



Isle of Man Section

Report of Chair – 2018

I would like to thank my committee for their ongoing support. It wouldn't have been possible for me as Chairman of the section to achieve our aims without their hard work and that of all the members who support us. We are also supported by BCS HQ who provide funds to enable us to book venues and attract speakers to widen and inform us.

This year has as others been a bit of a challenge to identify speakers. The number of off island speakers is still good, it's just that it is getting costlier to invite them. Most still feel that a trip to the "Rock" is worth doing and some have been very helpful in keeping their costs as low as possible. So, we have had a blend of local talent and off island presenters over this year and this proved to be a very positive move. If you know of anyone who would like to present to the section and friends, please let myself or any one of the committee know.

I would like to thank my vice-Chair, Graeme Jones who has again managed to organise several events that we are proud to have hosted. I have to offer special thanks to Mr Steve Beesley who ran his first event this year and it gave us the chance to meet a great local speaker.

The events we have run:

- Oct 2017 Section AGM followed by "Your Guide to the Internet of Things"
- Nov 2017 "Derivco IOM Open Evening"
- Mar 2018 "BCS IOM Networking Event"
- Jul 2018 "Fintech and Crypto in a Digital Economy"
- Aug 2018 "Digital Marketing – Benign or Malign?"

Please note that if you have a topic that you think would make a good event please let Graeme or one of the committee know about it.

BCS IOM section like all organisations have had to change the way of holding your data: To this end we have followed our HQ guidelines in adopting BCS HQ to be the "Data Controller" in line with their GDPR policy. This has meant that our non-members list has had to be transferred to HQ, in line with the regulation we asked our non-members for their permission. Unfortunately, this resulted in the list being substantially reduced. It is my hope as Chair that over time we will be able to get some of these people back, but their details will now be held on the HQ non-members list.

To be able to promote the Isle of Man as a thriving e-Business sector, which accounts for around 30% of the economy, of which 20% is e-Gaming. The foundations for this success have been the Island's world-class community of IT and IS professionals. This coupled with a stable government, highly resilient telecoms network, electricity infrastructure and a network of new data hosting centres incorporating disaster recovery facilities. Gives us a sound platform to support a world class e-Business community and provides a positive selling point for the Island and IT/IS professionals.

I hope that we at the IOM section will be able to support our members through 2018/19 and beyond, by providing events that help them maintain their CPD, give additional opportunities to debate and network with other IT professionals and other professional bodies.

As I close this report please remember the section is about you, our members, many of whom I have had the pleasure of meeting at our events over the past year. Your ongoing support and suggestions for events will be greatly appreciated. Thanks.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'R. M. Sullivan'.

Robert M Sullivan CEng, FBCS CITP, FIoD Cert. IoD, MIEEE, MIEEECS, PRINCE2™
Practitioner