few. In 2007–08, we were successful in increasing student memberships within the branch making us among the top ten UK universities with respect to our level of BCS student membership. It has been a pleasure for me to serve as chair throughout this year; and I look forward to serving again in this post in 2008–09 with the newly elected committee.

The BCS Lincolnshire Branch aims to serve members of the British Computer Society in the Lincolnshire area and beyond. Our aim is to provide both professional and social activities throughout the year to BCS members of all categories and the wider public.

On behalf of the Committee of the Lincolnshire Branch of the BCS:

Professor Cornelia Boldyreff, FBCS and Branch Chair

20 May 2008

BCS Lincolnshire Branch Diary of Events in 2007–08

Thursday 27 September 2007: Cyber Security, eCrime, eFraud, and eTerror  
Speaker: Professor John Walker, Visiting Professor of Science and  
Technology at the School of Infomatics, NTU, Nottingham.  
(over 20 attendees)

Thursday 11 October 2007: An introduction to installing/using GNU/Linux for beginners  
Speakers: Lincolnshire Linux User Group members

Note: Joint meeting with Lincolnshire Linux User Group (<http://www.lincs.lug.org.uk/>) – and with

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BCS Open Source Specialist Group (<http://ossg.bcs.org/>).

(over 20 attendees)

Thursday 25 October 2007: ITIL (IT Infrastructure Library) Version 3 – the future of Best Practice in IT Service Management

Speaker: Stuart Wright, Pro-Attivo IT Service Management Consultancy (less than 20 attendees)

Tuesday 20 November 2007: CMMI (Capability Maturity Model Integration) for Software Engineering Organisations

Speaker: Peter Lawrence, Global Director Process Definition, Deployment and Assessment, CSC

([plawren1@csc.com](mailto:plawren1@csc.com))

(20 attendees)

Thursday 13 December 2007: Informal Christmas Party and Computer Quiz with Prizes

17<sup>th</sup> January 2008: The Gopher game: A social, mobile, locative game with user generated content and peer review, Dr Duncan Rowalnd and Sean Casey (10 attendees)

19<sup>th</sup> February 2008: Life after Lincoln– Building Your IT Career (& Continuing Your BCS Membership) *Special meeting for all DCI students to be held from 1p.m. to 2p.m. followed by refreshments, Mrs Mary Clarkson, Chair of Leicestershire BCS Branch and Maria Morgan , BCS Membership Adviser (over 40 student and staff attendees)*

19<sup>th</sup> February 2008: The wider aspects of information systems and the use of a soft systems approach to understanding them, *Dr Sue Howell, Open University. (over 20 attendees)*

4 March 2008: A Model to Tackle Aging and Degradation of Software Systems, *Dr Andrea Capiluppi, Department of Computing and Informatics, University of Lincoln and Lincoln Centre for Software Maintenance (less than 20 attendees)*

5<sup>th</sup> April 2008: Trip to Bletchley Park National Codes Centre (all day approx 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.) (35 attendees)

22 April 2008: Virtual Business: From Virtual Communities to Virtual Worlds, *Dr Brendan d’Cruz, Business School, University of East London (10 attendees)*

20 May 2008: Free Software / Open Source: The enabler for Social Inclusion?, *Mr Eddie Bleasdale, Netproject (over 20 attendees)*

Final event of the year

27–29 May 2008 ITIL Foundation Course, limited to 18 attendees who have already signed up for this course.