

THE COMPUTER CONSERVATION SOCIETY

CCS/02/2005

The Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Computer Conservation Society will take place at 2.00 pm on Thursday 12th May 2005 in the Fellows' Library of the Science Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7 2DD.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the AGM held on 13th May 2004
2. Chairman's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Subscriptions
5. Election of Officers and Committee Members
6. Any Other Business

The Officers and Committee Members are :

Dr Roger Johnson :	Chairman
Mr Tony Sale :	Vice-Chairman
Mr Hamish Carmichael :	Secretary and Archivist
Mr Dan Hayton :	Treasurer
Dr Xerxes Mazda :	Representative of the Science Museum
Mrs Jenny Wetton :	Representative of the Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester
Mr David Glover :	Representative of the National Archives
Mr Nicholas Enticknap :	Editor, <i>Computer Resurrection</i>
Mr John Harper :	Chairman, Turing Bombe WP
Mr Len Hewitt :	Chairman, Pegasus WP
Mr Tom Hinchliffe :	Chairman, North West Group
Dr David Holdsworth :	Chairman, Software Preservation WP
Prof Simon Lavington :	Chairman, Preservation Policy WP
Mrs Michelle Moore :	Representative of the Computer Museum at Bletchley Park
Mr Kevin Murrell :	Chairman, DEC WP
Mr Arthur Rowles :	Chairman, Elliott 401 WP
Mr Brian Russell :	Chairman, MildAP WP
Mr Robin Shirley :	Chairman, S100 bus WP
Mr John Sinclair :	Chairman, Elliott 803 WP

Dr David Anderson, Mr Peter Barnes, Mr Chris Burton, Prof Martin Campbell-Kelly, Mr George Davis, Mr Harold Gearing, Mr Eric Jukes, Mr Ernest Morris, Prof Frank Sumner, Dr Doron Swade

The Chairmen of Working Parties are ex officio members of the Committee.



THE COMPUTER CONSERVATION SOCIETY

2005 ELECTIONS

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

NOMINATION

Officer post or Committee :

Nominee :

Proposed by :

Seconded by :

The Nominee, Proposer and Seconder must all be members of the CCS

Nominations may be handed to the Secretary before the Meeting or posted to him in advance

at

63 Collingwood Avenue
Tolworth
Surbiton
Surrey KT5 9PU



THE COMPUTER CONSERVATION SOCIETY

2005 SUBSCRIPTIONS

In 2000 it was decided that the Society should operate a voluntary membership subscription at a rate of £10 per year. In each subsequent year members attending the Annual General Meeting have endorsed that decision.

The aim of making the scheme voluntary remains twofold: to avoid offending those members who believe that subscriptions are against the spirit in which they joined the Society; and to avoid the administration load that would be incurred by any mandatory scheme.

Members have responded generously, and the Committee is grateful to the many individuals who have made a major contribution to meeting the Society's expenses. We receive occasional special donations for particular projects – such as the building of the replica of the Turing Bombe at Bletchley Park. We also benefit from a subvention from our parent organisation, the British Computer Society, but that is absorbed by their charges for administrative support and by the costs of producing and mailing the Society's journal *Resurrection*. However, it is the support of individual members which keeps the Society solvent.

We could cut the Society's costs considerably if it was possible to communicate with members by email, and some members have indicated that they would prefer this. However not all members have email; members with email do not always tell the Society when they change their email address. For the time being we have to rely on conventional mail as the default mechanism.

I therefore now repeat my annual invitation asking you to send a cheque for £10 – or more if you wish. Please also complete and return the slip below if you are a UK taxpayer and wish your payment to be treated as a donation under the Gift Aid regulations.

Roger Johnson
Chairman

To : The Hon Treasurer, The Computer Conservation Society
31 The High Street, Farnborough Village, Orpington, Kent BR6 7BQ

I enclose my cheque (payable to "The Computer Conservation Society") for £

This is a voluntary donation to cover membership of the Society for the year

I confirm that I am a UK taxpayer, and wish the Society to treat this as a donation under the Gift Aid scheme.

Name

Address

Signature Date



THE COMPUTER CONSERVATION SOCIETY

LONDON MEETINGS PROGRAMME

In the Fellows' Library at the Science Museum, starting at 2.30 pm

Thursday 24th March 2005 "Making the Profession"

When commercially manufactured computers first became available in the 1950s both users and suppliers were trading largely unknown territory. Users needed to understand the pros (and cons !) of using computers. Manufacturers needed to understand the problems users wanted to solve. Thus there was a need for communications to link computers and people; a need to educate and train both those who worked the machines as operators and programmers and those who specified the problems and used the results; a need to establish qualifications and standards; and a need for an independent media to report what was going on.

Today, as computers become ever more deeply embedded in many aspects of our lives, employers, customers, government and the media require proof of professionalism from all those who work in IT. But professionalism does not come easily, and needs time to develop.

This afternoon's programme brings together speakers from many areas to describe the parts which they played in the early days of the development of what is today the Computing Profession.

The speakers will include :

Peter Barnes (Past Executive Chairman and first Director, BCS) :

The background to the formation of the British Computer Society and its development into a professional body

John Ivinson (Past President, BCS)

The BCS's contributions to individual development

Professor Paul Samet (Past President, BCS)

Development of courses in numerical analysis, logical design and computer sciences

George Felton (Ferranti)

Teaching programmers and analysts

Graham Morris (ICL; Past President, BCS))

Teaching and educating users

David Firnberg (Former Director, NCC; Past President, BCS)

The role of the National Computing Centre in developing national standards and examinations

Chris Hipwell (First editor, *Computer Weekly*)

The role of the computer press

Hamish Carmichael
Hon. Secretary
hamishc@globalnet.co.uk



THE COMPUTER CONSERVATION SOCIETY

LONDON MEETINGS PROGRAMME

In the Fellows' Library at the Science Museum, starting at approximately 2.30 pm
preceded by the Annual General Meeting at 2.00 pm

Thursday 12th May 2005 **"Computing before Computers"**

This promises to be a most varied, interesting and entertaining event, with overseas speakers in addition to a number of experts from the UK

The session will be chaired by Dr Doron Swade, Visiting Professor (Interaction Design), Royal College of Art. Members will recall that we owe a great deal to Dr Swade for his wisdom and foresight in founding the Computer Conservation Society in 1989

At the time of writing the exact content and running order is still under discussion, but the presentations so far confirmed include

- Professor Paul Rojas, Professor of Artificial Intelligence and Computer Science, Berlin, who will talk about the work of Konrad Zuse
- Professor Martin Campbell-Kelly, Department of Computing Science, University of Warwick, who will cover Victorian Data Processing
- Pamela Vass and David Hogan will talk on Thomas Fowler's Ternary Calculator

It is hoped that additional speakers will also agree to give talks. The topics under consideration include :

- slide rules and calculating aids
- arithmometers and other mechanical aids

We hope that it will be possible to end the afternoon with a visit to see the Babbage Difference Engine in operation and a final convivial discussion over a glass of wine

Hamish Carmichael
Hon. Secretary
020 8337 3176
hamishc@globalnet.co.uk



THE COMPUTER CONSERVATION SOCIETY

PUBLICATIONS

1. *Resurrection*

Many members have observed that there has been a break in the regularity with which the Society's journal is habitually published. The most recent issue is still number 33, which was dated Spring 2004.

The interruption has been caused by an unfortunate breakdown in the flow by which talks given at the Society's seminars are first transcribed and then edited and condensed. The transcription process is the problem. The seminars are always recorded by videocamera and the resulting tapes are carefully preserved, but it requires time and dedicated effort to extract the sound and present the editor with a transcribed document.

Any member who can make relevant technical suggestions or, better still, is prepared to have a go at the transcription process, is asked to contact the Secretary urgently.

2. *IEEE Annals of the History of Computing*

The Society has fortunately been able in 2005 to renew the scheme under which we pay a bulk subscription to the IEEE and thereby enable our members to make personal subscriptions to the Annals of the History of Computing at a preferential rate.

In 2004 forty-five members took advantage of this scheme, and almost all of them are renewing for a further year. The cost of a subscription for four issues of this prestigious journal is being held for a third year at £29.

In addition, forty other members have registered that they would like to receive the one-off issue dealing with Reconstructions of early computers when that is published. (We believed that it would come out during 2004 and that it would cost our members £10, but the actual publication date and cost are apparently still not decided.)

Any other member who would like to join the scheme is asked to contact the Secretary.

To make it easier, send no money now !

Hamish Carmichael
Hon. Secretary
020 8337 3176
hamishc@globalnet.co.uk