

## BCS in Greater Manchester

The British Computer Society's (BCS) groups listed below are all active within the Greater Manchester area. Bordering this area are the Chester & North Wales, Merseyside, North Staffordshire, Nottingham & Derby, Preston & District, South Yorkshire and West Yorkshire Branches of the BCS.

### ASSIST North West Branch

The Association for Informatics Professionals in Health and Social Care (ASSIST) objective is to develop professionalism and professional standards, and to work with other bodies including government to provide a voice for informatics professionals. It is also a member group of the BCS Health Informatics Forum.

### Computer Conservation Society

The Computer Conservation Society is a co-operative venture between BCS, the Science Museum of London and MoSI. It is dedicated to the conversation and restoration of early computers, early computer software and other digital records of historical importance and to recording the history of computing.



### Enterprise Architecture Specialist Group

The objectives of the Group are to promote best practice in, and the use of, Enterprise and IT Architectures where it is of relevance to computing professionals, business professionals, academics, and other groups.

### Health Informatics (Northern) Specialist Group

The Group aims to promote the theory and practice of using IT responsibly in health care. They organise regular meetings at which guest speakers and local practitioners share their experiences of informatics within the context of health care.

### Manchester Branch

Inform, educate and inspire in matters pertaining to IT in Greater Manchester is what this Branch is about. Whether inspiring the next generation to embark upon a career in IT, educating IT professionals on current developments or, with the help of world-renowned speakers, informing the public of the latest advances in IT, this Branch is there. Co-operating with a multitude of organisations its programme contains dozens of events that are attended by thousands of people.

### Methods and Tools Specialist Group

This Group's objective is to provide a forum for exchange of knowledge and practical experience of methods and tools for the effective and efficient development and maintenance of information systems.

### Project Management Specialist Group (PROMS-G)

PROMS-G aims to provide IT professionals with the opportunity to develop their awareness and competence in Project and Programme Management, encourage research and promote the use and development of standards.

### Quality Specialist Group (North West)

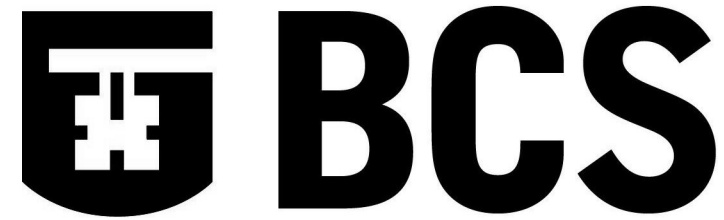
BCS Quality Specialist Group (in association with Improve QPI Ltd) organises one-day seminars on topics relating to IT Quality Management and Process Capability and the application of standards such as ISO9001/TickIT, CMMi, BS7799 and ISO15504. Its activities are of particular interest to Quality Managers, Process Improvement Specialists and IT professionals involved in quality and process improvement activities.

### Young Professionals Group

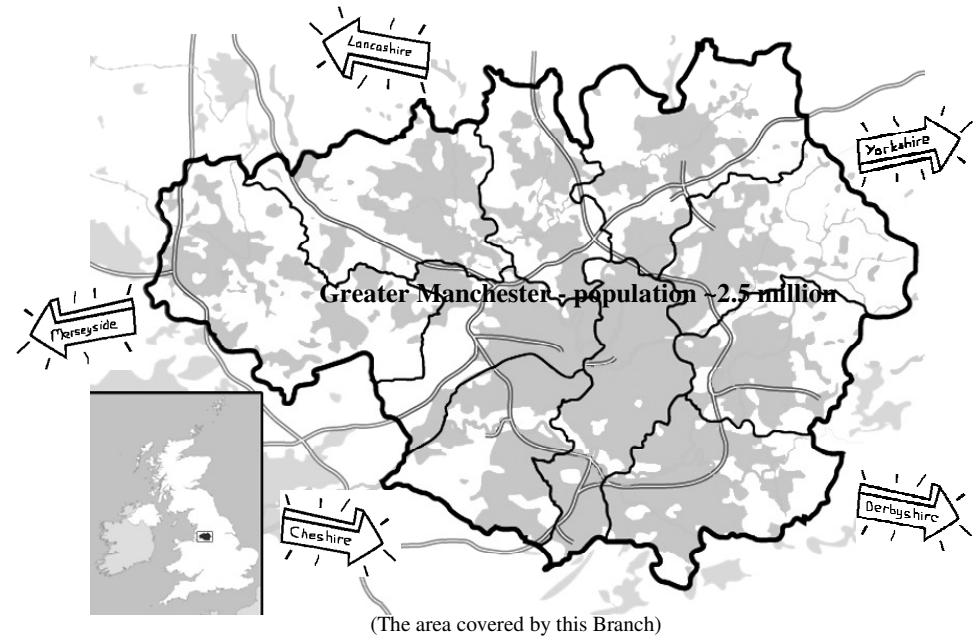
As one of the largest member Groups in the BCS, the membership body of the YPG is diverse, representing over 15,000 young IT professionals from many countries: all at varying stages of their careers and with a wide breadth of skills and specialisations.



Manchester  
Metropolitan  
University



## Manchester Branch Review 2009



(The area covered by this Branch)

[www.bcsmanchester.org.uk](http://www.bcsmanchester.org.uk)

This Branch's website contains further details about its meetings and links to both BCS and other IT groups that are active in Greater Manchester.

[www.nwengineering.org.uk](http://www.nwengineering.org.uk)

The North-West Engineering Institutions' website acts as a central point of reference to all those who are interested in engineering and provides a list of their events.

## This Branch does what exactly?

With over 8,000 people attending the dozens of events in this Branch's recent programme, it is a hive of activity. With a membership approaching 3,000 you would of course expect nothing less. So to answer what exactly this Branch does, here are a few examples...



The all-pervasive nature of the general-purpose computer has made the most profound mark on almost every aspect of our lives. In honour and recognition of Turing's contribution in the field of computing, BCS and IET established the Turing Lecture.

The next Turing Lecture, to be held early 2010 at the University of Manchester, will be given by Professor Christopher Bishop, Chief Research Scientist at Microsoft Cambridge and Professor of Computer Science at the University of Edinburgh.

The Manchester Science Festival aims to enthuse and inspire everyone about science, technology and engineering. Family Telecoms Days, attended by thousands of people, do just that because you can:

- find out how engineering breakthroughs brought us the telegraph, the telephone, radio, mobile phones and the Internet;
- see examples of equipment spanning 170 years;
- and watch demonstrations so that you can find out how it works too!



The next Family Telecommunications Days take place on 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> October at MoSI.

These Days are run by Salford University (visit [www.salfordphonesproject.co.uk](http://www.salfordphonesproject.co.uk) for details) and are supported by MoSI, SETPOINT, BT Manchester, EPSRC, The Royal Corps of Signals, IET and this Branch.



The Year IN Industry (YINI) are the UK's leading student placement experts. They place students in their gap year before or during their degree course in all areas of engineering, science, IT and e-commerce.

This Branch supports this scheme and promotes the valuable contribution that students can make to a business during their Year IN Industry.



Manchester Digital is the independent trade association for the thriving digital sector in the North West of England. Their vision is simple, that by working together they can make Manchester and the North West an even better place for Digital Business.



Organising events such as Big Chip - the top awards for ICT and new media outside London - or Manchester's response to the Digital Britain report, this Branch is happy to promote their activities and is continuing to seek further co-operation with them.

## Engineering Your Future – Career Awareness Days

Now in its third year, these one-day career events provide an opportunity for A-Level and GNVQ students to see that engineering is a career worth pursuing. Held throughout the North West these events are jointly co-ordinated by the Institutes of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE), Civil Engineers (ICE), Chemical Engineers (ICHEM), Acoustics (IoA), Physics (IoP) and Engineering and Technology (IET), the Nuclear Institute and this Branch. The next events are on 16<sup>th</sup> (Bolton) and 23<sup>rd</sup> (Openshaw) October 2009.

The aim of this event is: to illustrate the diverse careers available to engineers; to encourage attendees to study engineering after leaving school or college; and to increase public awareness of the importance of engineering to society and the economy.



**IOP Institute of Physics**

Futuresonic - the UK's leading festival for digital culture - took place in Manchester back in May. It is an urban festival that was visited by 75,000 people, who engaged with 300 artists and 100 events across 30 venues.

An integral part of this festival is its acclaimed international conference, the Social Technologies Summit, sponsored by this Branch. This conference brought together futurologists, artists, researchers, technologists and scientists from the digital culture, technology and art communities together around shared issues to do with social media, society, art and the city.

