



Welcome

Welcome to the BCS Berkshire branch newsletter for February 2017. Here are the news and events happening over the next few months.....

Forthcoming events

External event, Monday 13th February 2017 - 19:30 -21:30 Reading Geek Night at The Walkabout Reading



The Reading Geek Night! A friendly and welcoming community for enthusiasts. We meet 2nd Tuesday of the month, but for February 2017, we will meet on Monday 13th February. 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](https://twitter.com/RDGGeekNight).

Public event, Saturday 25th February 2017, 10:00 – 16:00

Hackathon: University Technical College Reading, Crescent Road, Reading, RG1 5RQ.



Code an app in 6 hours! Enter in teams of up to 6 and bring your own devices. If you are not in a team, don't worry, we will find you one. Entry free of charge. UTCR will provide pizza and drinks.

The BCS will judge each entry and award a prize to the winner. Book via this link: <https://events.bcs.org/book/2374/>

Public event, Saturday 4th March 09:00-19:00 2017 and Sunday 5th March 2017 – 08:00-18:00

Hackathon at ECMWF, Shinfield Park, RG2 9AX, Reading



As part of the International Open Data Day, the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF), Reading; invites you to the #OpenDataHack - Beyond weather: explore creative uses of open data".

Developers, experts, students, data wranglers, data journalists, data enthusiasts, makers, artists – are invited to join the meteorologists, scientists and engineers of ECMWF at the #OpenDataHack on 4 and 5 March 2017.

More information and registration at: <https://open-data-hack-ecmwf.eventbrite.co.uk>

Public event, Monday 6th March 2017 – 12:30 -

Talk – “Exploring how data analytics can drive transformative change and innovations in the adult social and health care space” at Carrington Building Room 101, University of Reading, Whiteknights Campus, Reading RG6 6UA



BCS Berkshire in collaboration with Planet Informatics, presents:

“Exploring how data analytics can drive transformative change and innovations in the adult social and health care space”

Speaker: Mr. Hamish Dibley, Management Consultant

The event is free to attend but booking is essential: info@planetinformatics.com. Confirm your attendance before 12-02-2017. Arrive by 12:15 for a complementary lunch.

Public event, Tuesday 7th March 2017 – 19:30 -21:30

Committee Meeting at The Griffin, Caversham



The BCS Berkshire Committee Meeting is held the first Tuesday of every month at one of the listed locations. In March, the committee meeting is at The Griffin, Caversham, 10-12 Church Rd, Reading RG4 7AD.

Attendance is by invitation only. If you want to attend a meeting, then please contact the [chair](#).

External event, Tuesday 14th March 2017 - 19:30 -21:30

Reading Geek Night at The Walkabout Reading



The Reading Geek Night! 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](https://twitter.com/RDGGeekNight).

Public event, Wednesday 15th March 2017, 19:00 -21:00

Great Debate at Palmer Building, Room 106, University of Reading, Whiteknights Campus, Reading RG6 6UA



The BCS joins with the Institute of Electrical Engineers, Reading University and other institutions to put on the Great Debate. This year's debate is on another green topic: Autonomous Electric Vehicles. This event is open to the public and entry is free but is required. The event is part of British Science Week.

Reading University require all attendees to use [this link](#) to book.

Public event, Tuesday 21st March 2017, 19:00 -21:30

BCS Voices at University Technical College Reading, Crescent Road, Reading, RG1 5RQ.



In line with the BCS policy to promote “Making IT good for Society”, BCS Berkshire & BCS Learning and Development SG will hold a joint ‘BCS Voices’ event on the topic of Education. Please join us and share your ideas in an open conversation regarding Education. For more information, please visit the BCS website: www.bcs.org/voices. Book via this link:

<https://events.bcs.org/book/2411/>.

Public event, Tuesday 4th April 2017 – 19:30 -21:30

Committee Meeting at UTC Reading, Crescent Road, Reading, RG1 5RQ



The BCS Berkshire Committee Meeting is held the first Tuesday of every month at one of the listed locations. In April, the committee meeting is at University Technical College Reading, Crescent Road, Reading, RG1 5RQ.

Attendance is by invitation only. If you want to attend a meeting, then please contact the [chair](#).

Public event, Tuesday 18th April 2017 – 19:00 -21:30

BCS Talk at Oracle - Building 520, Thames Valley Park, Reading



Join us for a talk by Rod Willis of the Agile Group entitled: "The invisible dynamics of collaboration in high performing teams". This is free of charge to members. Format: Groups of 8 around tables.

To attend book via this link: <https://events.bcs.org/book/2412/>.

Volunteering

IT / PROGRAMMING VOLUNTEER NEEDED FOR COMPASS OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP DEVELOP A WEB PRESENCE

"We are seeking a volunteer to help us build a website for Reading's new Recovery College. The Recovery College offers a range of courses that aim to promote good mental health and improve personal wellbeing. The courses are free and designed/delivered by people with lived experience of mental health challenges, clinical staff and other professionals.

We would like to develop a website that could provide information to both the College's current and perspective students and those working in the mental health field. The website will be built from scratch and the volunteer will have the opportunity to recommend an appropriate platform that suits their knowledge and experience.

The right person for this role will not require subject specific knowledge but will need to have excellent communication skills and a willingness to work with a range of potential site users to ensure it will fit their needs. This is an exciting opportunity for someone with knowledge of web design to gain some real life experience."

If you think that you may be able to assist, please apply via this link <http://rva.org.uk/volop/designer-wanted-to-help-us-develop-our-web-presence/>. If you do follow this up please let them know that you saw the opportunity on BCS Berks website and let us know too; volunteering.berkshire@bcs.org.uk

IT / PROGRAMMING VOLUNTEER NEEDED FOR MAPIS PROJECT CIC TO HELP REDESIGN THEIR BLOG

"Mapis Project CIC provides engagement courses, training opportunities, mentoring services and accredited qualifications for vulnerable adults and disadvantaged young people. We specialise in Fashion, Design, Hair & Beauty and Photography.

We are looking for someone to re-design our Managing Director's blog which focused on social change. The skills needed are: CSS coding experience - Knowledge of WordPress. We welcome all of your creative input and have diagrams of potential layouts for you to work from"

If you think that you may be able to assist, please apply via this link <http://rva.org.uk/volop/help-us-redesign-our-blog/>. If you do follow this up please let them know that you saw the opportunity on BCS Berks website and let us know too; volunteering.berkshire@bcs.org.uk

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. More information, visit: http://berkshire.bcs.org/?page_id=85

Committee Members Needed

We currently have openings in our committee for the following roles:

- Web Content Manager (Deputy Webmaster)
- Social Media Manager

If you would like to help out then please do get in touch by contacting our Chair, Anthony Parker on antgparker@bcs.org.uk

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.connectvt.co.uk/events>

BCS Berkshire Forthcoming Events for 2017

Watch out for the following events:

1) BCS Project of the Year 2017



Do you have a wonderful idea or project? BCS Berkshire would soon open nominations for the project of the year 2017 competition.

Full details including the criteria, eligibility and date of nominations and award will be announced soon.

2) BCS ELITE and the Institute of Directors "Unconference", 25th May, 2017



A superb opportunity to network with industry leaders. Doors open for networking and refreshments at 6.30.

Venue: Building 510, Oracle Parkway, Thames Valley Park, RG6 1RA
Full details including date and theme will be announced nearer the time.

We are also planning some events on "Trailblazer" apprenticeships and professional development in the new year, in conjunction with the BCS Learning and Development Specialist Group. Watch this space!



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