

**bcS**

Hertfordshire branch

The  
Chartered  
Institute  
for IT

Enabling the information  
society

The BCS promotes wider social and economic progress  
through the advancement of information technology  
science and practice

2013 - 2014


events  
programme


steria

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 BcsHertfordshireBranch

ARM® Cortex®-M3 MCU (microcontroller)  
Source: Creative Commons, February 2013, ZeptoBars



# What's on at your BCS

For the latest information and to book, visit us at [www.herts.bcs.org/events](http://www.herts.bcs.org/events)



October

## | Enabling Communication Through Technology

Wednesday, 9th October 2013 - 7.30 p.m. | University of Hertfordshire

The face of communication has changed dramatically over the past 25 years. We communicate through email, VOIP, social media, body language, gestures and voice. But have you ever stopped to consider what your world would be like if you were unable to communicate? Discover one man's journey through technology to regain the ability to communicate and in so doing create a life worth living.

**Martin Pistorius**, Augmentative and Alternative Communication advocate & author 'The Ghost Boy'

November

## | Innovation, Careers, The Future: The ARM Road to Success

Wednesday, 13th November 2013 - 7.30 p.m. | University of Hertfordshire

In the connected world it is hard to find a smartphone, tablet or a slate device that is not powered by the technologies pioneered and developed by ARM. The latest ARM Cortex microprocessor family is widely used by Google, Samsung, Microsoft, Nokia, Raspberry PI and Arduino - to name but a few. From its early beginnings, the company has grown to be a global leader in its field and has been named as one of Britain's top employers as well as one of its most innovative companies'. This talk will explore how ARM manages to keep innovating in the competitive and internationalised market, how ARM remains able to rapidly adapt towards changing market trends and how the company sees the future of itself as well as the mobile device industry - starting with its roadmap for the ARM Cortex Processor.

**Chris Shore**, ARM Training and Education Manager, ARM Ltd

December

## | The Future of Virtual Reality: Telepresence and Immersion

Wednesday, 4th December 2013 - 8.00 p.m. | Steria

Based (loosely) on the idea from Star Trek, 'Beaming' is the process of using high-end virtual reality equipment, robotic platforms and scene reconstruction software (augmented reality) to virtually teleport a user to another destination while delivering the feeling of direct presence for all participants.

In this talk, Professor Anthony Steed will place Beaming in the context of a history of advanced tele-collaboration systems and will demonstrate how, through the Beaming system we can foster high-quality, immersive interaction while abandoning the notion that each party has to access similar equipment and software in order to participate in the shared environment.

**Anthony Steed**, Professor of Virtual Environments & Computer Graphics, University College London

January

## | The Birth of Radar; its Influence on the Evolution of Electronics

Thursday, 23rd January 2014 - 8.00 p.m. | Steria

Ian's talk tells how the very secret development of Radar during the Second World War took pre-war Radio and Telephone technology and spawned the basis of digital techniques such as the flip-flop, used by the million in early computer memories. When Ian joined the secret establishment code named TRE, initially as a Lab assistant at the age of sixteen in 1940, he was witness to this amazing transformation, later taking part in it. He also describes the formation, in conjunction with a colleague, of his own company - Avionic Systems (Heathrow) Ltd - and the part he played in the development of the automatic landing of aircraft in zero visibility, together with some amusing anecdotes along the way.

**Ian Goult**, Retired Avionics engineer, co-founder of Avionic Systems (Heathrow) Ltd

February

## | Future Spooks: Secret Intelligence in 2030

Tuesday, 11th February 2014 - 7.30 p.m. | University of Hertfordshire (Prince Edward Hall)

This talk considers the impact of changes in ICT upon the world of secret intelligence. Since the events of 9/11 intelligence services have resolved to spend less time looking at states and their armed forces and more time looking a people and non-state actors. But government is divided about how this might be done. Some favour more emphasis on old-style human espionage. Others favour collecting routine digital data, what the CIA call the "electronic exhaust fumes of our lives" in the hope that this will allow them to resolve crimes perpetrated in the past and, eventually, in the future.

**Richard J Aldrich**, Professor of International Security, Institute of Advanced Study, University of Warwick

March

## | The new micro-electronics revolution, talk and build

Wednesday, 12th March 2014 - 7.30 p.m. | University of Hertfordshire

Attendees will be given (to keep) a micro-electronics kit which they can build during the talk. The kit contains electronic components such as, light and temperature sensors, switches, LEDs, prototyping breadboard as well as a micro-controller. The included micro-controller is used by professionals and serious amateurs for a vast range of projects such as robotics, autonomous vehicles, data logging, automation, music and art projects. This talk will explain the new revolution taking place in micro-electronics today. This revolution is allowing companies on very tight budgets to produce cost effective prototypes very quickly. The entry barriers have now dropped to such a point that individuals at home can easily design and build prototype boards without the usual expense associated with embedded development. The kit requires 4 x AAA batteries (not supplied). If you choose to build your kit during the talk, then please bring batteries so you can test your working design.

**Stephan Barnard**, Product development specialist, Noble Touch Limited

April

## | Inventing Ourselves to Oblivion? Technology, Progress and the Quality of Life

Thursday, 10th April 2014 - 8.00 p.m. | Steria

How have recent technological advances affected the way we live and what we get out of life? It has been assumed for centuries that technologies expand human capabilities, rendering us more effective and capable. Is this still the case, or have we crossed a watershed? The speaker will offer a relatively light-hearted analysis of this very serious issue, accompanied by some breath-taking examples.

**Mike Barwise**, Holistic Information Assurance Consultant, Integrated InfoSec

May

## | The UK economy: an update from the Bank of England

Wednesday, 28th May 2014 - 7.30 p.m. | University of Hertfordshire

Stable prices, low inflation and confidence in the currency are at the heart of the decisions made by the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee. Each quarter the Bank reports the detailed economic analysis and inflation projections which lead to interest rate decisions and an assessment of the prospects for UK inflation. Phil Eckersley is the Agent for the South East & East Anglia, one of twelve regional Agencies assessing economic conditions affecting businesses in their area, and he will provide an update based on the Bank's quarterly Inflation Report due to be published on Wednesday 14 May 2014. After joining the Bank in 1987, Phil worked as a statistician on money supply data. After a period with the management's accounts office, providing detailed cost briefing to Governors and Directors, Phil was appointed to the Bank's agency network in 1994.

**Phil Eckersley**, Agent for the South East & East Anglia, Bank of England

### BCS Hertfordshire Visits

Register at: [www.bcs.org/events/](http://www.bcs.org/events/)

#### Archery - Have a Go (BCS Members Only)

Tuesday, 10th June 2014 - 7.00 p.m.

We invite you to come relax and join us for a spot of Archery. Find out about this fascinating sport and perhaps discover your inner Robin Hood.

We will be visiting Abbey Bowmen (Herts) archery club (<http://www.abbeybowmen.btck.co.uk/>) at Verulam School playing fields, St Albans for a have-a-go session. They will provide all equipment and their qualified coaches will lead the event. It will be outdoors and will go ahead even if there is light rain. As spaces are limited advance booking is required.

**Note:** Venue entrance is next to 100 Sandpit lane, AL4 0BX

**Venue:** **Abbey Bowmen**, Verulam School playing fields, St Albans, near AL4 0BX

**Cost:** Free for members

#### AGM & Visit to State-of-the-art Green Data Centre

Thursday, 18th September 2014 - 7.00 p.m.

Our AGM is followed by a guided tour of a world class highly secure green Data Centre. A purpose built carrier-neutral Data Centre with State-of-the-art energy efficient cooling technology, SC-2 is an ultra-secure, highly resilient facility that focuses on three key features: Ultra-High Security, a completely enclosed site with perimeter fencing, barrier entry, CCTV and 24x7x365 manned security; Maximum Resilience, Tier 4 capability with a minimum of N+1 redundancy across all major components; High Density Solutions up to 30kW. The SC-2 Data Centre is owned by BioPark Interactive Ltd, a joint venture between ServerChoice Ltd and Exemplas Ltd (part of the University of Hertfordshire Group of Companies).

**Venue:** **Bio Park**, Broadwater Road, Welwyn Garden City, AL7 3AX

**Cost:** Free for both members and non-members



Join us on-line at  
[www.herts.bcs.org](http://www.herts.bcs.org)

# BCS Hertfordshire Committee 2013-2014



The committee of the BCS Hertfordshire branch is made up from a diverse range of volunteers with experience in the IT and Communications sectors. The committee represents the interests of BCS members located in Hertfordshire as well as parts of Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire.

If you have any feedback, comments or would like to get involved with the committee, please contact us using the information below or make yourself known to any of the BCS committee members listed at one of our events.

## Siva Niranjana

FBCS CITP

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**Feedback:** If you have any feedback, questions, suggestions, ideas or comments; or you would like to get involved with BCS Herts, please contact any committee member or visit:

[www.herts.bcs.org](http://www.herts.bcs.org)

With thanks to



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[www.herts.bcs.org](http://www.herts.bcs.org)



## How to Book

To register your place at any of our events please visit [www.herts.bcs.org/](http://www.herts.bcs.org/). All events are free to both members and non-members unless otherwise stated.

If you require any further information, would like to discuss facilities or special requirements or require transport assistance while visiting a BCS Hertfordshire event please contact [herts\\_sec@bcs.org.uk](mailto:herts_sec@bcs.org.uk) with your query.

## Venues

How to get there: [www.herts.bcs.org/findus/](http://www.herts.bcs.org/findus/)

### Sterea UK

**Address:** HP2 7AH | Sterea, Three Cherry Trees Lane, Hemel Hempstead

**By Road:** Near M1 Junction 8, M25 Junction 21 | **By Rail:** Hemel Hempstead via Euston

### University of Hertfordshire

**Address:** AL10 9AB | Lindop Building, University of Hertfordshire, College Lane, Hatfield

**By Road:** Near A1(M) Junction 4 | **By Rail:** Hatfield station via Kings Cross



**Note:** All meetings qualify as Continuing Professional Development. Any product, venue, activity or opinion expressed at a BCS Hertfordshire event does not imply any support, endorsement, or promotion of such products or views by the BCS.