



Welcome

Welcome to the BCS Berkshire branch newsletter for September 2016. We hope everyone had a restful summer break. 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>.

The survey is open from now.

External event, Tuesday 13th September 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).

Member event, Wednesday 21st September 2016 – 19:00 -21:30

Annual General Meeting - BCS Berkshire Branch at UTC Reading, Crescent Road, RG1 5RQ



Notice is hereby given of the forthcoming Annual General Meeting of BCS Berkshire Branch which will be held at UTC, Crescent Road, Reading, RG1 5RQ on Wednesday 21st September 2016 commencing at 7pm. All members are welcome to attend our AGM. There will also be election of Officers and Committee members for the year 2016-17. We welcome and encourage nominations from members for vacant positions. For full details of the events programme and nomination forms, see <http://berkshire.bcs.org/events>.

***Note: The AGM will be followed by a talk entitled "Almost VR"*

Public event, Wednesday 21st September 2016 – 19:00 -21:30

Talk - "Almost VR" at UTC Reading, Crescent Road, Reading, RG1 5RQ



VR is a fascinating technology experience where unimaginable technology driven activities are made to seem real and close to life. VR technologies have been described as ubiquitous, but have you wondered how VR is used in HR activities, especially for delivering exciting training and organisational learning activities? Come and join us for the talk on "Almost VR" and find out more about VR systems; and how these are changing the way we experience technology. The event is free to attend but booking is essential:

<https://events.bcs.org/book/2196/>.

Public event, Wednesday 4th October 2016 – 19:30 -21:30

Committee Meeting at University of Reading, Whiteknights Campus



The BCS Berkshire Committee Meeting is held the first Tuesday or Wednesday of every month at one of the listed locations. In October the committee meeting is at University of Reading, Whiteknights Campus, Reading, Berkshire.

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

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



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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).

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. 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.

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 Members Needed

We currently have an opening in our committee for the following roles:

- 1) Communications Manager
- 2) 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

Other IT Events in 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>

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.

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