



# BCS

THE BRITISH COMPUTER SOCIETY

# Capital

News from BCS Edinburgh Branch, September 2006

## Letter from the Branch Chairman

Dear Colleague,

With the summer holidays over and the nights beginning to draw in, the BCS Edinburgh Branch programme of events restarts for a new season. Enclosed are a couple of Programme Cards listing our events for the 2006/7 season. One is for you and one to pass on to a colleague who may be interested in our activities. If you would like more copies of our card to pass on to other colleagues just let us know, or pick some up at our regular Branch meetings.

### Change of venue for meetings

The most important thing to note for regular attendees at our Branch meetings is that **we have changed venue**. The Royal Pharmaceutical Society, where we have enjoyed good hospitality for a number of years, can no longer accommodate us. Our new venue is the **Royal Scots Club on Abercromby Place**. You will find a map and directions via the events page on our Branch web site. Don't go to the RPS – there will be no one there!

Our branch meetings offer an excellent opportunity for networking with other IS professionals. Please come along from 6:10 pm for coffee and a chat before the start of the talk at 6:30 pm. All our meetings (except for the Sidney Michaelson Memorial lecture – see below) are free of charge and open to both BCS members and non members. No registration is required – just turn up and feel free to bring a colleague or two.

Our first meeting of the season is on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October, where Dr Andrew MacDonald of BT Global Services will be presenting The Agile Web Engineering (AWE) Process. This will give overview of the AWE process and results of two commercial trials of the process.

On 25<sup>th</sup> October we have an introduction to AJAX (that's Asynchronous Java and XML web development, not the cleaning powder!) from Gary Short of Computa Service Limited.

In the Spring we traditionally organise the prestigious Sidney Michaelson Memorial lecture (named after the late professor and head of Computer Science at the University of Edinburgh). This season we are pleased to have Mike Ramsey, the co-founder of TiVo, talk to us on how TiVo is disrupting the TV industry. This event will require tickets – more details will be posted on our web site nearer the time.

As well as our programme of Wednesday evening talks, we will also be organising Branch Professional Awareness courses again this season. New topics being planned include: BS7799 Security Standard, a course on facilitation and mediation between job roles in IT and an evening seminar on agile development. Keep an eye on our Branch web site for more details of these.

There have been a few changes on the Edinburgh Branch Committee since last year – for example you'll see a new name at the bottom of this Chairman's letter. After rather too many years as Branch Secretary I have taken over from Peter King as the Edinburgh Branch Chair. My thanks to Peter for his service over the past three years. Consequently we welcome Bob Bowden who has taken over from me as the new Branch Secretary and Events Secretary. Contact details for all the Branch Committee Members can be found on our web site.

And finally – do we have your correct e-mail address for BCS correspondence? The BCS doesn't have a correct e-mail address for about 25% of its members! This does make it rather difficult to contact you. If you are a BCS member, please take a few moments to check the details BCS holds on you via the main BCS web site. (Go to [www.bcs.org](http://www.bcs.org) and click on Members, then go to the Members Secure Area). If you are not a BCS member and wish to be kept informed about BCS Edinburgh Branch events then you may join our low volume, moderated e-mail list via our Branch web site [www.edinburgh.bcs.org](http://www.edinburgh.bcs.org).

With best regards,

Mike Hurst,  
Chairman, BCS Edinburgh Branch

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## Edinburgh Branch honours Elspeth Morrison



Elspeth Morrison, BCS Fellow and former Chair of Edinburgh Branch, retired in July after 10 years as BCS Regional Operations Manager for Scotland and Ireland. Edinburgh Branch will pay tribute to her 45-year career in Computing at our first meeting of the new session, Wed 4 October. Friends and colleagues are cordially invited, wine from 6pm.

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Branch web site [www.edinburgh.bcs.org](http://www.edinburgh.bcs.org)

THE BCS IS A REGISTERED CHARITY: NUMBER 292786