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Secretary, Membership Secretary, Email Co-ordinator
BCS Northamptonshire Branch



I was originally a BCS Student Member during my time at University in the early 1990's, however like so many people my membership lapsed once I had finished my degree. Rejoining in 2005 as a professional Member I took a keen interest in the events put on by the branch, and soon became involved with the Northamptonshire Branch committee.

Taking the role of Secretary for the 2006/07 Season was very rewarding, and for the 2007/08 Season I have added Membership Secretary and Email Co-ordinator as other complimentary roles. The main focus of these positions are to arrange committee meetings, take the minutes, capture event attendance Data, and communicate with the Branch Membership and BCS Headquarters. I attended last year's Autumn Branches Congress with our Publicity officer Andy Page, and this year gained CITP.

My experience started with experiments on the Sinclair ZX Spectrum at home and carried on through the Classroom where I took an educational route into a technical IT through a Sandwich Degree in Computer Science at The University of Hertfordshire, gaining 1st Class Honours. To help fund my studies I did some contract software design and development for a local manufacturing SME, the result of which was a networked Clipper5 solution that they used on their Novell file server for about 10 years before technological progress saw it decommissioned.

The year I spent in industry as part of my degree was at The Open University producing courseware for various disciplines.

Post university I joined a parking management SME, in an IT support role, based in London. This took me away from the software design/development area into 1st line technical support for a Unix based database application with a Dataflex Backend. This was delivered to desktop PC's using Terminal Emulation over Wide Area Networks built on BT Kilostream and Megastream products and bridged Networking. The key areas of the application software were document management and case lifecycle progression.

I spent the next 3 years broadening my experience, eventually playing a major role in the implementation of a real-time Clamp and Removal system based on an Oracle Backend. This project saw us working on behalf of the DVLA to deliver their Vehicle Excise Duty Evasion scheme.

My progress from there was to 2nd and 3rd line support, during which time we migrated the applications onto Windows NT 4 and SQL Server 6.5 technologies. I then took on a Management post and started a second IT support centre combined with a Data centre based out of Northampton. I always kept my techie focus and enjoyed helping the team deliver solutions to the clients.

In 1999 we introduced Cisco IP Telephony to the business, which rolled out over 16 sites nationwide using BT's MPLS IP Clear network to deliver QoS on the WAN. During the period 2000-2006 we relocated the data centre to bigger premises, and implemented newer platforms such as Windows 2000/2003, migrating to an Active Directory forest, Exchange 5.5 & 2003 and SQL 2000/2005.

I decided to move on in 2007, and my latest challenge has been with an IT consultancy assisting with the total outsource of a large European group's infrastructure.

Outside work my interests are console gaming, and whiling away time looking at gliders at the London Gliding Club.