British Computer Society (Bedford and Northants branches) Visit to Bletchley Park – Family Day

Date: Sunday, 29 July 2015

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 19 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/XXXXX.

It would be a good idea to register NOW since the number is limited to a maximum of 50 (25 people from each branch) and the event is heavily subsidised by the BCS. 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). The cost per person (6

years and over) for the whole day is £10 and this includes a finger/sandwich buffet lunch.
Registration is only available to BCS members.

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	Arrival, registration and refreshments
11.00am	Welcome and talk by Guide. Guided Tour of 'The National Museum of Computing' OR Activities for younger children including a LEGO competition (build a vintage computer from LEGO blocks)
1.00pm	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, and a host of other games. Supervised children would be welcome to participate in Weekend Codability with Rapid Router from Ocado Technology, or learn BASIC on a BBC Micro or Raspberry Pi (in its FUZE guise). Tour of the Colossus and the new NATs and Tunny Galleries View of the world's oldest original working digital computer – the Harwell Dekatron computer aka 'WITCH'. The agenda will also include competitions (with prizes) and quizzes.

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.