

**Minutes of the first meeting of the 2004-2005 Session of the  
Committee of the South Wales Branch  
6.00pm  
Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> January  
County Hall, Cardiff**

**118.1.1 PRESENT**

Paul Bulmer (Chair)	Ralph Miller (Sec)	Nathan Cooper (NPC)
Jeremy White,	Richard David	Jason Mullins
Steve Wood (welcomed as a new member)	Daniel Cunliffe	

**118.1.2 APOLOGIES**

Stephen Harvey	Derek Smith	Noel Cox (NC)
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**118.1.3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

These were approved, with a minor correction that the Actions PB, SH should have been at the third paragraph, not second, of the report on Branches Board/Council, Para 117.4.6

**Actions**

**118.1.4 - MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES  
116.3.4**

NPC to assist NC in Data Analysis and presentation – Ongoing.

Welcome to Dec Event –Complete.

Letter, regarding meeting, to Ken Potter not responded to. PB to discuss with Ken the Branch Service Award.

Cut in Branch allocations, announced at Branch Congress. PB to discuss with Frank Moran – carried forward.

**NC  
and  
NPC**

**PB**

**PB**

**118.1.5 - CORRESPONDENCE**

Electronic commerce to the chairman, for dissemination to the committee, is forwarded on receipt. No further correspondence had been received. No matters arising from correspondence.

Secretary reported emails from Sue Guy announcing PR forms and Branches Congress minutes etc on website. Also, from the new Branches Administration Assistant, Earl Kerry the following reminder to RM, NC, WAGray, JM, David Newman to register with BCS Connect. JM to check his registration. RRM to check with NC and WAG and cancel David Newman

**JM  
RRM**

**118.1.6 - BRANCH REPORTS**

**Membership Secretary's Report:**

Nothing to report

**Treasurer's Report:**

Nothing to report. PB to follow up Financial Situation with SH

**Post Meeting Report:**

In round figures and up to December 1st 2003:

Spend	£800 (VAT adjusted)
Funding remaining	£2200 (Up to End April 2004)

**PB, SH**

**Chairman's Report:**

Chairman to write his annual letter to members

**PB**

**Branches Board/Council Reports:**

No meeting in period

**YPG:**

NC to discuss new ideas with PB

**PB, NC**

Post Meeting Note:

Nathan is trying to pull together a half-day morning seminar for soon to graduate students that would have speakers from the BCS on the benefits of professional membership and Best Recruitment on Getting Hired in IT. Ideally the pilot site would be Pontypridd where Daniel could help and if a success we could roll it out on a yearly basis to all University campuses.

Nathan will draft a letter to Best, BCS HQ and Daniel summarising the proposal and will forward to the Chair for final approval.

**Schools:**

No Officer in Post

**118.1.7 2003/2004 Events Programme**

The November Event at Pontypridd and the December Event at Cardiff BS were discussed and scored by the committee members. Both events were agreed to be of high value to those members who attended.

JW offered to discuss analysis of the feed back forms with DC. DC to collect Feed back forms after Events

**DC**

Future Events are detailed in the attached programme but are listed briefly below

Jan14, the Investor, JM

Feb 12<sup>th</sup>, Justifying IT Services, Room S/3.22, Cardiff University, PB

March, 9th Bob Hall JW

April, Techniquet DS

May, Visualisation, Alex Gray PB to pursue progress

Sept, suggested small technology start event suitable for students? SW

Oct, Unix/Windows debate, Video conference, CD

2005 ideas

January, Data Protection JW

Capital Traffic Congestion Charges, JW

How I made my first million, BCS Bristol Chairman, RM

Speed Snap, Pilot software, JW

War Games revisit, JM

Information Security issue, DC

Techniquet Party members families, RM to survey requirement

Profit protection, e.g. at M&S JW

**NB1: All to consider improving Networking Opportunities before or after the Event**

**NB2: All members to seek to assist in Event arrangements**

**118.1.8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Steve Wood expressed a number of good ideas for raising the marketing profile of the Branch. The Chair acknowledged these ideas and requested the Steve discuss them with Derek, the branch publicity officer.

**SW/DS**

Chair thanked Committee for their efforts, enthusiasm and ideas.

**118.1.9 – DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS**

Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 18.00 hrs, at County Hall

**ALL**

Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> April: Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> May (prepare AGM), Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May, (AGM)

After this a new meeting Calendar will be arranged.

**118.1.10 – COMMITTEE GUIDANCE NOTES**

The committee trawled part of the Committee Guidance Notes to up-date them where possible. Remainder to follow at future meeting. The Chair thanked committee for their long stay to do this work.

RRM to contact Sue Guy to establish Universities within the Branch accredited for Prize Giving.

**RRM**

## Appendix 1 Current Events Planner

Date	Event Manager	Event	Comment
Wed 14 Jan 03	Jason Mullins	<p><b>Title:</b> INVESTOR  <b>Speaker:</b> Luke Fielder  <b>From:</b> NSC Ltd.  <b>Venue:</b> Trevithick Building, University of Cardiff  <b>Synopsis:</b> INVESTOR is focused on knowledge transfer of “best practice” Whole Life Costing and asset management techniques cross sector. It is sponsored by the DTI and has resulted in a tool set that has been employed to model both rail and water treatment assets. INVESTOR uses Monte-Carlo simulation techniques to predict asset failure and calculate business interruption costs. A feedback loop enables model correction and, ultimately, learning by comparing predictions with actual data.</p> <p>INVESTOR has been developed by a core collaboration led by Halliburton KBR which includes: Kalido – experts in Data Management Systems who have developed a leading 2nd generation data warehouse application; AMCL – specialists in asset management; NSC – specialising in advanced modelling and simulation techniques. Under the DTI ICT Carrier Programme, the collaboration team has partnered with asset manufacturers and asset owners to develop INVESTOR as a means of understanding and communicating asset behaviour in situ.</p> <p>The talk will outline the three fundamental parts making up the architecture of INVESTOR: the Kalido data warehouse, the simulation engine and visualisation of results.</p>	Changed from War Simulation.

<p>Thursday 12 Feb 03</p>	<p>Paul Bulmer</p>	<p><b>Title:</b> Justifying IT Services  <b>Speaker:</b> Noel Bruton (<a href="mailto:noel@noelbruton.com">noel@noelbruton.com</a>)  <b>From:</b> Independent consultant  <b>Venue:</b> Cardiff University  <b>Synopsis:</b> Justifying IT Services</p> <p>As global commercial competition continues to depress profit margins and the public sector increasingly commercialises itself, cost justification climbs the corporate agenda. This carries with it particular risk for IT Services - for as a labour-intensive sector, we are under pressure to justify our relatively high costs - in the case of organizations considering outsourcing, we must indeed sometimes justify our very existence.</p> <p>In an intensive one-hour presentation, Noel Bruton will examine the philosophy of justification, in terms of how we might establish and communicate that to financiers, strategic management and the end-users of our service. He will demonstrate a cost benefit analysis formula for IT Services. Show how traditional output measurement often lacks truth, offer an argument for doubting and then refocusing customer satisfaction figures and present a method for rapidly improving perceived output quality.</p> <p><b>About the Speaker</b></p> <p>Noel Bruton is an independent consultant and trainer who advises corporations all over the world on improving IT and user support services at both strategic and operational levels. He joined the computer industry in 1979 and began his consultancy and training practice in 1991. He is the author of the best selling 'How to Manage the IT Helpdesk' and of a forthcoming book 'Managing the IT Services Process'. Nearly 1,000 support managers and staff have attended his well-received seminars. A columnist for various IT industry press titles, he is also a broadcaster, a regular figure on the conference circuit and an advisor to IT services software vendors. His presentations feature passion, enthusiasm, pragmatism and knowledge. Mancunian by birth, he now lives with his wife and son on a smallholding near Cardigan.</p>	<p>This was a last minute change to the original plan.</p> <p>A room has been booked at Cardiff through M Evans.</p> <p>The following reply was sent by Mag.</p> <p>I can also now confirm that I have managed to sort out a room for Thursday 12 February. It is Room S/3.22 (capacity 69) and it has been booked from 18.00 hours.</p>
<p>Mar 9th</p>	<p>Jeremy White</p>	<p><b>Title:</b>  <b>Speaker:</b>  <b>From:</b>  <b>Venue:</b>  <b>Synopsis:</b></p>	<p>Bob Hall is the speaker contact.</p>

April 14th	Derek Smith	<b>Title:</b> <b>Speaker:</b> <b>From:</b> <b>Venue:</b> Techniquest  <b>Synopsis:</b>	
May 20th	Alex Grey?	<b>Title:</b> Visualisation <b>Speaker:</b> Nick Avis <b>From:</b> Cardiff University <b>Venue:</b> AGM at Cardiff <b>Synopsis:</b> Nick Avis (new Prof) to talk on visualization and the new visualisation suite to open early in 2004.  N.J.Avis@cs.cardiff.ac.uk	Alex has proposed this speaker from Cardiff University
September 14th	Ralph Miller	<b>Title:</b> How I made my first million <b>Speaker:</b> <b>From:</b> <b>Venue:</b> Cardiff <b>Synopsis:</b>	Speaker from Bristol branch
October 13th	Richard David	<b>Title:</b> Unix versus Windows <b>Speaker:</b> <b>From:</b> <b>Venue:</b> Bridgend <b>Synopsis:</b>	Could try the e-Academy training company in Cardiff
November 11th	Steve Wood	<b>Title:</b> Starting a Technology Company <b>Speaker:</b> <b>From:</b> <b>Venue:</b> Pontypridd <b>Synopsis:</b>	
December 7th	Ralph Miller	<b>Title:</b> Protecting children on the Internet <b>Speaker:</b> <b>From:</b> <b>Venue:</b> Techniquest <b>Synopsis:</b>	Start early, joint evening for members and their families. Test idea in eMail seeking members' views.
<b>2005</b>			
January 12th	Jeremy White	<b>Title:</b> Lawful or awful - your company's data protection? <b>Speaker:</b> <b>From:</b> <b>Venue:</b> Swansea <b>Synopsis:</b>	To approach Assistant Information Commissioner for Wales
February 12th	Daniel Cunliffe	<b>Title:</b> Information and computer crime <b>Speaker:</b> <b>From:</b> <b>Venue:</b> Pontypridd <b>Synopsis:</b>	To approach visiting lecturer of staff member
March 8th	Jason Mullins	<b>Title:</b> War Games <b>Speaker:</b> <b>From:</b> <b>Venue:</b> Cardiff <b>Synopsis:</b>	

