

Date: Sunday, 20 July 2014

Theme: Bletchley Park – The National Museum of Computing – Family Day

Time: Doors open at 10.30am for an 11.00am start

Location: The National Museum of Computing, Bletchley, Milton Keynes MK3 6EB
(<http://www.tnmoc.org/>)

Abstract

You are warmly invited to take part in a Family Day in July at Bletchley Park's National Museum of Computing (TNMOC) on Sunday 20 July. Bring all the family – there will be activities suitable for children of all ages.

This event is for members of BCS Bedford and Northampton branches and their families.



TNMOC enables visitors to follow the development of computing from the ultra-secret pioneering efforts of the 1940s through the mainframes of the 1960s and 1970s, and the rise of personal computing in the 1980s - including a newly rebuilt and fully operational Colossus, the world's first electronic programmable computer.

TNMOC receives no government or lottery funding and you will be impressed by the enthusiasm of the staff involved in the project including the many volunteers who regularly give up their valuable time to ensure that this ever growing collection is restored and maintained.

You will need to register at

<http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/date/112421> - **Northampton Branch**

<http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/date/111246>. - **Bedford Branch**

It would be a good idea to register NOW since the event is completely free for the first 40 people who register (20 people from each branch). Note that children below the age of 6 years are welcome but will not be included in these numbers (but we still need their

details for catering purposes). There will be a small charge for people who wish to attend above this number (unless there are cancellations). If you are unable to register free at the above address, please register your interest for the event at the booking link below. Should a cancellation place become available you will be contacted by the BCS Please note that this maybe close to the actual event date.

<https://events.bcs.org/book/1167/>

Luncheon and drinks will be provided free of charge.

A base room will be made available for use during the day with tea, coffee and water freely available all day. The LEGO will be kept in this room so that those who do not complete the competition in the morning will have the opportunity to try it in the afternoon.

Agenda

- 10.30am Registration and refreshments
- 11.00am Welcome
Tour of the LEGO-DUPLO Building with activities for children including a LEGO competition (build a vintage computer from LEGO blocks)
OR
Guided Tour of 'The National Museum of Computing'
- 12.30am Luncheon
- After lunch Free-flow through 'The National Museum of Computing'. You are free to wander at will and enjoy all the interactive displays. There are a multitude of activities suitable for all ages - not least vintage games consoles, a host of other games and also coding opportunities on the BBC Micro, in Scratch and on the Raspberry Pi (in its Fuze guise).
Tour of the Colossus and Tunny Galleries
View of the world's oldest original working digital computer – the Harwell Dekatron computer aka 'WITCH'
Women in Computing

The agenda is still being finalised but will include a family quiz between Bedford and Northants branches. Let's hope that the sun continues to shine so we can get out the giant lawn chess set!



How to get there

The National Museum of Computing is located on the Bletchley Park Estate, near Milton Keynes. The post code is MK3 6EB. When using a sat-nav please enter Sherwood Drive, Bletchley, as the postcode may take you to the wrong location.

At the Main Gate of Bletchley Park ask for The National Museum of Computing in Block H. There are parking spaces there and parking is free.

For further information see <http://www.tnmoc.org/visit/getting-here>.

Disabled Access

The museum has wheelchair access to all galleries and displays, and there is a unisex disabled toilet near the TNMOC Shop.