



The Chartered Institute for IT  
Enabling the information society

BCS Berkshire Branch Newsletter

October 2016

## Welcome

Welcome to the BCS Berkshire branch newsletter for October 2016. We would like to thank members and University Technical College, Reading; for a successful AGM last month. Here are the news and events happening over the next month...

## Forthcoming events

### BCS Berkshire Branch - Events Survey 2016

#### Member Survey



The BCS Berkshire branch is conducting a survey on potential events for members. The survey is very short (only 6 questions) and should not take more than 2 minutes to complete. We value your opinion and would appreciate your participation at

<https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=147015070968>.

This is the final week we'll be running the survey; it would be great if you can cease this last chance to suggest some exciting programmes to run in the coming year.

### Public event, Tuesday 11th October 2016 - 18:30 -21:00

#### The Business Impact of Technology at Oracle Customer Visit Centre, TVP, Reading RG6 1RA



BCS Elite and the Institute of Directors present: "The Business Impact of Technology". Are you missing out on a 20% increase in sales and revenue? Businesses are seeing up to 20% growth in Sales and Revenue through using new technology and data. Can you increase your competitiveness? Similarly, the press is rife of stories about the abuse, misuse and security of information. IOD Berkshire and ELITE Thames Valley bring together both sides to allow an open and frank discussion on how to take advantage of the data that you own and new "free" data available to you. This is also a great time to consider at a board level the new regulation from next year (2017). For full details of the event and booking, see <http://berkshire.bcs.org/events>.

### External event, Tuesday 11th October 2016 - 19:30 -21:30

#### Reading Geek Night at The Walkabout Reading



The Reading Geek Night! A friendly and welcoming community for enthusiasts. We meet 2nd Tuesday of the month. Come and listen to talks and meet new people over beer. There is also an opportunity for any short announcements etc.

Check out the Reading Geek Night website for details of the program for the day - <https://rdggeeknight.wordpress.com/> or tweet: [@RDGGeekNight](https://twitter.com/RDGGeekNight).

**Public event, Tuesday 1st November 2016 – 19:30 -21:30**  
**Committee Meeting at UTC Reading**



The BCS Berkshire Committee Meeting is held the first Tuesday of every month at one of the listed locations. In November, the committee meeting is at UTC Reading, Crescent Road, Reading, RG1 5RQ.

Attendance is by invitation only. If you want to attend a meeting, then please contact the chair.

**External event, Tuesday 8th November 2016 - 19:30 -21:30**  
**Reading Geek Night at The Walkabout Reading**



The Reading Geek Night! A friendly and welcoming community for enthusiasts. We meet 2nd Tuesday of the month. Come and listen to talks and meet new people over beer. There is also an opportunity for any short announcements etc. Check out the Reading Geek Night website for details of the program for the day - <https://rdggeeknight.wordpress.com/> or tweet: [@RDGGeekNight](https://twitter.com/RDGGeekNight).

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## Volunteering

### Volunteering with organisations and individuals

The BCS Berkshire Branch acts as a go-between to put volunteers in touch with organisations and individuals who need help. If you want to help then fill out a [skills sheet \(xls\)](#), change its file name to your name, and email it to: [volunteering.berkshire@bcs.org.uk](mailto:volunteering.berkshire@bcs.org.uk). Please also register with [IT Can Help \(ITCH\)](#).... If you represent an organisation that needs help, or have any other suggestions at all, please email: [volunteering.berkshire@bcs.org.uk](mailto:volunteering.berkshire@bcs.org.uk).

### IT/Programming volunteers needed in Reading area

Voluntary organisations in the Reading area are often looking for help with their IT systems. if you think that you may be able to help please check out the requirements at <http://rva.org.uk/search-volunteering-opportunities/>. Just click on "what kind of task" and click on IT/programming.

The requirements are changing all the time, so please revisit that site from time to time. If you do follow up on any of these please let the relevant organisation know that you saw the opportunity on BCS Berks website and let us know too.

### Shaw Trust Digital Support Volunteer Report

Update on Liz Cooper's volunteering for The Shaw Trust

We are proud to report that Liz received the following commendation for her work and we also thank her for raising the profile of BCS Berkshire.

“Hi Liz,

Just wanted to share some feedback from our Retail Director, John Canessa on your archive sheet and volunteering in Egham so far – see below.

This is brilliant stuff & I know the team at Egham, who were really challenged by the need to use a PC in their work, have really appreciated it. I think one of the things it does show is that for people to whom the computer doesn't come naturally, there is no substitute for 1-2-1 support. I know you'll be working on it, but If we could replicate Liz Cooper's work in the other regions it would have an

incredible effect on those who are struggling elsewhere.

Thanks Liz for your support.”

Gemma McGrath | Volunteering Development Specialist, Shaw-Trust

### **Committee Member Needed**

We currently have an opening in our committee for the role of:

- 1) Web Content Manager (Deputy Webmaster)

If you would like to help out then please do get in touch by contacting our Chair, Anthony Parker on [antgparker@bcs.org.uk](mailto:antgparker@bcs.org.uk)

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### **Other IT Events around Berkshire**

**ConnectTVT** - Connecting Thames Valley Tech is a Reading-based platform bringing together the Thames Valley's fast-growing entrepreneurial ecosystem, tech and digital economy, in Reading. Check out some interesting upcoming events on their website - <https://www.connectvt.co.uk/events>

Connect Basingstoke would be running a number of events during the Basingstoke Tech Week from Monday 10 to Sunday 16 October, 2016. For details, see: [www.basingstokebiz.com/connect-basingstoke](http://www.basingstokebiz.com/connect-basingstoke).

Connect Basingstoke would like to invite people to an event on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 by “The Google Developers Group”. The link to register for the GDG is at Meetup - sign up at [www.meetup.com/Google-Developer-Group-Hants-Surrey](http://www.meetup.com/Google-Developer-Group-Hants-Surrey).

Join the “The Basingstoke Hack Weekend”, an exciting 35hr event of no going home, no sleeping, but creating digital solutions; from Saturday 15 to Sunday 16 October, 2016 at the Basingstoke College of Technology (BCoT). Register individually or form a team of business and technical people and developers; and email the B&D Council at [business@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:business@basingstoke.gov.uk). For further information, visit: [www.basingstokebiz.com/connect-basingstoke](http://www.basingstokebiz.com/connect-basingstoke).

### **BCS Berkshire Forthcoming Events for 2016**

Watch out for our forthcoming events on entrepreneurship, learning and development, modern trends in software testing, change management, think shop, data privacy and many others.

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See our Website for further event information - <http://berkshire.bcs.org/>

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