



## Hertfordshire Branch

September, 2009

Dear Branch Member,

### **Welcome to the 2009-10 season of Branch meetings**

I have pleasure in enclosing the Hertfordshire Branch Programme for 2009-10.

The big news inside the BCS is the transformation programme, which HQ is launching on 21<sup>st</sup> September, with changes to the logo, the web-site and more far-reaching strategic moves to increase the BCS's membership and influence internationally.

There is change too at branch level: the financial year-end has been moved to 31<sup>st</sup> August, so our next AGM will be in September 2010, rather than in May.

I trust you will find much of interest in this session's programme. The increasing impact that environmental issues are having on the ICT industry is much in evidence in the topics, spanning data centres, collaboration, virtualisation and a broad review of ICT's impact and potential contribution. To assure variety, we also bring you presentations on benefiting from contract law, wireless communications, simulating the resilience of the critical national infrastructure and, to kick off, some key questions on the conflict between public monitoring and personal privacy. This session's innovation is a quiz night, rather than a formal presentation, at The Crabtree, which is not far from Steria in Hemel Hempstead.

We are grateful to Steria for making their premises available for meetings and once again generously sponsored printing of the programme card. Late changes to events will be posted on the Branch's web-site. I should like to record my thanks to the committee for their considerable efforts in assembling the programme, preparing it for posting.

As always, the committee encourages Branch members to make suggestions for future presentations, visits and, indeed, alternative venues – we appreciate that Hemel Hempstead does not suit everyone. I trust you will enjoy the programme and I look forward to welcoming you to our meetings.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Stephen Browne MBCS, CITP  
Chairman