

Bits & Bytes

No 31

Editorial

The regular piece from my Romford Reporter (Dennis Goodwin), in this edition, discusses the Six Degrees of Separation theory.

I firmly believe in it. If only everybody was as inquisitive as I am, and engaged in conversation with strangers, they would discover links that they would never have had imagined.

Dennis phoned me earlier this year after a visit to Whitstable and Broadstairs. In a restaurant he got into conversation with a gentleman who was working on a friend's boat in Broadstairs. Dennis asked where he lived and he answered – Hitchin.

"Oh I know Hitchin as I was in digs when I was on a training course in Letchworth"

"Who did you work for?" "ICL"

"So did I" "What is your name?" "Dennis Goodwin"

"Not THE Dennis Goodwin who writes a regular column in Bits & Bytes!"

At the Inland Waterways Association Festival at Beale Park in August the couple behind us in the queue for a coffee told me that they live in Sunningdale, my birthplace, and the man used to work for ICL in BRA01. Was that just a coincidence or destiny?

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Fujitsu News

Fujitsu awarded HM Government's 'Desktop21' framework agreement

The national procurement partner for UK public services, Buying Solutions, in collaboration with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and the Office of Government Commerce (OGC), has awarded a framework agreement to Fujitsu as one of the three "Tier One" suppliers to provide desktop services to the wider public sector as part of its four-year Desktop21 framework agreement which starts on 1st March 2010.

The award of 'Desktop21' follows Fujitsu's success on the IT Consultancy and Delivery Services framework awarded in August 2009. It offers the public sector a set of services which will provide state of the art desktop managed services including 'thin' and 'thick' client capability, mobile and wireless devices and support, service transformation, as well as day-to-day services such as print, network and service desk. It will use a common platform and a

model of aggregating common elements for clients to ensure the public sector organisations procuring from 'Desktop21' have the best possible service at a highly competitive price. The framework is suitable for organisations procuring for 1,500 seats and upwards. Alternatively customer groupings of this number or above can procure a shared service.

The service scope is based on that recently contracted for by DWP but can be extended through options and project work.

Lesley Meeks, ICT procurement director, Buying Solutions comments "Buying Solutions is delighted to have been involved in this ground-breaking procurement with our partners, DWP and OGC. We have successfully leveraged one of the biggest and best deals in the public sector and captured this in a framework agreement that the rest of the public sector can benefit from. The deals agreed with our suppliers will deliver significant savings and provide public sector organisations with a compelling business case for change to Desktop21.

"We are particularly pleased that one of our framework agreements is the very first to receive the OGC's new collaborative procurement mark as this is a further endorsement of the thorough approach we adopt to ensure that our arrangements and the service we provide are of the very highest quality."

In response, Eithne Wallis CB, managing director UK Government Division, Fujitsu UK and Ireland says: "Our success as part of the Desktop21 framework comes hot on the heels of our contract with DWP to outsource its desktop estate. As HM Government strives to make savings and efficiencies through its use of IT, we are proud to be helping departments and agencies across the public sector transform the way they manage the desktop environment as well as making some real and tangible cost savings."

Bolton Council awards three-year ICT contract to Fujitsu

Bolton Council awarded Fujitsu a three-year contract worth £7.6m in March 2010, to provide ICT services for the council. The contract builds on an existing seven year relationship and is a continuation of the previous work that Fujitsu has carried out with the council in supporting and servicing its IT and e-government requirements.

Bolton Council originally awarded the contract to Fujitsu in order to enable the council to deliver excellent services to local citizens. The scope of the contract will be to continue to support:

Data Networks
Desktop support
Server Management & support
Applications support
ICT Procurement services

Steve Arnfield, director of corporate resources & deputy chief executive at Bolton Council, comments: "In awarding the contract to Fujitsu, the council is recognising the high quality services that Fujitsu has provided to us in the past, and therefore it made complete sense for us to continue with this successful partnership. From both an efficiency and economic value point of view, the contract with Fujitsu is excellent, providing a comprehensive range of services that enable the council to operate more efficiently and effectively in providing services to the people of Bolton."

Mark Ashton, account director, Fujitsu UK & Ireland, also commented: "It is always rewarding to have a contract of this nature and scope renewed as it demonstrates the fact that the hard work done by all over the last seven years is making a difference. Working in the local government arena at the moment is fascinating – as councils wrestle with balancing the provision of outstanding services to local citizens with the efficiency savings required of them. IT is a foundation for being able to do both of those and as a result of the long relationship with Bolton we have the insight to be able to support its IT and e-government requirements in the most efficient way possible."

Bolton Council employs 12,000 people across a range of services and is responsible for providing those services to 263,000 local citizens.

Online rail ticketing service

Launched 19 April 2010 www.MyTrainTicket.co.uk is intent on shaking up the online rail ticket market by offering a significantly-improved booking experience to help passengers balance price; ticket flexibility; journey time, and on train facilities such as WiFi and catering. As a key differentiator to other online booking systems, passengers booking via www.MyTrainTicket.co.uk will be able to collect Airmiles to the tune of 1 Airmile for every £10 spent. The website is set up to accommodate a national roll-out of mobile, self print and Smartcard tickets as they are made available on routes by train operators.

Fujitsu's RIBS have been designed to take full responsibility for managing the complexities of the rail data and information services – meaning web ticketing providers can focus on developing and supporting the sales process and ongoing relationship with passengers and ultimately get to market quicker with their offering.

Fujitsu works with a number of companies and organisations across the rail industry including Eurostar, Arriva Trains Wales, First Group (First Scotrail, First Great Western and First Transpennine Express) and Stagecoach Group (Southwest Trains and East Midlands Trains).

In 2008 Fujitsu was awarded a five year, £13m deal to refresh, enhance and streamline the hardware and applications technology used by the Association of Train Operating Companies' (ATOC) Rail Journey Information Services (RJIS).

Forestry Commission awards Fujitsu five year contract to manage IT estate

Britain's largest land manager, the Forestry Commission, awarded Fujitsu a new five-year contract in May 2010, to maintain all of its ICT hardware across the Commission in England, Scotland and Wales. Fujitsu originally won the six-year contract to run the Forestry Commission's IT in 2003. The new contract was won in a competitive tender through the Catalyst framework.

Fujitsu will be responsible for maintaining the Commission's whole ICT investment including storage, servers, and its data centre in Edinburgh. Coupled with this, Fujitsu will be maintaining IT equipment for 2,700 users across 100 distributed offices and depots, including handheld devices, rugged laptops, desktops, printers and plotters.

This new contract broadens the scope of the original contract and requires Fujitsu both to meet improved services targets and to reduce the overall annual maintenance budget. As well as maintaining the hardware for the Commission, Fujitsu will be undertaking installation, testing, refresh, upgrade and disposal work on a call-off basis along with a number of technical consultancy services. The contract is worth £1m.

David Felstead, Forestry Commission CIO, said: "We are delighted to re-appoint Fujitsu as our hardware maintenance partners. This five year contract allows us to continue to provide an excellent service to our internal customers whilst tackling costs as part of our need to reduce expenditure across the business. We are convinced this continuing partnership will allow us to achieve all of our improved service and commercial objectives."

Commenting on the contract, Alastair Millar, service delivery manager at Fujitsu UK and Ireland said: "The Forestry Commission IT estate is a complex one, not only because of the nature of the conditions the Commission often works in, but also because of the breadth of work it is responsible for, whether that be research, commercial timber production, sustainability programmes and forestry policy as well as learning and recreation. This breadth makes it a fascinating organisation to work with as every IT users' needs are different and varied. We look forward to continuing the good work we have undertaken with the Forestry Commission since 2003 and helping support them in the outstanding work they are doing in sustaining the forestry resource for the future."

The hardware estate comprises over 2,000 desktop devices and a further 1,000 PDA's printers and other equipment.

3663 signs with Fujitsu

3663 First for Foodservice, the UK's leading distributor to the foodservice sector, signed a five year IT managed service contract with Fujitsu in April 2010.

Part of the Bidvest Group, 3663 has locations across the UK with nearly two million square feet of warehousing and over 1,000 temperature controlled trucks operating daily to deliver food, drinks and other supplies to the foodservice sector. The company requires highly reliable IT systems to enable it to fulfil up to 23,000 orders a day for next day delivery.

Under the outsourcing contract, Fujitsu will provide a full IT managed service including hosting all

systems, managing the servers, desktop management, helpdesk and process support. Fujitsu's service will be based on IT Infrastructure Library (ITIL) service management, which provides a cohesive set of best practice, drawn from the public and private sectors internationally and is supported by a comprehensive qualifications scheme, accredited training organisations, and implementation and assessment tools.

Anne Stokes, business unit director for retail, transportation, manufacturing and services, Fujitsu UK & Ireland, comments: "3663 operates under extremely tight deadlines and having reliable IT systems with high availability rates is critical to successfully processing and fulfilling orders as well as managing their supply chain. In this economic climate they also require flexibility in their IT systems with continued service improvement and support which will enable them to implement change in a cost effective way."

Lee Hinton, head of IT infrastructure for 3663 First for Foodservice, comments: "By outsourcing the management of our IT systems to Fujitsu we feel confident that we will reduce costs as a result of improved service and improved systems availability. By working closely in partnership, Fujitsu will also provide architectural and service innovation enabling us to continue to improve service and reduce cost."

Fujitsu and Salesforce.com expand Cloud Computing

Fujitsu and salesforce.com announced on 12 May 2010 that they are expanding their global partnership, establishing Fujitsu as one of salesforce.com's global systems integrators.

Fujitsu's proven success with customers located in the USA, Australia and the UK is accelerating globally. Strong market growth is now being seen in ASEAN countries and Japan. As a result of this market demand and the enhanced partnership with salesforce.com, Fujitsu will be making significant investments in strengthening its consulting and sales capability. Customers in all these countries can now benefit from this next step in the seven year partnership between Fujitsu and salesforce.com which will ensure customers with global operations experience consistent services across all global locations.

"Fujitsu understood our complex business processes and data models, implementing a Salesforce.com solution which helped us gain better insight into our clients and target them more effectively, resulting in significant improvement in email marketing campaigns and VIP customer communications. The Fujitsu solution has also provided Sportingbet senior management access to (near) real-time reports and dashboards using Salesforce.com reporting capabilities providing valuable, EMEA wide information previously unavailable in a centralised location." Maya Bull – CRM manager, Sportingbet EMEA.

More than 200 customers around the world in the financial services, retail, healthcare and manufacturing sectors have already benefitted from Fujitsu's in-depth experience in integrating Salesforce CRM and the Force.com platform with existing applications. The expanded partnership builds on this success, helping customers to modernise their

application environment by improving business processes and consolidating customer information from multiple sources to one easily maintainable standard, eliminating redundant or manual processes.

By combining technologies and services that harness the strengths of both companies, Fujitsu and salesforce.com aim to help optimise the entire ICT systems of customers who are expanding their businesses worldwide or exploring ways to accelerate their management processes while reducing costs.

"Demand has increased significantly amongst our clients for cloud computing solutions that minimise up-front deployment costs, eliminate the need for clients to maintain their own hardware and software, and provide businesses with cost-effective scalability and flexibility. As a global systems integrator for salesforce.com, we can leverage our experience of providing the industry's most consistent and reliable service to develop new solutions that let our joint clients take advantage of the efficiencies of the salesforce.com cloud and then roll these solutions out on a global scale. This partnership is an important building block in the realisation of our global cloud strategy which we announced last month. Having launched the deployment of our global infrastructure as a service offering for what we have termed Mode 1 - infrastructure consumption – this is an important step in enhancing our global capabilities for Mode 2 – application consumption" Richard Christou, corporate senior executive vice president, Fujitsu Limited.

"Fujitsu is a proven partner that understands the modern needs of companies seeking to realise the benefits of enterprise cloud computing. As one of our global system integrator partners, we look to Fujitsu to help salesforce.com customers enhance their success with enterprise cloud computing. Fujitsu's tremendous focus on customer success, combined with its industry expertise, is helping drive greater adoption of cloud computing around the world." George Hu, executive vice president of marketing and alliances, salesforce.com

Fujitsu is named amongst London's top carbon cutters

Fujitsu has been recognised for its green credentials - the IT company was one of only nine organisations to be presented with a prestigious Diamond Award at the recent Green500 annual awards ceremony.

Green500 is one of a number of London Development Agency (LDA) initiatives, which aim to reduce the capital's CO2 emissions.

Olly Dickinson, facilities manager at Fujitsu's Baker Street, London office, collected the award on behalf of Fujitsu from the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson at a ceremony in at the Globe Theatre, London.

Green500 commended Fujitsu, stating that, "It has continued to promote a range of office efficiency initiatives and strives to meet best practice in all areas."

Key Fujitsu initiatives commended by Green500 included:

Introduction of duplex printing facilities

A comprehensive and sustained awareness campaign and implementation of more effective recycling facilities

Achievement of ISO14001 status – the essential certification standard for organisations striving to

implement, maintain and improve an environmental management system

Beginning the implementation of a range of sustainable travel options for employees to facilitate low carbon travel such as car share, cycle to work, public transport incentives

Taking steps to engage suppliers and customers with initiatives such as outlining sustainability requirements to suppliers and implementing a comprehensive supply chain framework to assist customers in measuring themselves against this framework

David Sillitoe director of group property Fujitsu UK and Ireland commented, "This award is further validation that Fujitsu is committed to reducing its carbon emissions and its impact on the environment. The Diamond Award is of particular note as it shows Fujitsu building on its sustainability goals, following the Platinum Award which it received in 2009."

Letters & e-mails

ICL Beaumont

I worked in the various offices located in Putney for 21 years and attended many courses at Beaumont. During my lunch breaks and other spare time I would wander the grounds and on one occasion came upon a small, much neglected cemetery for young boys who had died during their time serving the monks. Most of the children had died of TB and other related diseases. I always found this such a sad little place with overgrown trees making a sad area even gloomier and more depressing. I wonder if this cemetery is still there and someone is looking after it.

If Christine Bell was able to visit, or know of this, I would be interested to hear. Whenever I think of Beaumont this little cemetery always comes to mind.

Shirley Schwarz London SW18

Memories of OfficePower

Thank you for sending me a copy of Bits & Bytes. I always read it, though most of the articles go over my head as I was neither an engineer nor a technical person when I worked for ICL.

I read with much interest the Ken Chilton article about OfficePower and chuckled to myself when I recalled my first glimpse of the system!! Having worked in temporary secretarial and PA roles for just over 18 months for blue chip companies such as Thorn EMI, Safeways, Quaker Oats/Spillers, Glaxo and Bristol Myers-Squibb, I couldn't believe that working for an IT company would send me back in time and onto the keyboard, having used various Windows based systems during my time as a temp and prior to that while working for the Coca-Cola company.

..... and the colour! It played havoc with your eyes and I remember being shown by an old hand how to put the grid-lines round a table by copying and pasting rows of underscores. It was quite slow after MS windows 6 and Word Perfect for Windows. Then someone kindly changed my background - it was still green font, but the more subtle background helped.

I also remember the Windows version. OfficePower for Windows, which only a few people had at the time. I got it because I was working for the Finance Director and he had it. It was better than the keyboard version, but I was glad when we finally got upgraded to Microsoft Office and Outlook.

In case you want to print any of this, I will give you some background. I only worked for FJ for 5 years - they changed their name at least 3 times while I worked there. I started in FEL05 working for the Operations Manager who was responsible for Camelot and Pathway from the engineering side, also Granada and Alerts. Then I moved to work for Steve Clayton, who was at the time Finance Controller. He then became Finance Director. I moved to FEL01 to ICL Pathway and was PA to Jim Flynn, Implementation Director. When this department wound down, I briefly worked in Resource, also FEL01 then I was made redundant.

I liked my short time at FJ and remember with fondness and frustration, the old OfficePower system!

Val Paxton 01932 562518

What to do in Retirement

Stewart Bartram's letter in B&B30 reminded me that not only did I run the "Effective Use of Time" course at ICL many years ago, but I also ran "Preparing for Retirement", so I ought to have something to say on this.

And I have (of course!). I think there are 3 key things you need to consider:

- * Mars-a-Day
- * Say "No"
- * One at a Time

1. Remember the old advert "A Mars a day helps you work, rest and play"? Draw a circle and split it into 3. How much time do you want to spend "working"; how much "resting", how much "playing".

"Working" will equate to doing things for the community or someone else; "Playing" will be about having fun, playing games, chatting to people, going out etc., and "Resting" is not just sleeping, but also sitting watching TV, and the old-fashioned view of retirement "sitting smoking your pipe". Precisely which category you put each activity in will tell you something about your values, which is worth doing too. You can start with splitting the circle into equal thirds, but see how that works for you and change it as you wish. It is a control mechanism to ensure you don't either waste your time "smoking your pipe" or get over-committed to "work"

2. You will probably find lots of people keen to fill your "work" portion, and you may well feel you want to take a more active role in your community. Fine, it can be very rewarding, but not if you over-do it, so learn that it's OK to turn people down. Saying no can be very difficult, and can make you feel selfish. But you have a greater responsibility to yourself than to anyone else, and possibly you are the only one who will look after you, so make that your first priority.

3. I found that I wanted to do so many things when I retired that I probably wouldn't have time to do them all. So I decided to do them one at a time. For instance one of my hobbies is singing. So I sang in a church choir for a year, then I sang in a Barbershop Quartet for a year, then in a semi-professional mixed quartet for a year. There's no way I could have taken them all on, but doing it that way gave me a very satisfying taste of each.

Roy Guy

Time

"I don't know how I found the time to work". Now admit it, you have all said that more than once and

until my “retirement” in December 2010 I must have heard it spoken over a thousand times. Of course I never believed it because we must all have had a similar work pattern: 50, 60, 70(?) hours a week faithfully working for the company. Those of us lucky enough not to be working away from home using the evenings to eat, mow the lawn, sort the household accounts, etc. etc. Weekends for the bigger jobs, socialising and leisure. So what has changed? I admit that with retirement, weekends tend to merge with the rest of the week, with the exception that these are the two days when the rest of the family descend upon you. However the basic premise does not change, we can do everything that we need to do in 2 days and therefore we *should* have 5 days additional leisure time. Working on this premise I started to plan what I would be able to do with these additional 5 days long before I actually left Fujitsu. How wrong could I have been?

As an ex-PM some habits die hard. I still feel the need to check my email first thing in a morning ready to apply containment actions to yesterday’s disasters, but there are none. I still make a list of today’s urgent to-do items, which I then completely ignore and do what I want when I want.

I have noticed a couple of changes though. Whatever I am doing I now stop at mid-day and have a “dinner break” where I can sit and eat not at a desk, not driving a computer, and not holding a tele-conference. Of course this does not apply to Fridays where the Wakefield tradition of spending a couple or 3 hours in the Black Rock endures. I have also discovered a thing called a library (physical as opposed to a VME Library) where they have things called books. These are amazing as it is possible to sit and read things which are not on a computer screen. This is definitely the way technology should be going.

So how have I spent the last 6 months, in particular have I done what I had planned before retirement?

Have I landscaped my garden? – NO

Have I finished tidying and flooring the loft? – NO

Have I walked at least 10 miles once a week? – Occasionally

Have I redecorated the house? – NO

Have I tidied the shed? – NO

Have I had 5 “spare” days each week? – Very definitely NO

Never mind going to work, **I don’t know how I found the time to write this letter!**

Stewart Bartram

EX-PM Wakefield

Stewart@Bartram.me.uk

SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION

I read somewhere that everyone is separated from everyone else by a chain of only six people. I don’t understand it, but don’t dismiss it without considering it.

Assuming I have known or know a 100 people, and each of them know a 100 and so on for five times, we have ten billion people, more than the world’s population! My logic and maths may be suspect, but go along with me, as I’m trying to show how interconnected we are and the phrase “small world” comes up quite frequently.

When a chance meeting occurs, one forgets the countless number of occasions when there is no “fancy meeting you!” and there is no anecdote to relate.

Here’s a few of mine:

At 17 I worked in a garage with a fellow grease monkey until I volunteered for Air Crew. He hung on, awaiting call up. Two years later I was in Palestine in R.E.M.E

One day I went to a vehicle dump to cannibalise spares from a heap of Jeeps. The instability of the Jeep in the hands of young soldiers meant the predominance of this vehicle in the “written off” section. The only other vulture in the park came out from under a Jeep and greeted me. It was my pal from the garage in Enfield. Logically, it isn’t quite so amazing. I guess 70% of youths were in the services. 60% of them in the army, with 10% of them in REME. Trained as a mechanic, logically we should have been posted to REME. Though the story went of a cook at a trade test cooking a piece of beef and getting praised “Joint well done” He was mustered as a carpenter! There were about half a dozen commands, Middle East being one. REME had a dozen or so bases in Palestine so the chance of meeting a friend on a given day was still quite a coincidence.

On honeymoon in Bournemouth, we were accosted by a girl in a bikini who went a bit far in greeting me, despite my protestations to my bride that I didn’t know her. As a Powers Engineer I went to around 20 sites with a dozen or so girls in each. I was aware of the 10% who were pretty. However the girls only saw a few different engineers, so they recognised us, pretty or not. With only a dozen or so holiday destinations back then, it wasn’t unknown to encounter someone you recognised and it was a giggle to make a fuss of them in front of their partner, even though you ignored them at work. Again, the odds were reduced.

Travelling to Cornwall before the motorways meant a 10-hour journey. We stopped on Dartmoor for a break. My wife mentioned her sister was in Cornwall and would be going back to London that day and maybe we’d see her en route. I rubbished her surmise as there were a number of routes back and she could leave anytime. At that moment her Morris Minor chugged into view. We waved them down and laughed at the coincidence.

My neighbour’s son, Philip, just out of college had hitched his way to Australia. Their daughter lived in Antigua in the Caribbean and whilst on holiday in San Francisco, picked up a Gold Barclaycard in a store on Fisherman’s Wharf. This card wasn’t common in the US and to her surprise the name on it was Philip J Howard, the name of her brother. The shop weren’t interested, so she mailed it home to her parents, who rang Philip in OZ who didn’t own a credit card and was equally curious. Checking on his friends in case they had played a trick and applied for a card in his name, she came across a Philip J Howard in the local phone book. He had lost the card recently in the US and cancelled it. So, a namesake living within 5 miles, lost a card 3000 miles west and it being found by the sister of the other Philip, the other side of the world, now, that is a coincidence!

Dennis Goodwin

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Of Course it’s Fun

We thought you might be interested to hear how two ex-ICL colleagues came to be working together again and the benefits it has brought us and others. So first to jog some memories. We are, Kay Baker, who spent

many happy years working in Personnel at Stevenage and Putney, and Alan Gillman, who spent a long career in the many versions of service delivery from CED through to CS.

So having got that out of the way let us tell you a story.

It started back in 1993, when separately we became aware via the TV programme 'Restoration' with Griff Rhys Jones and Letchworth centenary celebration events, that we had on our doorsteps probably the finest ballroom in the UK that was moth balled and not in public use.

The ballroom was part of the old Spirella Ladies Corset factory complex (next to the old Engineering Training School) that had become derelict but had been restored with the help of lottery funding putting the ballroom back to its former Victorian splendour.

A large number of community charge payers in the area complained the facility was not being used for their benefit. This resulted in the council convening a meeting to discuss the issue and this attracted a very large turnout. After much debate the conclusion was that if a committee could be formed from those present, the council would support the use of the ballroom to encourage the 50+ community in North Hertfordshire to get out, get exercising and above all enjoy themselves.

The committee members were quickly voted in from those who had most to say and you will not be surprised to read we both became, and still are, key members of the NHDC 50+ Dance and Social Committee.

We organise 6/7 major dances a year giving those who attend the sort of Saturday night they enjoyed in their youth. In our magnificent ballroom we have Big Bands, Theme Nights, Christmas and New Year events, demonstrations of dancing at its best by Stars of Strictly Come Dancing such as Anton du Beke, Erin Boag, Ian Waite, Camilla Dallerup, Matthew Cutler, etc, etc. And we are pleased to say we must be getting it right because all of our events are a sell out.

It is a fact, that dancing, Ballroom, Latin and Sequence plus many other forms, has again become very popular and Councils include lessons in their evening class programmes as do many, many village halls, etc, across the country.

So, what have we learned from our experience? We have found being involved is great exercise, good for the brain, a good reason to get dressed up, changes your social life, enjoy dancing holidays, meeting and making new friends and, above all, it is great FUN.

So do find out what opportunities there are in your area and give it a try whether you have danced in the past or never ever tried, no one has two left feet!

So think about it and as Brucie always says 'Keep Dancing'. We, and our partners, most certainly will.

Kay Baker & Alan Gillman

Reunions

Watford-Harrow- Feltham

Mike Ray 01895 230194

Ferranti Pegasus 50th anniversary

contact alan.thomson@bcs.org , or phone him at 01344 422993.

ICL Central London

The next reunion will be on Wednesday 20 October 2010 at **The Shakespear's Head, 64 Kingsway** from 12 noon. The pub is on the eastern side of Kingsway just south of Holborn tube station.

Bill Williams 020 7607 9408

aberglaubig@yahoo.co.uk

Stevenage & Letchworth Old Boys (renamed Punch Card Reunion)

The annual reunion will take place on **Tuesday 5 October 2010** at Stevenage Labs STE04. Please send £10 to **Adrian Turner, 5 Nun's Acre, Goring-on-Thames, RG8 9BE**. Cheques should be made payable to **Punch Card Reunion** and accompanied by a SAE.

Adrian Turner 01491 872012

Oxford Engineers

Ken Jones 01865 340388

kenwynjones@aol.com

ICL Australia

ian.pearson5@bigpond.com

Copthall House Newcastle Staffs

Bob Green 01782 615290

East Grinstead 81 Club

Gordon Franklin 01342 328479

East Midlands UB40s

Brian Skeldon 0115 9725119

ICL Double Majority Association

Joseph Gardner 01438 362806

ICL Midlands

Brian Trow 01785 257317

LEO Computers Society

John Hall leosoc@freenetname.co.uk

Letchworth

Dennis Evans 01462 811273

Liverpool Engineers

George Lynn 01744 29984

Surrey Engineers

Trevor Harding 01483 565144

trevor.harding@iclway.co.uk

Tin Hut Reunion

Olaf Chedzoy 01278 741 269

West Gorton Reunion

Eric W Watts 01457 875080

West Branch Engineers

Eric Reynolds 01452 712047

West Kent Reunion

Ron Harding 01732 761076

ICL Old Buggas

Les Mowbray www.cuin.co.uk/oldbuggas/

ExICL Kidsgrove

Nick Edmonds 01270 585953

nick.edmonds@yahoo.co.uk

OBITUARIES

Dr Andrew Booth

Andrew Booth, computer scientist, was born on February 11, 1918. He died on November 29, 2009, aged 91

Starting in 1945 at Birkbeck College London, he built a series of small, low cost machines. His revolutionary ambition was to build a machine cheap enough that every university could afford one.

He invented a magnetic storage device for computers, which uses the magnetic properties of materials to store data and which is still being used in computers today. In May 1948 he was able to demonstrate the successful operation of a rotating drum, a brass cylinder that was coated with nickel, as part of the so-called automatic relay computer.

His drum store, the world's first, is now on display at the Science Museum, London. The rotating memory drum came to be used in computers all over the world and the principle of magnetic storage is about the only element of original computing technology in use today.

This led him to develop a stored-programme computer and a fully electronic version of the Automatic Relay Computer, called the Simple Electronic Computer. In 1951 Booth followed this with his all purpose electronic computer (APEC), one of the first generation of electronic computers.

The British Tabulating Machine Company adopted this machine as the basis for the Hollerith Electronic Computer (HEC) developed by Raymond (Dicky) Bird and became the ICT 1201 and 1202.

Stan Baggott, an engineer who worked on 1200 systems in the early 1960s, has written to me with a picture of this machine, which is in the Birmingham Museums and Art Galleries surplus store and it can be viewed by appointment on the last Friday of each month. The label attached to the machine says:

1945-6 Electronic Computer APE(X) C. Built by Dr A D Booth of Birbeck College London who was a consultant to BTM, from which the Hec1, Hec2 and Hec2M evolved. Input and output was performed by a Teletype machine using standard type punched paper tape.

APE(X) C had an 'M' and 'Acc' register and an arithmetic unit. The magnetic drum had 32 tracks, each track having a capacity of 16 words, each word being a 32 digit binary number.

Ken Reeds 1933-2010

I worked in the ICT 1500 (RCA 301) support group under Ray Baker in the 1960s with a number of very conscientious and able technicians. We were either electronic specialists or peripheral experts, usually called out on a Friday afternoon after the local engineers couldn't fix the fault. Ken was a card reader specialist on the Dredger. He joined FEHQ Luton at the same time as a number of technicians who had worked in 1/3 Factory in Letchworth. Nobody ever said no to the request to go at a moment's notice to fix a problem. Ken only admitted that it was his wedding anniversary after he worked all night to sort out a problem. Ken went on to manage the Field Engineering workshop in Stevenage and then in 1974 left the company to work in the automotive glass industry. He then set up Laddaw in Bedford in 1975, to sell auto glass to the windscreen replacement businesses and this enterprise was very successful. He was able to indulge his love of exotic motor cars along with their very expensive cherished number plates. I lost contact with him when the Stevenage Labs shut down and I moved to Kidsgrove Land. I made contact with him in again in 1993 after meeting an ex colleague in the Elstree office.

My wife and I were invited to his 60th birthday party at a hotel in Bedford when he entertained 200 guests from his family, ICT/ICL and the glass industry.

These parties were a regular event, and Ken and Pat never forgot their old friends and colleagues.

Ken was one of the most genuine people I ever met and despite the fact that he became very wealthy he never forgot his roots. He touched many people in his life and the fact that the church was full for his funeral was testament of his wonderful approach to all the people he met.

Adrian Turner

ICL/Nortel Fund

BIR03	David H	Morgan	06/08/10	77
BRA01	R H	Bassett	12/07/10	73
	Albert L	Jones	17/04/10	87
	Anthony	Mosses	10/03/10	71
	Ronald	Vass	20/08/10	90
BRS06	Michael L	Griffiths	04/04/10	78
	Edward P	O'Brien	12/03/10	84
	Lilian J	Oldcroft	21/02/10	65
ELS01	Kenneth	Bristow	01/05/10	82
FEL01	Victor	Ambrose	15/04/10	82
	Michael R	Bradnick	12/06/10	78
	Charles	Shell	10/05/10	86
HOC01	Kenneth R	Dobson	11/04/10	87
HOM99	CF	Olden	08/06/10	78
KID01	June	Bromley	02/09/10	72
	John	Hamilton-Fey	22/04/10	80
	James	Moore	04/03/10	85
	J J	Murphy	25/03/10	76
	Enoch Roy	Potts	08/07/10	83
	R	Tilsley	13/03/10	66
	R	Warrington	02/03/10	79
LET03	D	Charity	18/04/10	76
	G B	Simpson	31/08/10	75
LET04	Keith J	Boddy	03/04/10	84
	Clive N	Sturman	16/08/10	58
LET05	K	Cardell	20/06/10	80
	John B	Dicks	24/07/10	81
	Leonard	Metters	20/03/10	89
	Lionel A	Perry	11/06/10	78
	John E	Wright	29/07/10	82
LET06	A E	Blott	20/03/10	78
	Peter V	Jermy	04/05/10	84
LON03	Ian C	Eggo	21/03/10	66
LON11	R	Childs	07/09/10	77
	H A	Smith	26/02/10	83
	Timothy J	Walters	17/05/10	67
LON22	Kanapathy	Nanthan	05/03/10	66
LON24	George H	Clifton	22/02/10	90
MAN01	F	Potter	18/02/10	89
MAN05	Doreen J	Shields-Blackshaw	11/08/10	79
Oxford	Mary E	Smith	21/06/10	80
STE04	George W	Meek	19/04/10	87
	Rosemary	Osborne	18/08/10	79
	A	Wheeler	19/05/10	88
STE12	J M	Dury	17/08/10	71
WAK01	Joseph H	Bevis	28/03/10	85
	S B	Lee	09/03/10	85
	D H	Myers	29/06/10	85
	Gordon D	Turner	08/04/10	79
WAR01	C O	Squires	06/07/10	81
WSR01	David J	Green	23/03/10	71
Unknown	M	Armitage	10/04/10	90
Location	W J	Bailey	25/02/10	85
	Edward J	Bannon	20/03/10	77
	A E	Barnes	11/03/10	90
	John H	Boorman	25/08/10	87
	William	Brennan	25/08/10	78

D C	Brock	28/07/10	93
William	Cahill	05/07/10	87
Mary	Cawley	23/07/10	88
Norman	Cluley	12/04/10	93
Sidney E	Cobb	03/03/10	82
R E	Cubitt	19/05/10	80
Hugh C	Cummins	23/06/10	83
Ronald L	Davins	24/06/10	95
Edith	Dobson	18/02/10	89
Elsie F	Doyle	31/05/10	103
Terence	Egan	04/06/10	89
Patrick M	Gardiner	01/05/10	76
Kenneth L	Gear	01/07/10	87
Hilda T	Greaves	18/03/10	83
David	Greenhalgh	31/03/10	76
William	Grimmond	06/06/10	82
Marjorie J	Gruszecki	22/04/10	84
M E	Hare	10/05/10	99
Edward C	Heard	26/03/10	87
George A	Hiam	16/04/10	85
John	High	26/03/10	89
Horace P	Hockaday	23/02/10	98
Leslie C	Houghton	03/08/10	79
J J	Howlett	15/05/10	90
David H	James	21/05/10	87
Sheila	Johnson	01/08/10	72
D	Kelly	07/08/10	87
Kenneth W	King	24/02/10	90
P C	Krishman	06/05/10	77
Arthur	Lewis	18/07/10	74
Eric	Lewis	06/04/10	95
William R	Lloyd	05/08/10	75
David E	McGowan	01/07/10	87
John	McLachlan	01/04/10	81
Doreen M	McLellan	15/05/10	88
H	Myles	07/06/10	87
William C	Noden	18/06/10	84
David C	Pargeter	03/04/10	66
A S	Parker	05/04/10	88
James S	Pullman	12/05/10	89
Paul	Quinn	11/04/10	83
James H	Reay	18/05/10	81
Emily	Reeves	27/07/10	90
Maurice J	Richardson	08/07/10	85
N	Rodgers	12/05/10	72
Peter J	Root	18/08/10	68
Peter J	Shaw	20/06/10	86
James J	Smith	05/06/10	83
W	Spencer	11/05/10	91
Pauline M	Street	23/05/10	69
Alan F	Stuart	05/05/10	86
K H	Swift	15/08/10	81
Frank A	Worsfold	21/06/10	90

ICL Fund

Includes people who died in service

BRA01	Michael J	Fitzgibbon	13/05/10	58
	Clive A	Hendrie	28/01/10	54
	Ron	Morgan	13/06/10	77
BRA02	Karl P J	Corander	25/05/10	70
BRS06	Alan E	Glasbey	09/03/10	71
	Geoffrey A	Hill	16/03/10	66
DESC	Derek A	Savory	12/09/10	79
ELS01	Alexander M	Bastyan	25/04/10	78
	Roger F	Black	25/04/10	69
FCY02	John M	Phillips	11/06/10	75

FEL01	Kenneth M	Abram	31/07/10	74
	Jacqueline	Haxton	31/07/10	52
	Pritam S	Nagra	13/07/10	77
	Alan V	Rogers	14/03/10	73
KID01	Philip B	Barber	13/07/10	70
	Henry	Birchall	20/03/10	77
	Margaret A	Jackson	01/03/10	62
	David	Nixon	31/08/10	70
	Leslie	Thomas	14/04/10	61
LET16	Colin A	Whittle	06/04/10	59
LON34	Ronald B	Breen	13/04/10	78
LON49	Arnold J	Eber	14/06/10	75
	Martin F	Lyons	04/08/10	64
LSA01	Frank R	Rogers	20/04/10	69
MAN12	Arthur	Lewis	18/07/10	74
MAN34	Malcolm N	Haire	10/04/10	63
REA08	Alan E	Brook	28/02/10	79
REA24	Geoff G	Parry	09/04/10	70
SLH06	Peter R	Hillard	11/06/10	64
Sorbus	Michael R	Neaves	11/02/10	72
	Sandra E	Street	10/06/10	62
STE04	Patrick J	Clarke	13/04/10	71
	Kenneth W	Doughty	18/07/10	80
	Kevin	James	18/08/10	52
STE09	Roger A	Cooper	09/07/10	79
WAR02	George D	Quayle	03/09/10	78
WAR03	Irene	Balfe	30/06/10	69

PENSIONERS' REPS

The reps can be contacted by phone or by email via the ICL Pensioners' website.

Colin Marshall

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Dik Leatherdale

020 8977 5893

Hilary Robinson

01270 882818

Alan Thomson

01344 422993

Pensioners' Directory

Tony Riley maintains the directory for those pensioners who are on the Internet and want their email address and career details published.

His email address is: tonyriley@europe.com

Pensioners' Website

The website for ICL Group pensioners is <http://uk.fujitsu.com/pensioner>

Bits & Bytes is also published on the website and all previous issues are available.

NEXT ISSUE

Copy for the **Spring 2011** issue must be submitted by **1 February 2011**, but would be appreciated earlier.

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Published and printed by the ICL Group Pension Fund October 2010.