BCS Berkshire Branch Newsletter   December 2017

Welcome

Welcome to the BCS Berkshire branch newsletter for December 2017. The following are events happening over the next few months...

Forthcoming events

Reading Geek Night Xmas Gathering & Quiz Night, Tue 12th December 2017, 19:30 - 21:30
The Walkabout: Wiston Terrace (off Friar Street), Reading, RG1 1DG.

Come and celebrate the festive season with one and all. It is a great opportunity to join other science and tech meetup groups in the area over a few drinks plus there will be a short quiz.

Check out the Reading Geek Night website for details of the program for the day - https://rdggeeknight.wordpress.com/ or tweet: @RDGGeekNight.

Xmas event: Brexit for the IT Industry, Tuesday 19th December 2017, 18:30 - 21:30
The Griffin, Caversham, Reading, RG4 7AD

Come and join us for an informal social; with buffet and a talk on "Brexit for the IT Industry". All are welcome. Free entry and refreshments provided. Just turn up.

Venue: The Griffin, 10-12 Church Road, Caversham, Reading, Berkshire, RG4 7AD. For further details and booking - http://www.bcs.org/content/ConWebDoc/58596

Reading Geek Night, Tuesday 9th January 2018, 19:30 - 21:30
The Walkabout: Wiston Terrace (off Friar Street), Reading, RG1 1DG.

A friendly and welcoming community for enthusiasts. We meet 2nd Tuesday of the month. Come and listen to talks and meet new people over beer. There is also an opportunity for any short announcements etc.

Check out the Reading Geek Night website for details of the program for the day - https://rdggeeknight.wordpress.com/ or tweet: @RDGGeekNight

Weather Forecasting Centre Tour, Thursday 11th January, 2018, 15:00 - 17:00
ECMWF, Shinfield Park, Reading, RG2 9AX

Come and join us for a guided tour of the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts and see one of the world's largest supercomputers. This event is free to both BCS and Non-BCS members.

For further details and booking: http://www.bcs.org/content/ConWebDoc/58727.

Schools Work

BCS Berkshire has been working with schools in and around Berkshire. We have been sponsoring Teen Tech (http://www.teentech.com) and the Bucks Skills Show (https://oppsinbucks.org/event/bucks-skills-show-adams-park-high-wycombe/). We are planning a codeathon with a prize for the winner, and are considering a spring coding school.

Volunteering

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP RUN CODE CLUB SESSIONS

"Code Clubs for children aged 7 to 11 are now running in Bracknell and Great Hollands libraries to give children experience in computer coding. Children first learn to programme computer games and animations using Scratch then have the opportunity to create websites using HTML, CSS and Python. We currently need more volunteers to help run our computer coding sessions, either supporting Bracknell Library (meets term time Saturdays 10 am-11 am) or helping us expand in more libraries and at different times. For more information on volunteering at the library visit Bracknell Forest Libraries or find out how to get involved all across the UK on the Code Club web site."

Volunteers Needed – Ability Net

Our volunteers provide free technology support to older people and disabled people of all ages. We're looking for people to join our nationwide team of volunteers who offer free technology help and support over the phone and in people's homes.
As one of our volunteers you can...
• use your IT skills to help change the lives of older people and disabled people of all ages
• have the opportunity to become a Digital Champion and gain industry recognised training
• benefit from regular training and technology updates
• network with a nationwide team of other IT volunteers
• plan your volunteering time around your home life and other commitments.
Find out how you can get involved today: https://www.abilitynet.org.uk/support-us/join-our-volunteers.

Computing Ideas for a Better Society

As part of BCS's 60th anniversary, members are invited to submit their good ideas to improve computing. For further details, see Computing ideas for a better society: http://www.bcs.org/category/19062. You can send your ideas - small or large - via any means you like: email, our Facebook page, Twitter or through this form.

Other IT Events around Berkshire

ConnectTVT - Connecting Thames Valley Tech is a Reading-based platform bringing together the Thames Valley's fast-growing entrepreneurial ecosystem, tech and digital economy, in Reading. Check out some interesting upcoming events on their website - https://www.connecttvt.co.uk/events

Looking ahead to 2018

We are also planning some events such as 3D printing, hackathon, cybernetics, smart cities, "Trailblazer" apprenticeships and professional development in the coming months, in conjunction with the BCS Learning and Development Specialist Group and other associations. Watch this space!

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