| **BCS Berkshire Branch Newsletter** | **September 2017** |

Welcome

Welcome to the BCS Berkshire branch newsletter for September 2017. We hope you all had a good summer. The following are events happening over the next few months....

Forthcoming events

Reading Geek Night, Tuesday 12th September 2017, 19:30 - 21:30

The Walkabout: Wiston Terrace (off Friar Street), Reading, RG1 1DG.

 A friendly and welcoming community for enthusiasts. We meet 2nd Tuesday of the month. Come and listen to talks and meet new people over beer.. There is also an opportunity for any short announcements etc. Check out the Reading Geek Night website for details of the program for the day - https://rdggeeknight.wordpress.com/ or tweet: @RDGGeekNight.

AGM and Careers in IT and Teaching, Wednesday 20th September 2017, 19:00 - 21:00
UTC Reading, Crescent Road, Reading, RG1 5RQ.

 All BCS Berkshire members are invited to the 2017 BCS Berkshire Annual General Meeting and two talks on Careers in Teaching, and Careers in IT.

For more information and to book your place visit: http://berkshire.bcs.org/?event=agm-2017

Reading Geek Night, Tuesday 10th October 2017, 19:30 - 21:30

The Walkabout: Wiston Terrace (off Friar Street), Reading, RG1 1DG.

A friendly and welcoming community for enthusiasts. We meet 2nd Tuesday of the month. Come and listen to talks and meet new people over beer.. There is also an opportunity for any short announcements etc. Check out the Reading Geek Night website for details of the program for the day - https://rdggeeknight.wordpress.com/ or tweet: @RDGGeekNight.

"Unconference" on Data Protection, Wednesday 11th October 2017, 18:30 - 21:00

Building 510, Oracle Parkway, Thames Valley Park, Reading, RG6 1RA,

BCS ELITE and the Institute of Directors present an unconference entitled "General Data Protection Regulation". With less than a year before we have to implement the General Data Protection Regulation, what does it mean to you? And will Brexit change it? We are delighted that Jo Lamb, Head of Legal Services at the BCS, and Will Richmond-Coggan, a partner at Pitmans, a leading Thames Valley law firm, have agreed to answer our questions about this important legal issue. For more information, visit : http://berkshire.bcs.org/?page_id=305

"Google Digital Garage", Thursday 19th October 2017, 18:30 - 21:00
Holiday Inn, Manor Lane, Maidenhead, SL6 2RA

The Maidenhead Chamber of Commerce with sponsorship from the Holiday Inn and BCS Berkshire presents a talk and workshop for SMEs, charities and business owners delivered by Google-certified trainer on how to boost digital skills and harness the power of the internet and Google tools to drive growth for business. Click here for event details and booking.

Schools Work

BCS Berkshire has been working with schools in and around Berkshire. We have been sponsoring Teen Tech (http://www.teentech.com) and we will have a stand at TT Surrey on 15th November, 2017. We will also be involved in the Ada Lovelace talk at Queen Anne's School on 26th September, 2017; and we are planning a Spring coding school.

Volunteering

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP RUN CODE CLUB SESSIONS

"Code Clubs for children aged 7 to 11 are now running in Bracknell and Great Hollands libraries to give children experience in computer coding. Children first learn to programme computer games and animations using Scratch then have the opportunity to create websites using HTML, CSS and Python. We currently need more volunteers to help run our computer coding sessions, either supporting Bracknell Library (meets term time Saturdays 10 am-11 am) or helping us expand in more libraries and at different times. For more information on volunteering at the library visit [Bracknell Forest Libraries](#) or find out how to get involved all across the UK on the [Code Club web site.](#)"

Volunteers Needed – Ability Net

Our volunteers provide free technology support to older people and disabled people of all ages. We're looking for people to join our nationwide team of volunteers who offer free technology help and support over the phone and in people's homes.
As one of our volunteers you can...
• use your IT skills to help change the lives of older people and disabled people of all ages
• have the opportunity to become a Digital Champion and gain industry recognised training
• benefit from regular training and technology updates
• network with a nationwide team of other IT volunteers
• plan your volunteering time around your home life and other commitments..
Find out how you can get involved today:www.abilitynet.org.uk/support-us/join-our-volunteers.

Committee Members Needed

We currently have openings in our committee for the following roles:
    1) Web Content Manager (Deputy Webmaster)
    2) Social Media Manager
    3) Young Professionals Group Lead
If you would like to help out or join the Committee every first Tuesday of the month, then please do get in touch by contacting our Chair, Anthony Parker on chair.berkshire@bcs.org.uk

Computing Ideas for a Better Society

As part of BCS's 60th anniversary, members are invited to submit their good ideas to improve computing. For further details, see Computing ideas for a better society: http://www.bcs.org/category/19062. You can send your ideas - small or large - via any means you like: email, our Facebook page, Twitter or [through this form](#).

Other IT Events around Berkshire

ConnectTVT - Connecting Thames Valley Tech is a Reading-based platform bringing together the Thames Valley's fast-growing entrepreneurial ecosystem, tech and digital economy, in Reading. Check out some interesting upcoming events on their website - https://www.connecttvt.co.uk/events

Looking ahead to Autumn & Winter 2017

Watch out for the following events:

1) **Life Changing Technology with BBC's Kate Russell, Tue 7th Nov 2017, 18:30 - 21:00**
   Holiday Inn, Manor Lane, Maidenhead, SL6 2RA

   The Maidenhead Chamber of Commerce with sponsorship from the Holiday Inn and BCS Berkshire presents a talk by BBC Click reporter Kate Russell, 2015 UK Blog Award winner for best individual digital & technology blog. Click here for event details and booking, here for the speaker's web site and here for her Wikipedia page.

2) **Talk on "Pre-React JavaScript", Tuesday 14th November 2017, 19:30 - 21:30**
   University of Reading, Reading

   A talk by Nicholas Liffen, Technical Analyst at Eli Lilly, where he is the product owner of GitHub and Herok. Booking link: https://events.bcs.org/book/2564/

3) **BCS Berkshire Christmas Party, Tuesday 19th December 2017, 18:30 - 21:30**
   Reading Central

   This year's BCS Berkshire Christmas party will be held on 19th December, 2017. The venue will be communicated to members soon.

We are also planning some events such as "Trailblazer" apprenticeships and professional development in the coming months, in conjunction with the BCS Learning and Development Specialist Group. Watch this space!

Website   Facebook   Twitter