

## BCS Member Group Chair's Report

Report submissions must be sent to [groups@bcs.uk](mailto:groups@bcs.uk) or your Community Coordinator.

<b>Member Group Name:</b>	Coventry Branch
<b>Year:</b>	2021-2022
<b>Report Completed By:</b>	Dianabasi Nkantah and John Rendall

<b>Group Chair:</b>	Dianabasi Nkantah
<b>Group Treasurer:</b>	Ada Chan
<b>Group Secretary:</b>	John Rendall
<b>Group Inclusion Officer:</b>	Irene Glendinning (retired/vacancy)
<b>Other Committee Members:</b>	Rich Bishop - Early Career Advocate Margaret J. Low – Education Liaison Officer Peter Mason Adrian F. Pauling – local IET Liaison Officer Don Stewart Yuri Vershinin Gary Walton

The Chair's Report is a vital communication tool for the BCS Community Team to understand and support your activity as a group. The Programme, Practice, and Policy (PPP) Committee will review your submitted report and suitable action points fed into the Community Board for strategic planning. As one of the critical communication points with our members, your completion of this report supports not only your group but ongoing support and development of other member groups and the BCS itself

### Successes

Please list the top three successes the group has achieved in the past year.

Success	Additional Comments
1. Branch ran 6 successful open meetings via webinar, despite the prevalence of Covid	One of the meetings was directly linked to the UK City of Culture. Another meeting presented a panel discussion regarding careers, the recording of which will be a useful resource
2. Branch ran successful Christmas Lecture in association with the IET and IMA	Lecture was provided by TeenTech and fronted by Maggie Philbin OBE – radio and television presenter, enabled by University of Warwick and our ELO
3. The Birmingham and Midland Motor Omnibus Ltd (BMMO)/Midland Red was an early-adopter of computers and senior members of the Branch managed to help one of our branch members identify the computer BMMO took delivery of in 1959.	It was identified as a “Powers-Samas PCC (Programme Controlled Computer)” (Programme was spelled with that ‘me’ on the end in 1954.) Apparently it was programmed by using a patch-board, and had a magnetic drum memory, Input and output was by punched cards.

### Plans

Please list the top three activities the group is planning for next year.

## BCS Member Group Chair's Report

Planned Activity	Additional Comments
1. Provide 8 branch open meetings	Seminar topics have been selected to cater for a diverse range (levels of experience, ages, etc.) of members and public, we hope to offer Branch Members a meeting concerning Career Progression
2. Enable a Christmas Lecture, in association with the local IET and IMA branches	This event targets the wider population in the Coventry and Warwickshire area.
3. Liaison with Special Interest Groups	The plan is to link up with Special Interest Groups to enrich our seminar topics, share resources and, if possible, host joint events. Health Informatics and Career Progression are two we are currently progressing.

### Impediments

Please list and describe the top three impediments stopping you from succeeding in your group's ambition and support the BCS vision of "Making IT Good for Society."

Impediment	Description
1. Narrow volunteer pool	The number of members volunteering for committee commitments is low. Efforts are ongoing; geared into encouraging more members to volunteer with the aim of securing the growth of the member group. Noted that Leicester Branch have failed to achieve a quorate committee placing that Branch in jeopardy.
2. Limited member engagement	Notwithstanding the increase in attendance at online meetings, the percentage of Branch Members participating in branch activities is still disappointingly low.
3.	

### Additional Facts and Figures

Please provide any facts and figures you think would be useful to the Community Team for further analysis and future activity planning.

Although we had planned 8 open meetings (plus the AGM), due to Covid and other health issues only 5 meetings ran. Where Coventry University hosted the meeting on their Zoom platform, actual attendance figures were not available. The graphic below shows the registrations for our meetings; in practice only about 80%, of those who had registered, attended:

2021- 2022										
Date	15th September 2021	20th October 2021	17th November 2021	19th January 2022	17th February 2022	16th March 2022	20th April 2022	18th May 2022	Average	13th October 2021
Mtg	Emergence of computer Art	Intelligent Video Games	Careers Event for Students	Your Career Progression - <b>cancelled</b>	Coventry Digital Archive	Getting into Business & Consultancy	Cyber Security - <b>cancelled</b>	Health Informatics - <b>cancelled</b>		AGM
BCS	28	42	11		17	43			28	8
Guest or Visitor	52	39	10		4	11			23	
	80	81	21		21	54			51	8

### Further Comments

If you have any further comments you wish to provide the Community Team; please give them below.

Three committee members received awards/recognition for their service to Branch:

Dr. Irene Glendinning received a Meritorious Certificate for all her work for Branch, for Chairing the branch from time-to-time, for steering the Schools Competition (later Challenge IT) and for representing Branch at various learned events.

Professor Margaret Low received a Certificate of Appreciation for all her support for Coventry Branch, for enabling a number of Christmas Lectures, for her support for the CAS Hub and for her work supporting Challenge IT.

John Rendall received a (second) Certificate of Appreciation for his ongoing support for Coventry Branch, having been Branch Secretary and Branch Webmaster since May 1998, including persuading the local universities to allow Branch Meetings to be hosted on their premises, which led to increased meeting attendance and enlarged committee.

### Nominations for Awards and Recognition

It is important that the BCS recognise deserving voluntary service. If you are aware of someone who warrants one of these awards, then please nominate them. It is easy to nominate someone, but, if you are unsure about completing the form, the Community team and your liaison in the Programme, Practice and Policy Committee can help. Please email [groups@bcs.uk](mailto:groups@bcs.uk).

There are three levels of Recognition of Appreciation award:

- Certificate of Appreciation – going beyond the normal expectations of a single voluntary role by directly contributing to significant involvements, achievements or benefits to BCS.
- Meritorious Certificate – going beyond the normal expectations of two or more voluntary roles in different areas of BCS by directly contributing to tangible involvements, achievements or benefits to BCS.
- John Ivinson Award – significantly furthering the BCS's strategic aims and mission on a wide scope of BCS's areas of endeavour by directly contributing significant achievements and benefits to BCS. Typically, the BCS will present this prestigious award to 1-3 volunteers per year.



## BCS Member Group Chair's Report

There are long-service awards for 5, 10, 25, and 30 years of contribution to the BCS.

### Volunteer Recognition

Please complete the table below and indicate if you wish to nominate a member of your team for an award of recognition. A member of the Community Team will get in touch to help you complete the process.

Group/Branch Member	Years of BCS Volunteering	Nomination

### Honorary Fellowship

Nominees will have made an outstanding contribution to the charitable objectives of the BCS over an extended period.

The BCS award Honorary Fellowship under Byelaw 8 of the BCS's Royal Charter and Trustee Board Regulation 1.3 specifies that the BCS award may also make the award to non-members who may not be eligible for any other class of membership.

Community Board and Trustee Board will consider a candidate for Honorary Fellowship against the following criteria:

- At any time, both the contribution to BCS's work and the stature of the individual nominated should be commensurate with the standards set by previous recipients. There is no overall limit to the number of Honorary Fellows although it is unlikely that there will be more than two Honorary Fellows elected in any one year.
- To be elected, the nomination must be on the Trustee Board Agenda, and at least 3/4 of those present must resolve in favour.

If you are aware of a nominee for Honorary Fellowship; please add their details below and a member of the Community Team will raise this at the next appropriate meeting of the Community Board.