

BCS Member Group Chair's Report

Report submissions must be sent to groups@bcs.uk or your Community Coordinator.

Member Group Name:	Chester and North Wales
Year:	2022
Report Completed By:	Martin King

Group Chair:	Martin King
Group Treasurer:	Keith Richardson
Group Secretary:	David Lloyd-Williams
Group Inclusion Officer:	Martin King
Other Committee Members:	Charles Ryder, Gordon Richardson, Angela McLoughlin, Stuart Cunningham, Ezzy Ariwa (Absent)

The Chair's Report is a vital communication tool for the BCS Community Team to understand and support your activity as a group. The Programme, Practice, and Policy (PPP) Committee will review your submitted report and suitable action points fed into the Community Board for strategic planning. As one of the critical communication points with our members, your completion of this report supports not only your group but ongoing support and development of other member groups and the BCS itself

Successes

Please list the top three successes the group has achieved in the past year.

Success	Additional Comments
Fantastic support from the committee, all going above and beyond to support the group activities.	Unfortunately, Ezzy Ariwa has not been heard from for many months. He did not respond to an earlier call for an increased contribution and did not respond to the call for re-election.
6 more fantastic events put on throughout the year across a broad range of topics and themes.	
Inclusivity has been a beneficiary from the remote nature of the calls, but it was thoroughly nice to end our year with an in-person AGM and talk.	Hybrid events needs some work, for this we would need recording equipment and a facility to live stream to get the best out of it. Our group would be happy to make some recommendations and trial something if HQ wishes.

Plans

Please list the top three activities the group is planning for next year.

Planned Activity	Additional Comments
Hybrid events, trying where we can to do in-person events but with the additional inclusion of hybrid.	We will need support from HQ to try and achieve this. It is certainly becoming more common place to have live streamed events or recorded for later.

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Continue to extend our range of topics and speakers and engaging with our local branch.	

Impediments

Please list and describe the top three impediments stopping you from succeeding in your group's ambition and support the BCS vision of "Making IT Good for Society."

Impediment	Description
Licensing usage throughout the year due to clashes with other groups. We were not made aware that other groups have booked every 2 nd Wednesday of the month for the whole 12 months. If this was something we could have done, we would have.	We have had to shuffle dates around numerous times throughout the year due to securing a guest speaker and then not being able to get a license for the platform. Given some of our guest speakers do not even charge us the £50 fee, even when their "going rate" is many times over this, I find it ridiculous that we cannot secure a license for the webinar service. As I mentioned last year, as a Charity we could apply to Microsoft to get every single member of the volunteering staff a free license that would give us all email and Teams live usage.
Live streaming events is only possible with our committees expertise and equipment. We believe this allows us to be more inclusive and should be considered for the future.	We would be happy to speak with HQ to see if we could trial a hybrid event using our own expertise to assist.

Additional Facts and Figures

Please provide any facts and figures you think would be useful to the Community Team for further analysis and future activity planning.

Further Comments

If you have any further comments you wish to provide the Community Team; please give them below.

We would actually like to see if there is more HQ involvement with the Branches. We do quite often feel like we are left to our own devices for the year. All events appear to be London centric and we do not feel like the North has anywhere near as much support.

Could we look at possibly having a groups member joining out committee meeting once a quarter to provide an update to the branch on HQ updates? I think people sometimes forget that we all also have day jobs, so whilst some of this information may be readily available, it is often more helpful to provide direct updates. This could be combined with providing membership numbers by region with data that we can utilise. We used to have access to a PowerBI report, but we can no longer access it.

Nominations for Awards and Recognition

It is important that the BCS recognise deserving voluntary service. If you are aware of someone who warrants one of these awards, then please nominate them. It is easy to nominate someone, but, if you are unsure about completing the form, the Community team and your liaison in the Programme, Practice and Policy Committee can help. Please email groups@bcs.uk.

There are three levels of Recognition of Appreciation award:

- Certificate of Appreciation – going beyond the normal expectations of a single voluntary role by directly contributing to significant involvements, achievements or benefits to BCS.
- Meritorious Certificate – going beyond the normal expectations of two or more voluntary roles in different areas of BCS by directly contributing to tangible involvements, achievements or benefits to BCS.
- John Ivinson Award – significantly furthering the BCS's strategic aims and mission on a wide scope of BCS's areas of endeavour by directly contributing significant achievements and benefits to BCS. Typically, the BCS will present this prestigious award to 1-3 volunteers per year.

There are long-service awards for 5, 10, 25, and 30 years of contribution to the BCS.

Volunteer Recognition

Please complete the table below and indicate if you wish to nominate a member of your team for an award of recognition. A member of the Community Team will get in touch to help you complete the process.

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Group/Branch Member	Years of BCS Volunteering	Nomination
Charles Ryder	Charles has served as Vice chair for some time, but has also been assisting with Merseyside branch for several months of the year. This was direct action from Charles to try and use our groups learnings to support the branch and reinvigorate its team. Unfortunately it does not appear that the existing committee had enough people, even with Charles' help to get it off the ground again.	Meritorious Certificate

Honorary Fellowship

Nominees will have made an outstanding contribution to the charitable objectives of the BCS over an extended period.

The BCS award Honorary Fellowship under Byelaw 8 of the BCS's Royal Charter and Trustee Board Regulation 1.3 specifies that the BCS award may also make the award to non-members who may not be eligible for any other class of membership.

Community Board and Trustee Board will consider a candidate for Honorary Fellowship against the following criteria:

- At any time, both the contribution to BCS's work and the stature of the individual nominated should be commensurate with the standards set by previous recipients. There is no overall limit to the number of Honorary Fellows although it is unlikely that there will be more than two Honorary Fellows elected in any one year.
- To be elected, the nomination must be on the Trustee Board Agenda, and at least 3/4 of those present must resolve in favour.

If you are aware of a nominee for Honorary Fellowship; please add their details below and a member of the Community Team will raise this at the next appropriate meeting of the Community Board.