

Challenge IT News

Special Points of Interest:

- Support 2014 National Science and Engineering Week
- Competition for local Schools and Youth Groups.
- Organised by BCS Coventry Branch

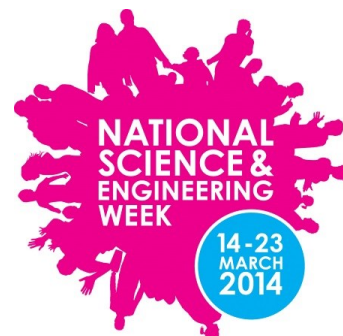
February 2014

Email: challengeIT.cov@bcs.org.uk

Congratulations for Making it to The Final !!!

Well done to all the teams who have made it through to the competition final. The competition committee and judges are looking forward to seeing all the different entries on 20th March 2014.

This newsletter aims to provide all the information needed for teams to prepare for the final and to present their results on the day.



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Finals Exhibition

The finals exhibition will take place on the afternoon of Thursday 20th March in the Engineering and Computing Building at Coventry University, which is on Gulson Road next to the University Library. This event is part of National Science and Engineering Week 2014.

Teams should aim to set up their displays between 12.00 and 13:20. Judging will be between 13.30 and 14.30 and the event will finish at about 16:15 after the prize-giving ceremony.

Who will be there?

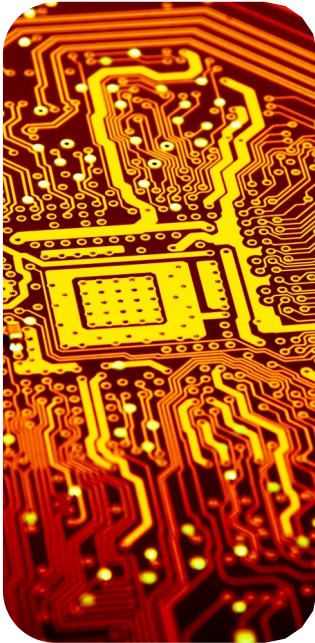
All members of each finalist team are invited and expected to join us for the final.

Each team should be accompanied by one or two adult supporters (could be teacher, parent, youth leader; adults may support more than one team)

These people will also be there

- The Lord Mayor of Coventry
- BCS Deputy President and Coventry Branch members
- Academics and students from Coventry University and University of Warwick
- Local companies and organisations supporting the competition

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“Teams are welcome to arrive at the Computing and Engineering Building any time from 12:00. The stands must be dressed and ready by 13:20”



Resources

Each finalist entry (team or individual) will be allocated a table (approx 70 cm x 150 cm) and one side of a large blue or grey Velcro display board (approx 150 cm x 175 cm).

Power will be available, but please bring your own extension lead and multi-plug unit. The adult supporter for each team will be provided with a temporary Wi-Fi account for the University’s network, including Internet access.

Teams will be expected to provide any IT equipment needed to exhibit and demonstrate their entry to judges and visitors, typically a laptop computer and perhaps mobile phone. Printed copies of designs are fine too. If anyone has other requirements please let us know, we may be able to help if we are given advance notice.

The display boards are provided for posters, designs, graphics, diagrams and

pictures to explain about each entry, teamwork and activities. Please remember to bring some pins or Velcro stickers to attach display materials to the display board.

You may consider providing some small leaflets to hand out to the judges as a reminder of how interesting your entry was when they make their final decision.

The most important resource for exhibiting the entry are the team members responsible for creating the entry. Everyone in the team has a role to convince the judges that their entry deserves to win the first prize for their category.

Provided:



Access to Power and WiFi

Setting Up Time

Teams are welcome to arrive at the Engineering and Computing Building (ECB) any time from 12:00. Light refreshments will be available from 12:00. In addition there is a Starbucks in the ECB where you can buy light snacks and drinks.

The stands must be dressed and ready by 13:20, as the judges will begin to circulate from 13:30. Helpers will be available on request to assist with unloading and setting up equipment and materials.



The Judging

The judges will make use of all the evidence presented, including the displays and what the team members say, to decide which entry to nominate as the winner for each category.

There are five entry categories, with a prize for the best entry in each category sponsored by different organisations.

- Design of app for mobile phone or web site
- Implementation of an app
- Digital Animation
- Robotics or control
- Post-16 (entries can be any of the above topics)

We have a good number of interesting entries for all categories, so the competition will be tough! The team members will need to stay with their stands during the judging. And answer questions from judges.

There will be lots of judges. You can identify them by their hat, judge's badge and clipboard.

Each judge will visit all the entries for one or two categories, look at the evidence, see

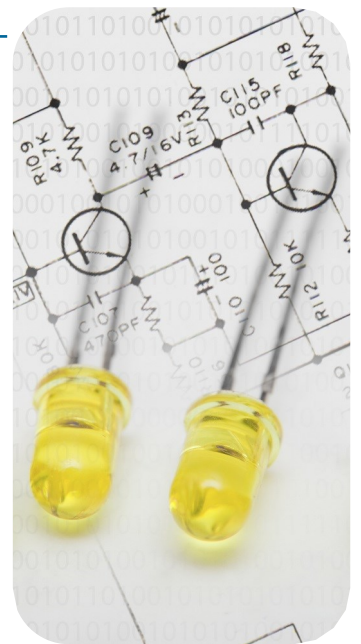
demonstrations of software products or hear about the ideas from team members behind designs; they will look at the displays and talk to the team members, perhaps about how they worked together as a team. They will score each team and note some comments about the entries.

An adult supporter needs to stay near to the team stands to offer support and deal with any problems. However the judges have been advised to take the evidence for their decisions from the account given by team members rather than from the adults guiding them.

Photographers will be circulating taking pictures of the display stands and (with your permission) the team members.

These will be used for publicity after the event.

There will be some guests and VIPs circulating with the judges. Some of these people may be prize sponsors or may have been asked to present the prizes.



*“We need to know
no later than
Monday 10th
March the names
and details of who
will attend”*

Tea Time

When the judging is over at about 14:30, the judges' score-sheets will be combined using a formula to generate an overall ranking and the winning entry will emerge for each category.

While the winners are being decided there will be some interesting things happening:

- Sandwiches, snacks, cakes and soft drinks will be served
- Team members will be asked to visit other

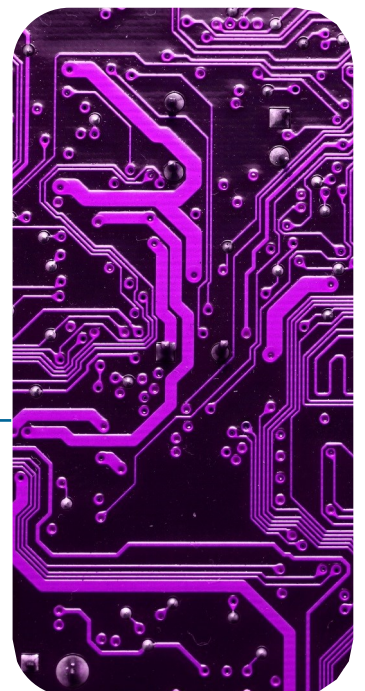
stands to vote for the best overall entry (see Entrants' Choice for more details)

- More photographs
- Visitors, including John Dalziel from Free Radio will be going around the stands talking to the teams about their view of Challenge IT
- Judges will visit stands to see entries for the categories they did not judge

Entrants' Choice

There is an extra prize: At Tea Time the adult supporter for each team will be given a voting form. Each team has a single vote for their favourite entry out of all four categories - but they are not allowed to nominate themselves!

The voting slips will be collected in and votes will be counted before the prize awards begin. The Entrants' Choice winner will be announced at the end of the prize ceremony.



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Prize Awards

The Master of Ceremonies for the afternoon will be John Dalziel from Free Radio. When we are ready to begin announcing the winners John will ask teams to come to the centre of the room. There will be short speeches by sponsors and supporters, prizes will be awarded and more photographs will be taken. The final award will be for the Entrants' Choice. Certificates and small prizes will be presented to all the finalists. We expect the event to finish at about 16:15.

Practical Arrangements

We need to know no later than Monday 10th March:

- **Exact names** and details of people attending on 20th March and any special arrangements we need to allow for (personal special needs, technical requirements etc).
- **Signed consent forms** with permissions for taking photographs of the non-adult team members or notification where consent has not been given.



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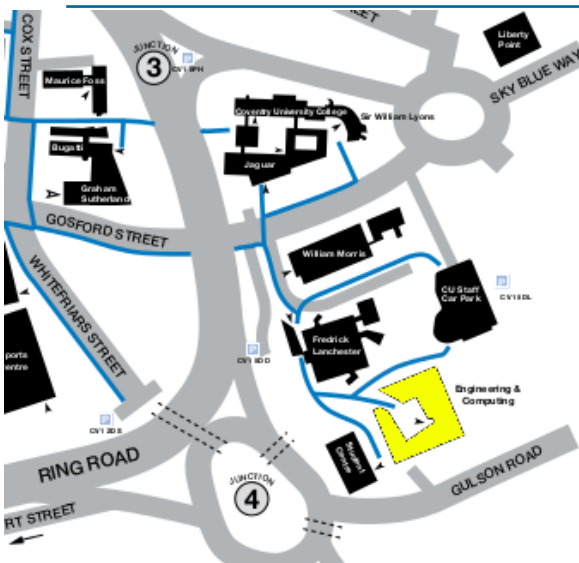
Free radio 

 Capgemini
CONSULTING. TECHNOLOGY. OUTSOURCING



Collective inspiration

THE UNIVERSITY OF
WARWICK



Unfortunately we are not able to provide parking for cars and minibuses, but we can advise on car parks and dropping-off points close to the building. The Engineering and Computing Building (ECB) is off Gulson Road, post code CV1 2JH. A map of the campus and nearby car parking locations can be found here:

<http://www.coventry.ac.uk/the-university-and-coventry-city/directions-and-maps>

Information about Coventry city centre car parks and fees can be found here:

http://www.coventry.gov.uk/directory/30/car_parks

Please contact us if you have questions or specific requirements, we will help if we can.

Please come to the main entrance of the ECB where you will be welcomed and directed to the location for the Challenge IT 2014 Finals Exhibition.

We are very much looking forward to meeting the teams, seeing what has been created and discovering which teams will win the prizes. We hope you find the experience of being a part of this competition rewarding and enjoyable.

Irene Glendinning, Chairman BCS Coventry Branch
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Competition Website: <http://coventry.bcs.org/competition.php>