The Chartered Institute for IT
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BERKSHIRE BRANCH NEWSLETTER

November 2026 · bcs.org/category/14633

WELCOME

Welcome to the BCS Berkshire Branch newsletter for November 2026. We hope to bring you more exciting events in the coming months. Keep an eye on our website for details and other news.

EVENTS



TUE 10 NOV 2026 · 7PM TILL LATE

Reading Geek Night

Every second Tuesday of the month, Reading Geek Night has talks on various topics about science, tech, design & geekery. Doors from 7:00pm, talks from 7:30pm, plus Q&A with a 20-minute break for networking and beer. Meet upstairs at Zero Degrees (9 Bridge St, Reading RG1 2LR).

A great opportunity for networking and discussion about technology, business, and advice. The next talk is titled "Who Gets to Build?" by Sam Chaher & Fiorella Illes. Everyone is welcome.

Details: website · Social Tech meetup

CALL FOR INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS

Industrial Talk Series

The Department of Computer Science at the University of Reading invites industry professionals to contribute to our Industrial Talk Series for undergraduate students. The talk should cover distinct areas of focus for students at different stages of studies, as outlined below:

- Human-AI Co-Learning
- Software Engineering for Data and AI Systems
- Data Engineering and Industrial Practice

If you are interested in contributing to our Industrial Talk Series, please contact Dr Xiaomin Chen xiaomin.chen@reading.ac.uk.

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BRANCH NEWS

Get Involved with Local Outreach

Our local schools and colleges are always looking for industry practitioners to demystify real-world technology, share career pathways, or run interactive workshops. Sharing your day-to-day expertise — even for an hour - makes a lasting impression on future developers, analysts, and engineers.

If you are interested in speaking at a local school, mentoring students, or supporting BCS Berkshire's education initiatives, please reach out to the committee. Let's work together to inspire the next generation of computing professionals across Berkshire.

Got a story, event, or achievement for next month's issue? Email chair.berkshire@bcs.org.uk to be featured.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS — BRANCH COMMITTEE

BCS Berkshire is calling on members to consider joining the Branch committee. If you are interested, please contact chair.berkshire@bcs.org.uk.

RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS — AI SKILLS CENSUS

We are collaborating with the Thames Valley AI Hub on an AI skills census. While this seems similar to the previous BCS survey from Dan Howl, we have been asked to broaden this survey for TVAI to include everyone. Their survey does not require personal information, but you can provide it if you wish to continue participating. Please help by asking friends and family to respond — the idea is to understand the general public's use and skills with AI, not only IT professionals.

The survey can be accessed here: forms.gle/PMYD4bXoAHs2AAD36 or via the QR code below.

Results will be published at policy.tvaihub.org and will support the Thames Valley AI Hub's AI Skills Taskforce in understanding the current AI skills gap. If you are interested in volunteering on the taskforce, please email p.leroy@reading.ac.uk or p.lunn@reading.ac.uk.