UK DESIGN FORUM

UKDF'24
20-21 March 2024
Museum of Computing
Bletchley Park
Milton Keynes

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Programme

The Programme:

Wednesday, 20 March

Evening chair: Andrew Brown

17:30	Coach depart from hotel	
17:50	Arrival at the Museum	Meeting room
18:00	**Dinner (hot buffet) - at the Museum**	Meeting room
19:15	**Invited talk:** Andrew Herbert *EDSAC - reconstructing the world's first practical electronic computer.*	EDSAC gallery
20:00	**Drinks reception - at the Museum**	Meeting room
23:00	Coach back to the hotel	

Thursday, 21 March

09:00	Lifts/taxis from the hotel	

Morning chair: Piotr Dudek

09:30	**Keynote:** Emre Ozer *Natively-flexible non-silicon chips at large*	Meeting room
10:30	Simon Moore *Towards commercial capability machines*	Meeting room
10:50	Ashish Darbari *Hunting down corner-case bugs in RISC processors using formal verification*	Meeting room
11:10	**Coffee**	Meeting room
11:30	Ian Philips *Research to design*	Meeting room
11:50	Mark Vousden *Learning chaos*	Meeting room
12:10	Martin Trefzer *Nervous systems*	Meeting room
12:30	Alex McDonnell *Reservoir computing on a field programmable analogue array*	Meeting room

12:50	*Sandwich lunch*	Meeting room/outside

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Afternoon chair: Simon Moore

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13:50	Steve Furber *Brains, minds, and AI*	Meeting room
14:10	Graeme Bragg *SONNETS*	Meeting room
14:30	John Goodenough *UK semiconductor strategy update .... open source design tools....* **A call to action**	Meeting room
15:10	*Afternoon tea*	Meeting room
15:30	Guided tour of the museum (Everyone interested)	Museum
17:30 (ish)	*Close*	

Notes:

Wednesday 20 evening:

The hotel is Travelodge Milton Keynes At The Hub, 312 Midsummer Boulevard, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK9 2EA. It's about a kilometre from Milton Keynes station, 7 kilometres from the Museum. The Museum itself is about 500m from Bletchley Park station.

Please check in to the hotel sometime in the afternoon of Wednesday 20 March. A coach will be provided at 17:30 to take folk from the hotel to the evening reception at the Museum, where your registration badge will be available.

Please note that although the Museum of Computing lies in the grounds of Bletchley Park, it is not part of the Park itself. UKDF provides access to the Museum, *not* the Park. If you'd like to make your way to the Park itself earlier in the day to have a look round, you will have to pay the Park admission fee (currently £26).

If you want to take your vehicle to the Museum, maps are attached. When you turn off Sherwood Drive, just tell the guard at the gate you are attending a meeting in the Museum (as opposed to the Park). You may leave your vehicle outside the Museum overnight if you wish; obviously the security is not guaranteed.

A coach will be available at 23:00 to transport you back to the hotel.

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Thursday 21:

A full cooked breakfast is provided at the hotel. Please check out before you leave for the Museum.

At the moment, we have no fixed plan for transport *to* the Museum. If you came by car, it would make sense to drive to the Museum from the hotel so you can leave from there in the afternoon.
If you intend to do this, and are in a position to offer other attendees a lift to the Museum in the morning, can you let Piotr (p.dudek@manchester.ac.uk) know before next week, so he can derive some sort of "lift-list".

For those we cannot accommodate in this manner, we'll get taxis.

The programme of talks, all in the Museum meeting room, is laid out above. The meeting room is where the drinks reception and dinner were held on Wednesday.

As we mentioned in the meeting flyers, this is the last UKDF that Andrew Brown will be organising. Simon and Piotr will be bearing the flag forward from here, but bandwidth is a finite thing and no-one is getting any younger. I (Andrew Brown) am going to take my lunch and eat it in the Museum Library, where I will answer any questions for anyone thinking of offering to get involved in the future (Mainly: how much work is required. Spoiler: I estimate about 15-20 person-days per year.) I am **not** going to try and oversee any sort of succession plan: I'll answer any (reasonable) questions, and leave it to other folk to sort out where UKDF might go from here.

John Goodenough is orchestrating a call to arms in the afternoon; Research Councils love this sort of thing.

The last couple of hours of the day are yours to (a) leave early (b) look round the Museum or (c) join a guided tour of the Museum. I recommend option (c) - staff are knowledgeable and put on an impressive and interesting tour.

If you're travelling by train, Bletchley Park train station is just over the road from the Museum gates. You won't need a taxi for that.

And finally, on a personal note:

I first got involved with UKDF (or UKDA, as it was then) in about 1989. It was set up as a DTI ALVEY Directorate "club" (which is what network grants were called in those days). As far as I'm aware, UKDF is the only government-started network of this nature that has actually fulfilled its prime requirement of becoming self-sustaining, and of that, I am - and you guys should be - justifiably proud.

I can't remember when I started running the show - my earliest files are dated mid-2000's, but others may disagree. In any event, it's been a lot of work and a lot of fun, and it would not have happened without the continued support of the community over the decades. Thank you all.

Andrew Brown
March 2024

Getting to the Museum from the road

Getting to the Museum from the hotel

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