

BCS – ABERDEEN BRANCH

Minutes of AGM
Held at 18.30 on MONDAY 14th MAY 2007 in

Room C47
Robert Gordon Univ.,
St. Andrew's St. ABERDEEN

Present: Norman Bain(chair), Peter Gray (scribe) and 11 other members.

Apols: Ken Brown, John Court, Graeme Greig, Alun Rees.

1. Minutes of the previous AGM 2006 had been checked by the Committee and were approved.
The Secretary agreed to send out this year's AGM by email, after the Committee had approved them.

2. Review of Year's Events:

The Chairman (Norman Bain) presented a review of the year's events (list below).

Considerable effort (and expenditure) had gone in to sending out a Mouse Mat for calendar year 2007 with the special BCS anniversary Logo.

Norman had been at meetings of chairs of other Scottish Branches, particularly with a view to celebrating the BCS 50'th anniversary in 2007. They were continuing to push for a part-time BCS lobbyist based near Holyrood with a general liaison role. He himself had been invited to become Vice Chair of this group, and planned to continue.

This year we had another of our lunchtime meetings in a location in Queens Road with good car parking, and including a self-service buffet lunch. The topic had been Agile Methods in Business Applications, organised by Jon Tyler, and 20 members had enjoyed the atmosphere and increased opportunity for networking.

Once again the ever popular Pub Quiz attracted a full house, with fierce competition! Thanks were due to Colin Will and his helpers: Chris Liddle and Rob Bain.

Michael Morgan, organised a talk on the new Microsoft Vista operating system, which was very well attended (over 50).

The meeting with the best attendance (62) was a return visit by Russel May, this time on "Digital Forensics". We decided to video it, so that other Scottish

branches could show it (including our Inverness sub-branch). In the end Norman himself video-ed the talk and edited in extracts from the speaker's PowerPoint slides. This was shown to a final year class at Aberdeen University, and requests to view it had come from 42 members. This pioneering effort was clearly much appreciated.

3. Presentation of accounts:

The accounts were presented by the Treasurer (Ron Menzies) and paper copies made available.

This was a statement of income and expenditure, as at 30th April 2007. All transactions now go through BCS HQ, and they provide a summary statement under various headings.

Our budget for the year had been reduced to £2,137. However, our expenditure had come to £2,532.

The largest item was travel and subsistence for speakers (£453). The Treasurer had discussed the overspend with BCS HQ, and did not think we would be penalised for it next session. However we would need to plan future expenditure and make a case in advance for increased funding.

Acceptance of the accounts, with thanks to the Treasurer was carried nem. con.

4. Election of Officers:

Posts were filled as below. The resignation of Norman Bain was accepted with regret, after a successful four year term. However he was willing to be nominated as Vice Chair, and was elected unopposed.

The committee proposed Jon Tyler (Vice Chair) be elected as Chair in Norman's place. This was agreed (with acclamation). Jon Tyler wished to step down from the Education Liaison post. In his place we welcomed Phillipa Nicholson, who has a particular interest in Women in IT.

Norman Bain announced that John Court had recently had to give up as YPG rep., because of pressure of work in his own business. John had been an enthusiastic member of the Committee, and his ideas would be missed. Unfortunately, no nominations were received for the YPG post, which remains open. A YPG meeting had been planned for February and is being postponed until early next session.

The four principal officers were proposed and seconded individually, as shown in the table below. The remainder of the committee were re-elected unopposed by a single motion.

Finally, the Secretary proposed a Vote of Thanks to Norman Bain for his period in the Chair, which had seen some very popular speakers with a good turnout. This was carried unanimously. Karin McVicar then expressed the committee's

gratitude to Peter Gray (the continuing Secretary) for working closely with Norman during this period and providing regular and detailed minutes.

5. Plans for next Session.

Jon Tyler (new Chair) announced the results of Committee discussions. We would continue with a mix of evening and lunchtime meetings, roughly three before Xmas and three after. Advance notice of meetings would be given on the web site and by email, with email reminders. Thanks were due to our web master, Karin McVicar, for keeping the web site updated, and adding links to slides and related URLs.

Plans were in hand for meetings before the year end on security aspects of oil industry systems and a lunchtime discussion on how to control SPAM emails.

ICAT 2007, an important national conference on assistive technology for those with special needs, supported by the BCS 50th Anniversary Committee, will take place 23-25 October at Thainstone near Inverurie. The Committee is helping with this through Ken Brown, who has been working towards it for several years.

Brian Rogers requested a talk on the most recent version of the Linux Operating System by Ubuntu.

Jon Tyler suggested widening this to look at Open Source Software (e.g. Open Office) to run on the Linux system. These suggestions will feed into the plan for 2008.

6. LoveLace Lecture on DVD

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting and thanked members for their attendance. The meeting was followed by a presentation of extracts from a DVD recording of the LoveLace Lecture for 2007 by Prof. Tim Berners-Lee, which we had just obtained from BCS. The extracts were selected by Brian Rogers, who led the discussion. It became clear that there was much more meat in this talk than could be covered in 45 mins, so members are encouraged to view the full webcast:

<http://www.bcs.org/server.php?show=nav.8997>

BCS ABERDEEN BRANCH EVENTS 2006--07

Date	Topic	Location/Time	Organiser
Sept 27 Wed	Gary Short (Dundee) -- AJAX Javascript for XML	C47, RGU	NB
Oct 17 Tue	Eddy Gray -- Agile Methods (Business Topic)	Sportsmans Club/Lunch	JT
Nov 01 Wed	Womens Group	Sportsmans Club 7.30	PN

Nov 23 Thu	Pub Quiz (Social Event)	Brentwood Hotel/eve	CW, CL, RB et al
Jan 29 Mon	Russel May (Midlands) -- Digital Forensics (return visit)	C47, RGU / eve (not Wed)	NB
Mar 05 Mon	Vista - new Microsoft O/S	C47, RGU	M.Morgan
May 14 Mon	AGM + Berners-Lee talk on DVD	C47 18.30	NB

ABERDEEN BRANCH COMMITTEE 2007--08

OFFICE	Name	Proposer	Secunder
Chairman	Jon Tyler	N.Bain	P. Nicholson
Vice Chair	Norman Bain	J. Tyler	B. Rogers
Secretary	Peter Gray	N.Bain	R.Menzies
Treasurer	Ron Menzies	N. Bain	P. Gray
Membership Secretary	Graeme Greig		
Disability Officer	Ken Brown		
Web Master	Karin McVicar		
Education Liaison	Phillipa Nicholson		
YPG Rep	VACANT		
Publicity Officer			
OTHER	Colin Will		
" "	Brian Rodgers		
" "	Chris Liddle		
" "	Alun Rees		
" "	Michael Morgan		
" "	Rob Bain		