

Minutes of September 2008 Meeting of the Northampton Branch BCS Committee

Meeting Held 8pm, 18th September 2008, Harpole Beefeater

Present

Malcolm Collins – Chair Person
Richard Cooper – Treasurer
Dave Ellard – Webmaster
Andrew Page – Public Relations Officer
Paul Squires – Secretary
Graham Wallace – Membership Secretary, Email Co-ordinator
David Niven – General Committee Member

Apologies

Susan Bailey – ELO, Female Membership Officer
Johnny Beardsmore – YPG (Professional)

Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes for the last meeting were accepted.

Matters Arising

No matters arising carried over from previous season.

Treasurers report

The treasurer reported that no data has been received from HQ therefore current figures are an estimate only. If no further update before Branches Congress on 24th the chair who is attending will chase HQ in person.

£1500 remaining minus £500 for the Attendance Laptop Prize, leaving approximately £1000

Membership report

833 members total, of which 116 have joined this year, and 26 since the start of July.

55 are over 60, with 10 over 70, and 15 of unknown age.

Current Programme

2 nd Oct '08	The Enigma Machine 9 registrations prior the meeting Sue has booked the room and will need to know the numbers for food 48 hours prior to the event. Action 0908-01 Dave to supply sue with figures for food by Tuesday 30 th September Action 0908-02: Graham to do a mail shot on 25 th for this plus any news that originates from Branches Congress (from Malcolm who is attending) Action 0908-03: Andy to go on the local radio to publicise Monday 29 th September
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	There is an idea from Graham that we should hold a follow up event at Bletchley Park including a guided tour round the computing museum. The committee discussed and decided that it would probably be a chargeable event and that Graham should obtain availability for Tue, Wed, or Thu last week in April '09 (Action 0908-04)
6 th Nov '08	What have the Romans ever done for the computer industry? Committee discussed an alternative location. Action 0908-05: David Niven to seek pricing and availability for a venue in Kettering to accommodate up to 30 attendees
Dec '08	Xmas event It has been commented that last years' event was particularly good and a similar event would be good for this year. In was also noted that the membership did not respond to any queries for choice of venue and that those who did were not interested in themed events. The treasurer's partner, Laura has been volunteered to research possibilities to be presented at next committee for a decision (Action 0908-06).
15 th Jan '09	Agile Development Project Management Ongoing, fine at present
19 th Mar '09	Technology Transfer from Motor Sport to Road Cars, Prodrive Malcolm has agreed a visit to the new OU building offered by a member at the AGM. The speaker from Prodrive has agreed to bring two sample vehicles so the event is likely to be popular and interesting.

Future Programme

September '09 first meeting in season, other branches have a sit down meal and networking event, this sounds like a good idea to be pursued.

Andy is looking into a modified re-run of the popular Mind the Skills Gap event

Malcolm has provisionally approached a speaker who did a well regarded event at Coventry on Video Conferencing, including a demo across different rooms.

IT in music – David Niven has a potential contact and he will look into this

Colossus – a follow up to the Bletchley Park event

ITIL talk from the business IT lecturers at the University of Northampton

Malcolm noted we had been offered a tour of Greenwich University by Alan Broadway one of our former committee members

Any Other Business

Web profiles not posted for Richard or Johnny after email from chair on 29th July. Action 0908-07: provide profiles to Webmaster (if not already done) and webmaster to upload.

Malcolm advised the meeting that our BMC mentor has changed from Mary Clarkson to Kevin Chamberlain. It was also noted that his responsibility was now much higher number of branches thus it is felt a detriment to service from HQ.

Discussion was held about what had happened to Bedford branch. It was agreed that the chair would discuss with HQ at Branches Congress regarding amalgamation of their membership with ours.

There is a new outreach liaison who is dealing with student prizes branching out to lower levels of education. Action 0908-08 Sue to get in touch with Claire Davenport to progress our ideas on student prizes.

Date of Next Meeting

16th October, 8pm, Harpole Beefeater

Actions

Carried Over

Action Ref	Action	Responsible	Target Completion
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New

Action Ref	Action	Responsible	Target Completion
0908-01	Supply Sue with numbers required for food at 2 nd Oct event	Dave E	30/09/08
0908-02	Mailshot on 25/09 to advertise Engima Event + Branches Congress material	Graham	25/09/08
0908-03	Publicise Enigma event on local radio on 29/09	Andy	29/09/08
0908-04	Obtain pricing and availability for Tue, Wed, Thu in last week of April '09 for Bletchley Park guided evening tour	Graham	Next committee
0908-05	Obtain pricing and availability for venues in Kettering to hold 6 th Nov event	David N	Next committee
0908-06	Research events for Xmas do and provide shortlist for next committee to decide on	Laura	Next committee
0908-07	Johnny, Richard to Provide profiles to webmaster for upload (if not already done). Webmaster to upload	Johnny / Richard / Dave	ASAP
0908-08	Get in touch with Claire Davenport to progress our ideas on student prizes	Sue	Next committee