BRIAN BUSHELL

Historical Computer and other Talks

Being something of a historical relic himself, Brian has a wealth of memories and experience from the very early days of business computers.   He offers the following talks for those with an interest in the architecture of early computers, their operating systems, programming languages and input/output media. Brian has a near photographic memory, and can recall even some of the most intricate details

EARLY HARDWARE AND OPERATING SYSTEMS ETC.

The evolvement of early business computers and the operating systems which ran them, from the mid sixties to the mid seventies.   The talk covers the following:

Computer`	Operating System	Programming Languages
IBM 1401#	None	Machine Code, Assembler, Autocoder
IBM 360/370	DOS, MFT, MVT	Assembler, COBOL, PL/1
ICL 1904A/1906	Executive, GEORGE	Machine Code, PLAN, COBOL

Ferrite core memory.   Others, transistors and printed circuit boards.

The talk covers operational and environmental characteristics of the computers, functioning of high-level language compilers etc.

TOPS – ITS DEVELOPMENT, OPERATION AND PLACE IN HISTORY.

The high spot of Brian's career was his involvement, at a very senior level, with the TOPS project.   It was the father of modern business and other computer networks, and was, at the time, the biggest computer project ever attempted in Britain.   Becoming Britain's first, and the world's first nationwide, major computer network, it spawned numerous important IBM software developments.   It was also the first business computer network in the USA, before its arrival in Britain – Brian worked very closely with US personnel on bringing it to Britain.

Brian talks about what the state of the art was before TOPS, how it came into being, its development, installation, testing, commissioning and day to day operation – and the legacy it left the computer world.

OTHER TALKS possible on request – if he knows about it, Brian will talk about it!!   Railways have obviously featured prominently in many of his talks.   Other talks given in recent years to Historical Societies, Rotary Clubs and Probus Clubs have included Hebridean Ferries, The Port of Liverpool and Old Roads of Merionethshire.

FEES for Historical Talks by arrangement.