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 THE BRITISH COMPUTER SOCIETY
<http://www.bcsoxon.org/>

For more details, or any late changes, see
 All are welcome to join for informal chat.
 After each meeting, some of the committee visit
 the Lamb and Flag public house (5 mins walk).

- are held monthly from September to May
- take place, unless otherwise stated, at the Computing Laboratory, Wolfson Building, Parks Rd, Oxford
- begin at 7.30pm, with light refreshments usually available from 7.00pm
- end at around 9.00pm
- are mostly accredited for CPD purposes, with certificates available to attending members
- ARE OPEN TO NON-MEMBERS.

Meetings:

2003/04 Programme

THE BRITISH COMPUTER SOCIETY



OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH

► **Thursday 11 September 2003** ◄

NAKED OBJECTS: CHALLENGING THE DOMINANT DESIGN
Richard Pawson and Dan Haywood
 Naked Objects is a radical approach to business systems design and development, supported by an open source Java-based framework. Core business objects such as Customer, Product and Order are exposed directly to the user instead of being masked by a conventional user interface.

This 'talk' will be highly participative! Richard and Dan will invite the audience to nominate a business application and will start to develop it, using input from the audience.

► **Thursday 9 October 2003** ◄

IBM AT WIMBLEDON
Roger Blake, Technical Leader in IBM's Business Consulting Services.

Roger presents the detail behind the technical solution for the Wimbledon Tennis Championships. This covers TV Graphics, the Internet, Players and the All England Lawn Tennis Club (AELTC) itself.

These systems are extremely visible to the outside world and have to cope with very high availability and performance requirements. Some design decisions will be discussed, along with practical experience from 12 years as Technical Consultant to the project and the AELTC.

► **Thursday 23 October 2003** ◄

AUTUMN SYMPOSIUM
from 7pm in The Lamb & Flag, St Giles, Oxford.
 [Symposium: A meeting for drinking and discussion.]
 Committee members will be on hand to talk about current topics within the industry and the BCS. Members and non-members welcome.

► **Thursday 13 November 2003** ◄

QUANTUM COMPUTING
Dr Jonathan Jones, Oxford Centre for Quantum Computation.

Quantum computers have the potential to revolutionise the way we think about computing, as they can perform certain calculations effectively infinitely faster than current designs. In the last few years simple prototypes have been built, and there is now significant research into methods for building large scale devices.

Jonathan describes what quantum computers are, how they work, what they could do, how they might be built, and their likely future impact.

► **Thursday 11 December 2003** ◄

BCS OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH CHRISTMAS LECTURE 2003
GROWING UP WITH LUCY
Steve Grand, independent scientist/artist/engineer/writer.

Despite many useful spin-offs, artificial intelligence has so far failed in its mission to replicate the kind of flexible, self-bootstrapping intelligence seen in humans and other animals. We can make a machine that plays championship chess, but we can't make one that can pick up the pieces when they fall over, or tell a rook from a bishop just by looking at it. And no chess playing computer ever throws a tantrum when it gets beaten.

Most artificial intelligence bears very little relation to natural intelligence at all, but this is hardly surprising, since despite a century of neuroscience we still don't really have a clue how the brain works. A few years ago I set myself the task of trying to find out, by building a robot that I hope will develop and learn like a baby. Her name is Lucy, and this is a progress report.

► **Thursday 22 January 2004** ◄

MOVING BACS FORWARDS
Tim Lambertstock, BACS Technology Strategy Manager.

BACS is the world's largest automated clearing-house for electronic payments. Tim joined BACS in 1999 to develop the vision and architecture for what became NewBACS, a major programme to upgrade the BACS payment service. The first Phase of NewBACS, BACSTEL-IP, went live in October 2002 and has won a number of awards.

Tim describes how BACS approached this programme, the NewBACS infrastructure and applications and some of the challenges faced. BACS is a finalist for the 2003 BCS Awards.

► **Thursday 19 February 2004** ◄

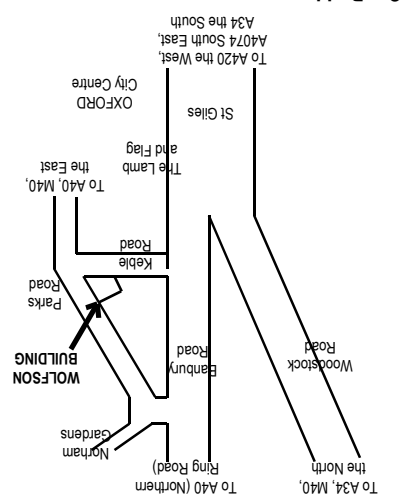
THE BRITISH LIBRARY'S WEB ARCHIVING PROGRAMME
John Tuck, Head of British Collections, and Deborah Woodyard, Digital Preservation Coordinator.

In the short time since its invention, the World Wide Web has become a vital means of facilitating global communication and an important medium for scientific communication, publishing, e-commerce, and much else. The 'fluid' nature of the web, however, means that pages or entire sites frequently change or disappear, often without leaving any trace.

In order to help counter this change and decay, web archiving initiatives are required to help preserve the informational, cultural and evidential value of the World Wide Web (or particular subsets of it). The fascinating and many unresolved challenges of web archiving include a variety of conceptual, technical and legal issues.

Several spaces are available at the Wolfson Building, and there are parking meters nearby (current charge £1.50 per evening).

Car Parking



Location of the Wolfson Building

To email whole committee committee@bcsoxon.org

Other committee members:
 Robert Ward (Chairman) robert.ward@bcsox.org.uk
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 Geoff Stone, Roy Tilakraj, Adrian Walmisley,
 Simon Marsh, Ted Murphy, Brian Read,
 Neill Lawson-Smith, Sheila Lloyd Lyons,
 Geoff Aldridge, Keith Diment, Cheryl Griffiths,

Oxfordshire Branch Committee

► **Thursday 18 March 2004** ◄

EXTREME BLUE INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME
Becca Loader runs this programme for IBM UK, where handpicked students (including, this year, one from Oxford) work on exciting high-tech projects and have fun in the process.
 For details see: www-5.ibm.com/employment/uk/students/ebi.html.

► **Thursday 22 April 2004** ◄

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
 (after Cheese & Wine buffet), followed by
Christopher Burton, member of the Computer Conservation Society.

► **Thursday 4 March 2004** ◄

SPRING SYMPOSIUM
from 7pm in The Lamb & Flag, St Giles, Oxford.
 Details as for 23 October 2003.

► **Thursday 20 May 2004** ◄

VISIT TO BLETCHLEY PARK
 See early cryptography machines such as Enigma, Colossus and the Turing Bombe in this all-day visit to the museum and grounds, plus the Computer Conservation Society's historic computers collection.
 Booking details will be announced nearer the time. See also www.bcsoxon.org, the branch website. The cost will include entrance, lunch and coach from Didcot, Abingdon and Oxford.