

## Group/Branch: ISSG

### An Overview

Overall this has been a successful year for the ISSG. The detail of what we have done, and what we intend to do, can be found in the following sections.

However, I want to give special thanks to:

- Alan Woodroffe for so effectively managing the panel judging the annual prize given to the top dissertation by a Royal Holloway cyber security student.
- Steve Sands for his invaluable work as secretary for the group.
- All of the committee members for their unstinting support, good humour and, most importantly, flow of excellent ideas.
- Marie Setterfield, without whose support we would achieve very little.

### Programme

#### What We Did Last Year:

05/02/2020 – Joint event with BCS Malta and e-Skills Malta – Cyber Security Conference. Ian Fish gave a presentation on information security management in the context of wider enterprise risk management.

27/02/2020 – Legal Day – the 21<sup>st</sup> edition of our ever-popular event at the RAF Club.

09/03/2020 – Joint event with the Security Institute – Women in Cyber. Fox Thomas represented us and chaired a panel.

22/07/2020 – Covid19 Cyber Impacts – a seminar in co-operation with Barclays and Synectics Solutions. This was the first of our entirely virtual events.

16/09/2020 – Cyber Central UK – an event dealing with the initiative by Cheltenham Borough Council, GCHQ and NCSC to create a new focal point for the nation's cyber excellence, and drive forward the UK's mission to become a global leader in this sector, nurture talent and drive innovation enabling the UK to be the safest place in the world to do online business.

03/11/2020 – The first Early Careers Webinar. The intention is to aim for one of these each month in 2021.

02/12/2020 – A “Meet the Committee” event in conjunction with the AGM.

## **Other Matters of Note:**

During 2020 the merger of the Young Professionals Information Security Group into the ISSG was finalised. This rationalised the situation in response to the BCS pivot to "Early Careers Professionals and has led to the Early Careers webinar series already mentioned.

The David Lindsay Prize was awarded for the last time. We are looking into what, if anything, we will do to replace it.

Fox Thomas and Ian Fish were involved in the compilation of a cyber security survey by the ITNow team.

## **How We are Making IT Good for Society as a Member Group:**

The ISSG Committee considers that our main mission is to ensure that, in the first instance, all IT professionals should understand the fundamental importance of information security in ensuring that IT is, and remains, good for society. We continue to approach that by overlapping initiatives: the first consists of an adjustment to what the ISSG has been doing for years in staging events and is aimed primarily at BCS members; the second involves widening out to all IT professionals; the third involves all citizens. Any opportunity to contribute to the second and third initiative while developing the first will be taken.

## **Community**

### **Who We Serve and How We Engage with Our Community:**

The ISSG Committee believes that we are not primarily a group for cyber security professionals although we will always take the opportunity to cater to them. Our main mission at the moment is to grow the membership of the ISSG from within the BCS; in principle the membership of ISSG should include every member of BCS!

## **Leadership**

### **Who We Serve and How We Engage Our Community:**

Our main mechanism for providing leadership is in endeavouring to provide events that are directed at looking at the current and emerging concerns in cyber security.

We also provide leadership through contributions to ITNow which include the Chair's regular short article introducing the security section of the magazine.

Our intention going forward is to expand our leadership in increasing awareness of the importance of cyber security in every facet of IT. The achievement of this aim will necessarily be constrained by the fact that all of the committee are volunteers, and, because of the global shortage of cyber

security professionals, they tend to be extremely busy with their day job.

## Excellence

### How We Excel:

The ISSG excels in providing relevant events for BCS members.

The ISSG has continued engagement with the Security and Convergence SIG of the Security Institute.

## Objectives for Next Year

### Our Plan:

Our objectives for the next year are to:

- Mount a minimum of 5 ISSG events.
- Continue to engage with Branches. Collaborate/contribute to a minimum of 3 Branch events.
- Continue to engage with other Specialist Groups. Collaborate/contribute to a minimum of 3 other SG events.

## Achievements

### Our Successes:

Our main success of the year is in providing events that BCS members want to attend. We have been innovative in trying to look at different styles of event while continuing to provide the tried and tested ones.

## Challenges

### The Barriers We Face

The major barrier that we face in achieving more is the issue mentioned under leadership. All committee members are volunteers, and, because of the global shortage of cyber security professionals, they tend to be extremely busy with their day job.

## **Inclusion and Diversity**

### **How We Are Working for Everyone**

Inclusion and Diversity is an integral part of the work of the ISSG committee and we examine all of our activities from an inclusivity viewpoint.

### **About the Committee**

The committee is fully staffed and almost all members are demonstrably active and participate in the majority of our committee meetings. Our meetings were all set up to be mixed face to face (in BCS London office) and remote dial-in but have now moved entirely on line. We held seven committee meetings between AGM 2019 and AGM 2020.