

# Hursley Museum Services – June 2013 Update

## New Display Rooms

By the time you read this, the new display areas on the lower ground of Hursley House should be open. Access is via the existing exhibition room HLG19. First you enter the "C.E. Room" with work benches, tools, test equipment and a number of machines opened up 'for repair'. The following photos are not quite up to date, publication deadlines mean there are last minute changes, additions and tidying-ups!



**Customer Engineering**



From here you enter the main new display, with areas for Home Computing, the development of the PC through to the big PS/2s, and a wall of ThinkPads. We also have some Point of Sale terminals and Portable Computing exhibits.



**PC and PS/2, Monitors & Printers**



**Home Computing, ThinkPads**



**More ThinkPads**



**Point of Sale**

Everything on display in these rooms has been added to the database and you can browse through them on the web site at <http://hursley.slx-online.biz/>.

# Hursley Museum Services – June 2013 Update

## More YouTube

There are lots of IBM-related videos on YouTube. One that caught our attention last month was a video of a robotic line in Greenock building keyboard 'F'. You can view it here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mEN6Rry4ekk>.

There was also another 100 year video with vintage archive footage at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Mla9cUiXnY>.

## Requests

As well as the usual appeal for anything Old and IBM, we are looking for a couple of specifics and would be grateful if you can help us.

First off, we would like to get our hands on an 8-bit Token Ring Adapter. We now have a couple of these with later bus configurations, kindly donated in the last week, and have been able to get a small ring up and running. What we would like to do is add a PC-XT or our new PC-AT (see below) to the ring, so that we can transfer files and create 5.1/4" diskettes from downloads. At the moment getting a download of old software onto an old PC is a very convoluted process. If anyone currently has the facility to cut 5.1/4" diskettes (high as well as low density) from downloads, and would be willing to do the occasional download for us, please let us know!

Next, we would like an old rotary dial telephone to add to one of our displays, the 210 PABX Dictating Machine. In fact, if we can get two of these, we can use the handset from one on our old acoustic coupler - we used to use these before there were 'proper' modems to connect a terminal to the phone line.

## PC-AT

One marked gap in our collection until June this year has been the PC-AT. At one time you couldn't move for these heavy beasts in IBM, now they seem to be as rare as hens' teeth. We did get an offer of one from Bletchley at the beginning of the year, but this has not materialised.

Recently we spotted a PC-AT on eBay, and the three curators agreed we'd stretch to £30 and try our luck. The machine was in Essex, collect only, so we contacted the seller and got his agreement that if we won he would hang onto it until we could arrange collection. It sold for over £80. Mysteriously it went back onto eBay a couple of weeks later, this time the system unit and monitor separately. We contacted the seller again, to discover that some nice Spanish person had outbid everyone but then neither paid nor communicated.

This time the system unit sold for somewhat over £30. The seller got in touch the very next day, were we still interested, the Spaniard again! £30 later it was ours. Now to arrange collection. Our Private Pilot (Peter) decided a trip to Essex was as good as a trip to any other airfield, and there was a private strip close to the seller. He agreed to meet Peter there, and so the PC-AT was air-freighted from Thurrock via Popham to Hursley! It turns out that the monitor was also sold to a non-payer, so we got that for

## Hursley Museum Services – June 2013 Update

another fiver. For those who went to Farnborough Air Show last year, here's the airfield from the air, taken following the railway line from Basingstoke to Woking.



**Farnborough**



**Freighter**



**Our PC-AT**

### **CICS**

Given the importance of CICS to IBM and to Hursley, its absence from the museum has bugged us for a long time. Now, following a meeting with the CICS director, Danny Mace, this situation is to be rectified. Over the coming months, Mark will be working with CICS people to come up with an exhibition in another room in the House, opposite HLG19.

Terry has launched an appeal to try and get our hands on an old Lloyds Cashpoint, the 2984 developed at Hursley, or any other cash machine. There used to be one in Hursley, but we have no idea where it went. This would be an ideal piece of hardware to show how people interact with CICS on a regular basis and don't know that.

We have some brochures, posters and other CICS documentation, but if any of you have anything we could use, including other Hursley software such as MQ, GDDM,



## Hursley Museum Services – June 2013 Update

etc., including videos, posters or other items that may have been used in marketing over the years, please get in touch.

Peter Short.

All correspondence please to Hursley Events:  
Rick Kellaway - <mailto:hurseve@uk.ibm.com>