

BCS South Yorkshire Branch Chair's Annual Report 2008/2009

I would like to thank our sponsor - 'The Training Foundry' at Hallam University for their support throughout the year, in providing a venue both for many of our public and committee meetings.

We continue our policy to deliver all our communications to members by e-mail and through our website: <http://sy.bcs.org> and so I would encourage you to ensure that the BCS HQ has an active email address for you.

We continue to award the annual Eliot Chiat student prize, named after our long serving branch Secretary who died in January 2003, to a second year single honours student in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Sheffield, as well as a prize to Hallam University and to colleges in the South Yorkshire area.

The Committee

This is my second and final year as branch Chair. I would like to extend my thanks to the Executive committee for its support and effort during the past year – without their help and support none of the events we have held would have been possible. I would also like to thank Steve Hartley for offering to stand as our new Chair.

Any one interested in joining the committee please contact us via the web site or at a meeting.

Web site

The location of the South Yorkshire BCS website is :

<http://sy.bcs.org>

It continues to be the source of information regarding upcoming events, and where you register to attend meetings. My thanks to Chris Gray and Gavin Whitelaw for maintaining this.

Next Year's Programme

The dates are as usual the third Thursday in the month, starting Thursday 15th October 2009, except December when it is a week early (10th).

Anyone who wishes a topic to be included please contact us via our web site, or a committee member at a meeting.

All details of the programme will be available through the branch web-site: <http://sy.bcs.org> and via email to the branch list. Please register if you are coming to a meeting via the web site at least a week before the meeting date so we can get the right amount of food.

Changes to BCS

The BCS is making announcements about its future on 18 September 2009. Please look out for this. In your recent copy of IT Now there is a pamphlet describing the proposals. One specific change is to the financial year, which will now end on 31 August (changed from 30 April). As a result we will not be having our next AGM in May 2010, but in September or October 2010 - we await final advice on this from BCS HQ

Best wishes for the summer.

Neil Bizzell