

Challenge IT News—April 2012



Coventry Branch

Finals Exhibition, 15th March 2012



It was wonderful to see all the finalists and all the different entries on 15th March at Coventry University.

The judges, in their interesting array of hats, did a grand job of determining the winners in the three different categories.

The feedback from the judges, sponsors and other visitors was overwhelmingly positive about the very high standard of entries and the exciting “buzz” throughout the afternoon.

The BCS Challenge IT committee thanks everyone involved in the day, whatever their

reasons for being there, for making it such a success. Links to event photographs are on the competition website:
<http://bcs.coventry.org/competition.php>



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So who were the Challenge IT prize winners?

Digital Animation Category: OpHorizon, Ashlawn School, Rugby



Team members:

Haydn Hughes
Robert Harling
Luke Clarke
Adam Lane
Vinesh Vegad

Award sponsored by:

Department of Computer Science,
University of Warwick .

Prof Margot Finn, Pro-Vice Chancellor,
University of Warwick presented the
Organisation award.

Mr Roger Marshall, BCS Deputy Vice
President presented individual awards.

**Congratulations
to all
Challenge IT
competition
finalists!**

The Finalists

A total of 27 teams and 76 individuals from 12 schools and 1 youth group were confirmed as finalists. Congratulations to all contestants for reaching the final and a special thanks to your teachers, youth leaders and parents for helping and supporting you. Teams came from the following schools and organisations:

7th Coventry Girls' Brigade
Ashlawn School, Rugby
Bablake, Coventry
Blue Coat School, Coventry
Countesthorpe Community College, Leicestershire
Hartshill School, Nuneaton
Heart of England, Warwickshire

King Edward VI College, Nuneaton
King Henry VIII School, Coventry
Lutterworth High School, Leicestershire
Lyng Hall School, Coventry
Sidney Stringer Academy, Coventry
Whitley Academy, Coventry

Website Category: Social Splash, Lyng Hall School , Coventry

Team members:

Brendan Hart

Award sponsored by:

The Institution of Engineering
and Technology (IET)

Mr Derrick Willer from IET
presented the organisation
award.

Caroline Lloyd of the Children's
University presented the
Individual award.



Mobile Phone App Design Category: DCA, Bablake School, Coventry

Team members:

Daniel Cotton

Award sponsored by:

Faculty of Engineering and Computing,
Coventry University

Prof Paul Ivey, Dean of Faculty
presented the Organisation award

Cllr Geraldine Robinson, Harborough
District Council presented the individual
award



Post 16 Category: JMARoofing, King Henry VIII School,



Team members:

Ben Murphy

Award sponsored by:

CapGemini

Mr Richard Glithero, Capgemini,
Head of Capability presented the
organisation award .

Councillor Keiran Mulhall the Lord
Mayor of Coventry presented the
individual awards.

Thank you
to all
teachers,
leaders
and
supporters

Entrants Choice Category: Nootropic, King Henry VIII School, Coventry

Team members:

Ran Gupta

Amtik Virdi

Jessica Harvey

Presented by Claire Davenport of Computing
at School (CAS)

This extra special category was included to
ensure all the contestants had the
opportunity to see entries from other schools
and to share good ideas.

This award was judged by the entrants
themselves. Each entry (team or individual)
was allowed just one vote.



When is the next competition?

We hope to run the competition in a similar format in 2013-14, with the final in March 2014, but it all depends on funding and support from volunteers.

We've already had some promises from sponsors, so it is looking hopeful.

We hope to see at least some of you back with us in two years' time. Perhaps next time we'll hold the final in the new Engineering and Computing building at Coventry University, which will be ready September 2012.



**Thank you
to all
Challenge IT
competition
judges!**



Feedback from Judges

Each judge was assigned to one of the four categories. They spent some time making comments about all the entries they saw and their feedback has been sent to the school teacher or youth group leader for passing back to the teams and individuals.

The judges are especially thanked for giving up their time to help with the competition and for entering into the spirit of the event by looking a bit silly.

Where did the prizes come from?

We could not have a competition without prizes and supporters and we are very grateful to a very large number of generous contributors, as you can see from the logos included in this newsletter.

The competition was sponsored and funded by BCS the Chartered Institute for IT and organised by a committee of volunteers from the Coventry Branch of BCS. The major prize donors for the four awards were Capgemini, Coventry University's Faculty of Engineering and Computing, University of Warwick's computer Science Department, The institution of Engineering and Technology (IET).

Coventry University kindly hosted and supported the organisation of the finals event, for which we give grateful thanks. The Student Advocates in the red shirts were particularly busy all day and worked tremendously hard setting up the stands, serving drinks and after you had gone,

helping to present the prizes and clearing up and dismantling after everyone had gone.

Every entrant was given a bag with lots of small gifts, donated by many other sponsors:

Some organisations helped the running of competition in other ways, including contacting schools and youth groups and advising on arrangements. They all played their part in making the competition and the Final Event run smoothly and be enjoyable for all of us.

We were very fortunate to have John Dalziel with us as Master of Ceremonies on the day, otherwise known as JD of Freeradio JD show. He really made the afternoon go well and also gave Challenge IT a mention on his morning show on 15th March and then named the winning entries on his show on 16th March. Thanks for all your help JD.

BCS Coventry Branch Challenge IT Committee

Although this is the fourth competition run by BCS Coventry branch, it took well over a year to organise and run the Challenge IT competition.

This is the main reason we only run competitions every second year. It was especially complex to organise this time because we had a completely new format including entry types, timing, operational arrangements, rules, judging arrangements and final event requirements.

A great deal could have gone wrong, but it is to the credit of the dedication, hard work and many meetings of a very committed team of volunteers that it all went amazingly smoothly. Well done and thanks to all the committee.



How can we improve Challenge IT?

We are interested to hear about the experience of all types of participants in Challenge IT. Thanks for everyone who filled in the green evaluation form on 15th March.

If you would like to tell us your views about what you enjoyed and some ideas for how we could improve the competition or the finals event in the future then please email ChallengeIT.cov@bcs.org.uk or download a copy of the evaluation form from the competition web site and send to us by post using the address on the form:
<http://coventry.bcs.org/competition.php>

**Our thanks
to all for
being
part
of
Challenge IT**

Sponsors and Supporters Challenge IT 2012

The Challenge IT 2012 committee very gratefully acknowledges generous contributions from the following organisations:

