



Project Management
Specialist Group

**A meeting of the Project Management Specialist Group
of the British Computer Society**

19:00 on Wednesday, 18 January 2006

(Refreshments available from 18:30)

At Microsoft Campus, Thames Valley Park, Reading RG6 1WG

(Directions overleaf and at <http://www.microsoft.com/uk/about/map-reading.mspx>)

SERVING UP ANOTHER WIMBLEDON WINNER

“Serving up another Wimbledon Winner” describes the challenges of, and technology behind, supporting the Wimbledon Tennis Championships, where the team managed by IBM grows from a handful during the rest of the year to about 150 people during the 2 weeks.

The Championships are a high profile event, with around 2 billion TV viewers and 4 million unique users on the web. It is a complex environment needing high quality TV Graphics, and support for publishing 40,000 items to the web site daily. There are physical site-related challenges, political challenges involving meeting the needs of the All England Lawn Tennis Club, the broadcasters, the players and the public, as well as the considerable technical challenges of combining continuing advances in technology while meeting unprecedented performance levels with 100% availability, and all against an absolutely immovable go-live date. The latter point should be of specific interest to the Project Management community!

Speaker: Roger Blake spent nearly 40 years working for IBM before retiring in the middle of 2005 – just after the successful conclusion to that year’s Championships. He was the Technical Consultant to the All England Lawn Tennis Club for the past fourteen years, responsible for the technical solution design and delivery.

Roger held various roles in his time with IBM, from his early days as a Systems Engineer, through being country technical support for Large Systems and then as an architect of systems requiring complex solutions. He was appointed as an IBM Distinguished Engineer in June 2000 and his final role was as Technical Director for the Consulting and Services part of IBM, responsible for the technical health of projects in the UK, Ireland, the Netherlands and South Africa. Wimbledon was just one of these projects.

Roger is a Chartered Engineer, a Fellow of the BCS, and a Chartered IT Professional.

This event will carry CPD points

This meeting is free and open to both members and non members, however the venue has limited accommodation so pre-booking is essential; to reserve your place please complete the booking form at <http://www.proms-g.bcs.org/> or contact Sue McGowan at promsg.admin@bcs.org.uk, phone 07866 329391.

See us on the web at <http://www.proms-g.bcs.org/>