

# Perspective – March 2011

## The Newsletter of the IBM Hursley Retirees' Club

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### **EX CATHEDRA**

By the time this edition of Perspective “hits the streets” the trips for 2011 will have been announced at March’s AGM. Your Committee hopes we have the balance about right but always welcomes suggestions for consideration as part of the 2012 cycle.

In the last issue of Perspective I issued an invitation (or was it a challenge!) to any single issue group willing to organise an outing. The nearest there is this year is Goodwood’s Festival of Speed in July, we hope of special interest to at least one coach of enthusiasts. Let’s see some applications from members willing to do just a little “leg work” for another specialist group.

So please don’t hesitate to bring a proposal to the Committee. As I’ve said before, there are just a few commonsense rules: activities must be open to all IBM Club Members and the subsidy must not exceed 50% of cost.

A member of the committee will work with you to bring your proposal to the Committee and notice of the event can be included in the next paper mailing to all members of the Club or for a faster response, the email service can bring your idea to a readership now exceeding 600.

We’re able to fund at least two additional events this year. The funds are there waiting for your ideas.

*Martin Hughes*

*Chairman*

### **AGM and the New Committee**

Martin Hughes, Chairman, welcomed around 150 retirees to the AGM held at Hursley on 8 March 2011.

### **Laboratory Presentation**

Derek Treagus, the Hursley Laboratory Manager, gave the Hursley Update.

2010 saw the completion of the work on the Portico. I’m sure many of us will remember the portico being covered in scaffolding and protective netting. It was way back in 2007 when a crack was noticed that required attention. With Hursley House’s listed status, it took over 3 years to get the appropriate authorizations and the work completed. The topping out ceremony took place on a cloudy October day.



Hursley’s Briefing Centre is going from strength to strength, with over 2800 customers visiting during 2010; Hursley provides a great back-drop for this activity. The technical skills within the Lab certainly can help to sell our products to customers.

On the Community Programs front, over 600 children from 100 schools made visits to the site. The whole purpose being, of course, to promote science and technology as a career. As part of the Bring Your Child to Work initiative last October, some 84 children came into the Labs in 2010 along with their parents

Last year Derek informed us of the investment being made to the DP Machine Room. During 2010 further investment has been made. One of the benefits has been an 8.6% decrease in power consumption.

On the product side, IBM has acquired Transitive, a software company, while the Hursley Storage Group continues to grow. Following on from CICS' 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2009, the CICS Team won a corporate award in 2010.

Investment in people was also high, with 84 new graduates being brought into the Lab.

Looking to the Hursley site, Derek said, "Never did I think that I would be talking about snow and the Hursley site 2 years running", but in 2010 Hursley was once again snowbound. The site did not close, and using current technology the majority of staff were able to successfully continue working from home.

The RSPB held a survey in 2010, and identified 50 different species of birds on site.

Derek closed by reminding us that 2011 is IBM's Centenary Year, and recommended that people look at the YouTube video IBM Centennial Film: 100 X 100 - A century of achievements that have changed the world, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=39jtNUGgmd4>



## Apologies

There were no written apologies.

## Minutes of 2010 AGM

Minutes were accepted; proposed Guy Smales, seconded Roger Clarke

## Chairman's Report

Martin asked if there was anyone who didn't come on one trip during 2010. A few hands were raised. He encouraged all to consider coming on the trips.

A sad part of the chairman's report was to note the loss of members that had died during the previous year; an increasing number. Details of deaths may be found on the retiree website, [www.hurrec.org.uk](http://www.hurrec.org.uk)

## Treasurers Report

John Jones, our Treasurer, thanked John Dennis for auditing the accounts. In 2010, our income was £56,000 with expenses of £57,000 (which include tickets bought for some 2011 events). Bank interest was minimal. Christmas hampers were purchased for members who are no longer able to take advantage of the club in any other way; members are asked to make the committee aware of any deserving person.

Trips statistics:

- 4% less 'trippers' than 2009.
- Most popular trip – Isle of Wight
- Least attended – Bristol
- Highest subsidy – Oliver
- Lowest Subsidy – Weymouth (promise of better weather the next time we visit Weymouth)
- Longest trip – Lille Christmas Market

The accounts were accepted; proposed Brian Palmer, Seconded Dee Osman

## Pensions Services

*Presentation by David Newman, Pensions Trust Manager.*

In reviewing the performance of the Pension Fund, David first summarised IBM Corporate results for 2010. Worldwide revenues increased to \$99.9B and a slight increase in gross profit to \$20B. Turnover up 4%; profit up 9%. Earnings per share: \$11.52 i.e. growth of 15%. The results of the UK company are not published. Since the year 2011 is considered the Centenary of IBM, watch this space for revenues exceeding \$100B!

IBM UK Pension Fund performance for 2010 showed satisfactory results, following continued recovery from the financial market disasters of 2008. Equities were up 15 – 20%, Bonds up 8%, Commercial Property up more than 10%; overall a double-figures increase on 2009.

The Actuarial Valuation Report currently being completed will be published in a few weeks. The Asset Allocation (i.e. how the fund is invested) remains stable.

Pension increases will be advised to Members by the end of this month and will reflect the switch from RPI to CPI for some elements of pension. In summary, for most members, the pre-97 service the increase will be 2.5%; for post-97 the increase will be 3.1%.

As always, David invited and answered questions.

Members present thanked David for his summary of the current position of the Fund and for attending the meeting.

At this point, David assumed chairmanship of the Meeting and conducted the appointment of Officers and Committee.

The Annual Corporate Report is available on the web.

M J Hughes

Chairman

## Election of Officers

All members of the committee were willing to stand for re-election. John Dennis proposed that the committee be re-elected en-bloc, seconded by Alan Ball.

The committee are:

CHAIRMAN	SECRETARY	TREASURER	e BUSINESS	WEB Coor
Martin Hughes	Harry Helyar	John Jones	Merv Quick	Ron Wilks
01962 868 900	01962 881 392	02380 265 316	01794 390 678	02380 766 213
Tony Compton	John Faller	Jenny Nichols	Harry Keeling	Jim Woodland
02380 265 432	02380 462 822	02380 254 244	01962 712 914	02380 323 204
Richard Walker	Roger Clark			
01983 531967	02380 253 600			

## 2011 Trip Plans

The proposed 2011 trip schedule was shared with the meeting, see below for full detail.

In addition, there was interest in a visit to the Olympic Site. Martin Hughes stressed that the committee were always open to suggestions, particularly if an individual, or individuals, were willing to help organise proposed trips.

## The Website

From a show of hands, there were a significant number of members that had used the retiree website, [www.hurrec.org.uk](http://www.hurrec.org.uk). Ron wilks encouraged people to use the links to access interesting information, including the IBM Rewards link where considerable savings could be made by retirees.

## eCommunications

Merv Quick stated that nearly 600 members had now signed up for email distribution of information, which has resulted in considerable savings.

Although take-up of the photographic competition was fairly low, there was interest shown in having a photographic competition during 2011. Rules are simple: all photos must be taken on an IBM Hursley Retiree Club trip, be legal (!!), and entries submitted to [news@hurrec.org.uk](mailto:news@hurrec.org.uk) by 31 December 2011. A maximum of three entries per member. So take your camera on those exciting days out; capture the Magic of Ladies Day at Ascot perhaps. Winner gets a free summer seaside outing trip.



The winner of the 2010 competition was Peter di Gleria with this great shot taken at Warwick Castle

## Any Other Business

There were no items raised.

## 2011 Trips

### April

#### Canterbury

5 April, 8:00am

Our first trip of the year is to Canterbury with plenty of free time to do your own thing. The coaches will leave at 8:00am on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> April. For those that like a more structured day, an optional guided walk is available, but don't forget to book this when returning your booking form so that we know numbers and can arrange for the appropriate amount of guides to be available (see trip booking form).

If you are doing your own thing you may wish to download and print off the visit Canterbury top attractions 2011 leaflet which can be found by [clicking here](#)



## May

### *Crofton Beam museum and Kennett and Avon trip 3 & 17 May, 9:30am*

A canal cruise, lunch, a steam engine, and a visit to a museum all in one day, what more could one ask for. That is what is on offer for one of our May trips.



The trip will include a visit to the famous Crofton Beam Engine museum which will be all fired up and rearing to go.

The Canal trip is a 90 minute cruise along the Kennet and Avon Canal between Hungerford and the Crofton Beam Engine.

A visit to the Wiltshire Heritage museum in Devizes completes the itinerary for the day.

Due to limited numbers on the Canal boats, this trip will be limited to 2 coaches on 3 May and 17 May, starting at 9:30am. This is a limited number trip and will be on 'first come first served' availability.



### *Dart Valley Railway and River Dart Cruise 26 May, 7:45am*

Our second trip on 26<sup>th</sup> May will be a long day, but given some good weather it promises to offer some spectacular country and seaside scenery. The trip was billed as 'UK's No1 Day Out' by the Sunday Times. We leave Hursley at 7:45am to travel down to Paignton, some 3 hours by coach but there will be a creature comfort stop.



On arrival at Paignton, we join our steam train for the journey along the coast to Kingswear, and across to Dartmouth on the ferry. Following a couple of hours in Dartmouth for lunch in one of the many olde inns or modern cafes, we board the boat for a 1 ¼ hour journey up the glorious river Dart

from Dartmouth to Totnes.

On arrival at Totnes we will board our coaches for the return trip to Hursley, where we will arrive around 8:00 – 8:30pm. This is limited numbers trip, so book early if you wish to go.



## June

### *Bath and West Show*

*2 June, 8:00am*



An ever popular event, with great centre ring entertainment, good stalls, many bargains, and loads of animals to admire. Put on your country casuals, wear stout footwear, and look forward to an excellent day out getting close to the countryside.

I expect that the floral displays will be the usual feast on the eyes, so reserve time to visit the various marquees allocated to the growers and to those that enter the Floral Art competitions.

### *Ladies Day at Ascot*

*16 June, 8:00am*

In June we have another popular outing, a day out at the races. And no ordinary day, for it is Ladies Day at Royal Ascot. Our trip includes entrance to the Silver Ring, a less formal atmosphere than the Grandstand, with smart casual dress code being the order of the day. While not in direct view of the finish line and enclosures, the Silver Ring does provide an excellent overall view of the racecourse, the racing action and the Royal Procession. Large screen TV's keep one abreast of all the action that is out of view.



## July

### *Goodwood Festival of Speed*

*2 July, 8:00am*



Our first outing for July is aimed at those who just love cars, especially Formula 1 and Classic racing cars. The Goodwood's Festival of Speed, with this year's theme of 'Racing Revolutions – Quantum leaps that shaped motor sport', promises to be a fabulous event, and is certainly the largest such event in the South.

Recognising that this event is aimed at a niche audience, availability will be limited to one coach and so book early if you would like to go. Tickets will be available on a 'first come, first served' basis.

### *Steam Train to Swanage*

*12 July, 9:30am*

Our second outing in July, our traditional seaside outing, is a trip to Swanage with a difference. Our coaches will drop us off at Norden so that we may catch the fabulous Swanage Railway steam train into Swanage. After time to see the sights, walk the promenade, have an ice-cream, perhaps paddle in the sea (ever the optimist I, it will be sunny), our coaches will pick us up from Swanage for the trip home.



## August

### *Monkey World/Bovington*

*3 August, 8:00am*

A double-header is this one, two major attractions in one day. We start off by travelling to the Monkey World Ape Rescue Centre. With many different types of Monkey to see, including the largest group of chimpanzees outside of Africa. The centre assists governments around the world to stop the smuggling of primates from the wild. Refugees of this illegal trade as well as those that have suffered abuse or neglect are rehabilitated into natural living groups.



Time for coffee and a chance to see the good work being undertaken by Monkey World.



Leaving Monkey World, we travel to Bovington to the museum of the Royal Tank Regiment & Royal Armoured Corps. We will arrive in time to see the Tank Action Display, which is held early afternoon – time to enjoy a sandwich on the hill overlooking the arena.

Following the display, there will be plenty of free time to visit the 200 exhibits in the 6 large halls. Enjoy the fascinating development of armoured vehicles since World War 1.

## *The Great Dorset Steam Fair* *31 August, 8:00am*

Watch the steaming giants of the past being put through their paces; some hauling huge loads, others road making, sawing planks or doing the farm work of long ago, such as driving ploughs, threshing or bailing. To see the swirling dust clouds, the belching smoke and the sparks flying of these great machines is an unforgettable experience. That is what is on offer at the Great Dorset Steam Fair. On the site the size of a small town, there are numerous steam driven exhibits to marvel at. See the steam funfair driven by those magnificent showmen's steam engines; enjoy steam locomotives and engines 'doing their job'.



Not that interested in steam engines, then enjoy the numerous other activities on display; a cavalcade of vintage vehicles of all shapes and sizes, working heavy horses, and country crafts. And don't forget the 500+ trade stands to tempt you to part with your money.

The Great Dorset Steam Fair is a typically British event offering a unique blend of nostalgia and entertainment.

## **September**

*20 & 27 September, 8:00am*



The ever popular guided walks are available again this year. The plan this year is for our guides to take us on a trip of Legal London. In the morning we will visit Middle Temple Hall, and tour other Inns of Court and Courts of Justice in the afternoon.

Due to the challenges of arranging guides, this event will be run twice; dates are shown above. On each day, the trip will be limited to 2 coaches.

## **October**

*Guildford/Polesdon Lacey*  
*5 October, 9:30am*

Our October trip takes us first to Guildford to enjoy some free time in this lovely town, perhaps visit the Cathedral or take a walk around the castle. Maybe it is time to start thinking about Christmas and presents, time to get in a little early shopping.

After an early lunch we make our way to the beautiful Nation Trust property of Polesdon Lacey. Polesden Lacey, a 1400 acre estate, is situated on the North Downs and commands some of the finest views in Surrey. The Edwardian Garden extends to 30 acres with 10 acres of lawns and elegant grass terraces, including a walled rose garden, summer border and winter displays. Don't forget your NT cards if you are members!





## November

### *Birmingham*

*15 November, 8:00am*

A day out in Birmingham offers many attractions.

Head for the Bullring, a £500 million shopping extravaganza and start (and maybe finish) your Christmas shopping. One of the largest shopping centres in the UK, Bullring is right in the heart of the city centre with the best stores from Hollister, Topshop, H&M and Forever 21 to Apple, Tommy Hilfiger, DKNY and of course Selfridges. Enjoy lunch in one of the 25 restaurants.

Perhaps a visit to the world famous Jewellery Quarter is the order of the day to buy that special person in your life something that they will treasure and admire forever. This unique area still makes an estimated 40% of all UK jewellery. So it's the place for THAT present. But at a price to surprise. Many of the Jewellery Quarter retailers have workshops on the premises ensuring something special and exclusive can be commissioned on site!



The choice is yours to do exactly what you wish on this final day trip of the year. By leaving at 8:00pm and returning around 6:00pm, there will be plenty of time to achieve your goals.

## May 2012

*11 - 14 May mini-break*

Leaving on 11 May, we head off to Rouen for a mini-break in France. Our hotel and base will be the Mercure Rouen Centre Cathedrale for our 4 day, 3 night stay on a bed & breakfast basis. The main attraction of this trip is to visit Monet's Garden.



This will take a half-day. The other half of this day will be either free-time in Rouen, or a visit to another attraction. On our second full day, we plan to visit the Palace of Versailles. This trip will be restricted to a maximum of 49 people, and although it is still a long time away booking forms will need to be returned by 31 May 2011 at the latest in order that rooms may be confirmed.



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## Hursley Swing Band (HSB)



The Hursley Swing Band played to a packed clubhouse at their Christmas dance in December. With the decorated hall and the excellent musicians, there was a wonderful Christmas atmosphere. The band was led by Tony Linford, who for many years has also been the leader of the Southampton All Stars, a well known Hampshire big band. Many dancers took to the floor for popular numbers such as

"Foggy Day", "Tuxedo Junction" and "Moon River", and the evening finished with big band swing versions of well known Christmas numbers such as "Let it Snow" and "Santa Claus is Coming to Town".

All members of the IBM Hursley Retirees Club are welcome to attend these free concerts. To get on the band's mailing list, please send an email to Sally Russell on [sally@grapevyne.com](mailto:sally@grapevyne.com) as future notifications of upcoming concerts will come directly from the band, not the retirees club.

## Events

*Check out the rage of activities on offer – support our members if it appeals!*

<p>7:30pm – 11:00pm Saturday 26 March</p>	<p>Twyford Parish Hall</p>	<p>Presented by the RNLI Winchester Branch</p> <p><b>Dance to RED HOT REEDS and Caller Ian Nichols</b></p> <p>"Bring &amp; Share Supper" + bring your own drinks</p> <p>£8.00 per head &amp; pay at the door or email Dan Haas: <a href="mailto:dan.haas@olive.com">dan.haas@olive.com</a> or 07751 829888 or Paula Hughes: 01962 868900.</p>  <p><b>Lifeboats</b></p>
<p>10am-noon 1pm – 4pm Sunday 27 March</p>	<p>8 Piping Close, Colden Common, SO21 1UP</p>	<p><b>SUPERHOME Open Day</b></p> <p>Find out how Rob Veck has reduced the Carbon Footprint of his house by 80%, and energy bills down too! See article below</p> <p>See <a href="http://www.greenhomedairy.com">www.greenhomedairy.com</a></p> <p>Donations to Winchester Action on Climate Change</p>
<p>10:30 – Noon Wednesday 6 April</p>	<p>Wolvesey, Winchester</p>	<p><b>Fabric Sale and Coffee Morning</b></p> <p>At the home of the Bishop of Winchester, in aid of The Children's Society; Entry Free; All new, very high quality designer fabrics from Colefax &amp; Fowler and Jane Churchill. Priced at £7.00 and £12.00 per metre. Payment by cash or cheques only.</p> <p>Contact Robert Wheatley <a href="mailto:robertwheatley@mypostoffice.co.uk">robertwheatley@mypostoffice.co.uk</a></p>
<p>7:30pm Friday 22nd April</p>	<p>All Saints' Church, Botley Hampshire</p>	<p><b>Mozart's Requiem</b></p> <p>Free entry. Retiring collection.</p> <p>Sung by All Saints Chamber Choir under the direction of David Burgess</p>
<p>2:00pm – 5:00pm Sunday 1 May</p>	<p>Longstock Park Water Garden, Stockbridge SO20 6JF</p>	<p><b>The Finest Water Garden in the World</b></p> <p>By kind permission of the John Lewis Partnership, the fabulous water gardens at Longstock Park, Stockbridge, SO20 6JF will be open in aid of Breakthrough Breast Cancer. Entry £5 at the gate (£1 child under 14). No dogs (except assistance dogs) and no picnics in the water gardens.</p> <p>See <a href="http://www.longstockpark.co.uk/">http://www.longstockpark.co.uk/</a> for details</p> 

3 – 7 May	The Point Theatre Eastleigh 023 8065 2333	<p><b>KISS ME KATE</b></p> <p>"KISS ME KATE" by Cole Porter presented by Eastleigh Operatic &amp; Musical Society, evenings at 7.30pm, Saturday matinee 2.30pm.</p> <p>Tickets: £12 and £10 (concessions)</p> <p>A lively lyrical tale of a touring theatre company performing Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew"</p> <p>Wonderful songs, including "Wunderbar", "Too Darn Hot", "I hate Men" and "So in Love"</p> <p>Full orchestra and period costumes. Local charity collection.</p>
12.30pm Wednesday 1 June	All Saints' Church Botley Hampshire	<p><b>A Celebration of English Song.</b></p> <p>Ranging from Elizabethan lute songs to more modern works. Janet Green – Soprano, Rosa Longman - Piano</p> <p>Free entrance</p>
22 June – 17 July	Highcliffe Castle, Rothesay Drive, Highcliffe, Dorset BH23 4LE	<p><b>Paint Let Loose</b></p> <p>ArtSeen, a group of fifteen artists from the Romsey area, are holding a month long exhibition of their work. Admission £2.95, children free.</p> <p>For information about ArtSeen see <a href="http://www.artseen.org.uk">www.artseen.org.uk</a> . Details about Highcliffe Castle can be found at <a href="http://www.highcliffecastle.co.uk/home">www.highcliffecastle.co.uk/home</a></p>
10:30am – Noon Friday 2 July	Waltham Chase Village Hall	<p><b>Fabric Sale</b></p> <p>In aid of The Children's Society; Entry Free; All new, very high quality designer fabrics from Colefax &amp; Fowler and Jane Churchill. Priced at £7.00 and £12.00 per metre. Payment by cash or cheques only.</p> <p>Contact Robert Wheatley <a href="mailto:robertwheatley@mypostoffice.co.uk">robertwheatley@mypostoffice.co.uk</a></p>
2 – 9 July	Various venues within Botley Hampshire	<p><b>Botley Music Festival</b></p> <p>An eclectic mix of musical events for all – concerts, barn dance, music quiz, puppets!</p> <p>Check out details on <a href="http://www.botley.com/musicfestival">www.botley.com/musicfestival</a></p>



20 – 29 August	Over 150 venues throughout Hampshire	<p><b>Hampshire Open Studios</b></p> <p>Craftspeople from all over Hampshire will be opening their houses and studios to the public where they will be displaying a range of paintings, sculptures, textile work, jewellery, glass, woodwork , photography and more. Entry is usually free and most goods will be for sale. You might even have the chance to watch the artists at work. Visitor Guides giving addresses and opening times etc., will be available from libraries, tourist information offices, post offices and other public buildings from mid July. For further information, contact Ron Moody (<a href="mailto:ronaldmoody@tiscali.co.uk">ronaldmoody@tiscali.co.uk</a>).</p>
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## Clubs

### Romsey Modellers



Do you remember making Airfix models when you were a kid? Do you want a challenging and rewarding hobby that will keep you entertained whilst harnessing your latent need to build things?

Well come and join some like-minded people who are keen to help you improve your skills, and provide a forum for you to show off your completed masterpieces.

Romsey Modellers, who this year celebrates its tenth anniversary, caters for all modelling genres and skill levels, from beginners to well-seasoned gurus. Meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month at Ampfield Village Hall, we run workshops and competitions, but more importantly, we provide a means to getting together with other modellers and having a good chat about the hobby. Why not come and speak to club members at the following model shows:

NewMod2011, 2<sup>nd</sup> April, Newbury Scale Modellers Club Show, Park House School, Newbury

IPMS Poole Vikings Model Club Show, 16<sup>th</sup> April, Parkstone Grammar School, Poole

IPMS Salisbury Show, 4<sup>th</sup> June, Wyvern College, Laverstock.

The club meets from 8pm – 10pm on the third Wednesday of the month. To find out more, visit the club website at [www.romseymodellers.co.uk](http://www.romseymodellers.co.uk)



## Romsey Ramblers

Romsey Ramblers are a walking group with an interesting and varied programme which is published every four months. We have two or three walks each week in various parts of Hampshire, Dorset and the Isle of Wight. We also hold social events throughout the year and arrange two group self catering holidays. This year we are going to Pickering in May and Devon in October. New members would be very welcome and especially those who would like to become walks leaders. For more information log on to our website at [www.romsnet.org.uk/ramblers/ramblers.htm](http://www.romsnet.org.uk/ramblers/ramblers.htm) or call Yvonne Oliver on 02380733241.

## Women in Common

Every fourth Monday of the month (starting on 28th February), Highfield Women's Institute ('Women in Common' and is a new group), will be hosting a monthly meeting at Portswood Pavilion, Southampton (off Abbots Way) at 8 p.m. All visitors (both sexes) welcome (with a charge of £5 for the evening) unless you like to join the WI (£30 a year). For more details, send an email to [highfieldwi@gmail.com](mailto:highfieldwi@gmail.com).

## Other clubs

Don't forget that you can get details of other clubs that have been publicised in previous issues of Perspective by visiting [www.hurrec.org.uk/links](http://www.hurrec.org.uk/links) and looking through back issues.

## Volunteering

Following the excellent article by Mike Hedger in the November 2010 issue of Perspective, several other IBM Retirees have made me aware of their support for others:

### Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance

Since taking retirement in July 2005 I've been gainfully, and un-gainfully, employed doing a number of things. I still work 3 days a week as a Social Worker. Quite a change from IBM you may think, but those of you who were Managers will recognise there are a number of skills that apply to both areas. Aside from this, I have taken to spending a few hours per week volunteering for the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance.

I have been giving 4 or 5 talks per month ever since.

How did this come about? In 2007 I had seen the Air Ambulance in my part of Hampshire and decided to check it out on the web. I saw that they were looking for volunteers, particularly for people to talk to organisations such as church groups, WI's, Rotary Clubs, Lions, Retiree Clubs etc etc.



Why did I volunteer? Firstly, those of you who know me will realise that I can talk for England! Secondly, I was used to talking to large groups of people. But most importantly, because I had already experienced two life-threatening episodes (a heart attack and a stroke) for which I could have needed the services of an air ambulance. I, luckily, was in the presence of family, and in a place easily accessible by road ambulance, but had I been in a less accessible place, the air ambulance service could have saved my life. I have also had a long-standing interest in everything aviation related.

It is also very important to know that all air ambulance services in the UK are charities. There is no government funding, and they are unable to apply for National Lottery funding. The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance

needs to raise in excess of £110,000 per month to operate. All of this money is raised by contributions from the people of Hampshire and Isle of Wight through various methods ... its own Lottery which currently has about 30000 members, clothing and textile bins (we are the big yellow ones), talk donations, legacies, open houses/gardens etc. The service has flown over 2700 missions since its first flight on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2007.

If you would like to know more about the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance, or how you can help, or how you can join the lottery please take a look at <http://www.hiow-airambulance.org.uk/>

## Cycling for the kids

Anyone remember Frank Nawn. Frank is 60 this year (oh, how I envy someone so young!) and is planning a charity bike ride from Lands End to John O'Groats. Apparently the kids at his local primary school need a bunch of money to resurface their playground. Frank plans to start his ride on 8 July, and has promised a full report for our November 2011 issue of Perspective. If you would like to give a donation to Frank, or place a bet with him on whether he will complete the journey, just send him an email at [frank\\_nawn@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:frank_nawn@hotmail.co.uk) and he'll let you know the best way to donate; I understand Frank will be setting up a donation page on one of the 'giving' sites.



## Using ones talents

Many of us have developed a range of skills that can be a real value to many charity organisations. Here is Sue Massey's story:

To introduce myself I am happily married to Ray Massey - resulting with four sons! My love of antiques led me to joining the trade thirty years ago, eventually selling antiques at the Blacksmith Shop in Hursley.

In 1996 after being hit by cancer, I turned to the Jane Scarth House, Romsey, who gave me marvellous support during this time, that is the main reason for me now being a volunteer at Daisies, Romsey, run by the Wessex Cancer Trust.

Charity shops are run by many kindly ladies: some widowed, some lonely, some just wishing to raise money for their charity. Many, unfortunately, are ignorant of the value of donated gifts, which in some cases they severely under price. Since I joined the shop six months ago I have been able to identify a few valuable articles which have subsequently bought in quite a lot of money via EBay.

It is so necessary that the Jane Scarth House continues to help not only those with cancer, but also their families. I must reassure people that I never make money out of donations. This is my way of thanking those who helped me. Hopefully donations will continue to arrive, it is the horror of our age that one in three people get hit by cancer.

Being a volunteer has brought me great joy, not only using my experience which helps the charity, but meeting a lot of lovely people. Yes, I still sell antiques on my own behalf; it is my love of them which keeps me going apart from the many other things!

Sue Massey

## 50 Years Ago

A note has been received from Bert Glibbery, California. Bert worked at Hursley 1961- 1963 as part of the engineering department, on contract from Unity Designs, and says he would be interested to hear from any

retiree from that time, or any current employee with interest in the events of that time. If you remember Bert and would like to get in touch, send him an email at [BgMet@aol.com](mailto:BgMet@aol.com)

## **Situation vacant - Hursley Historian wanted**

The IBM Hursley Laboratory is seeking a volunteer Retiree to join their team of museum curators - retirees Len Peach and Terry Muldoon, and employee Dave Key.

The successful applicant will in fact take over the role currently occupied by Len Peach, who will be leaving in July after the IBM centennial. Having completed 50 years in the role, Hursley's Historical Squirrel has decided to "retire" and so a replacement is sought to assume responsibility, on one day per week, for maintaining the museum archives and photographic and video library, and for mounting special focus exhibitions as required.

## **Historic Artefacts required**

Over a period of some years, a small museum has been established in IBM's UK Laboratory in Hursley House near Winchester. The scope of the museum is:

1. The History of Hursley House
2. The History of IBM Hursley
3. The History of IBM, with emphasis on IBM United Kingdom

Due to the ad hoc nature of compiling the collection, the museum has some gaps in terms of artefacts relevant to the history of IBM and IBM in United Kingdom. So in this, our Centennial Year, we would like to request your help.

Because of the type of development carried out on the site we have a reasonable collection of older disk drives but could use more to fill gaps. In particular, we would like a Redwing if anyone is willing to donate.

The collection is well stocked with Office Products Division (OPD) kit but we could use some 1960s/70s Word Processing equipment such as Magnetic Tape Selectric Typewriter (MT/ST) and Magnetic Card Selectric Typewriter (MT/ST). Additionally, we have neither Office System/6 or 6640 machines nor any Dictating Equipment.

We have some of the ubiquitous Selectric (golfball) typewriters but only OPD versions. Could anyone donate terminals or operators' typewriters?

Again, due to the nature of Hursley, we have virtually no General Systems Division equipment. So almost anything would be welcome, especially 5250 terminals (and associated twin-ax connectors and cables) or indeed PC based emulators.

Although Hursley was at one time a monitor and Video Display Unit (VDU) terminal laboratory, we have significant gaps in the collection. For example, we do not have a Hursley developed 8775. I am sure that there are still a lot of current IBMers who remember the thousands of 3278 Terminals that were deployed to support NOSS – sadly we do not have a single one, or any earlier versions such as the 3277.

Even though the System/360 Model 40 (a product that literally changed the world) was developed at Hursley, we are short of associated equipment and peripherals - and the same can be said for System/370 et al.

2011 also sees the thirtieth anniversary of the announcement of the IBM Personal Computer. Like System/360 earlier, the IBM PC was another product that changed the world. Unfortunately, we have no early IBM PCs or Micro Channel boxes.

We would also be grateful for any manuals and CE (Customer Engineer) tools.

Finally, in addition to the IBM equipment we are always interested in any personal recollections or memorabilia of Hursley House and the estate, both during the IBM years and before, especially postcards, photographs, letters, artefacts... in fact, pretty much anything!

So if you can help, the Museum in Hursley House would love to hear from you. However, we retain the right to refuse yet another “luggable” PC, for example.

To express an interest in either of the above items or simply for more information, please contact Rick Kellaway via email at [rick\\_kellaway@uk.ibm.com](mailto:rick_kellaway@uk.ibm.com) or on 01962 816161.

## Beating Climate Change

Rob Veck was inspired by a book by Richard Heinberg entitled “The Party’s Over” which details a bleak future for mankind due to population growth and energy demand. So, with early retirement, Rob set about a new project to renovate his home with the aim of creating as near to a carbon-zero house as possible.

With all the energy efficient improvements to his house, Rob has managed to cut his carbon emissions by a magnificent 79%. He is having an Open Day (see times in Events above) at **8 Piping Close, Colden Common, SO21 1UP** to show how it is possible to reduce the carbon footprint and energy consumption of your home by 80%. There will be tours of the house and independent advice covering:-

- Wall, floor and roof insulation
- Solar Photovoltaics
- Solar Hot water
- Heat recovery systems
- Wood stove with heat storage & redirection
- LED Lighting
- Electricity Monitoring
- Rainwater harvesting
- Draft proofing
- Nano Brewery.



Figure 1A view of Rob's roof insulation during renovations



Figure 2 Insulation being applied to the walls



Rob project managed the changes, and did a lot of the building work with help from professional installers, a local single builder and family. There are quite a few lessons learnt – came along and find out more!

## **Crossword**

It was with deep sadness that we learnt of the death of Robin Cork in January this year. Robin, who many knew as the crossword setter ANALOG, gave considerable enjoyment over a number of decades with his crosswords. He jumped at the opportunity to provide crosswords for Perspective when asked in 2010.

Christmas wouldn't have been the same without the giant crossword – and people didn't leave the lab at Christmas until it had been delivered. Robin set some 36 of these giant puzzles.

Robin will be sadly missed. Our thoughts are with his family.