

Hursley Museum Services - June 2014 Update

Current Activities & Acquisitions

We have received the following donations since the last newsletter:

- Two Selectric Electronic Typewriters, one with a 5.1/4" external diskette drive (ET95), together with a large selection of golf balls.
- PC-XT
- Telephone handset from Amberley Museum for display with our acoustic coupler.
- 1052 keyboardless printer

A warehouse has been discovered in the US containing a large collection of S/360 and S/370 hardware, including a Model 40. We are attempting to acquire this for Hursley. The S/360-40 was developed in Hursley, was the first System/360 to be powered up and also the first to be shipped to a customer.

We believe the 082 card sorter from Buchan House has been moved to Greenock, and we are awaiting confirmation. A Selectric Composer was purchased on eBay for 99p and collected from the seller in Weymouth.

Work continues on our AS/400s, and we are trying to obtain a copy of CICS/400 in the hope of putting together a meaningful demonstration. We have also succeeded in installing a copy of MQSeries on one of our older machines, and plan a second installation to demonstrate this software's capabilities.

Our initial attempts at restoring the recently acquired ET95 Selectric have stalled - mechanically the machine is in good condition, but we have a fault in the electronics. A benefactor who runs a typewriter business in Switzerland kindly sent us a complete set of boards, unfortunately there is a fault in them too. We suspect faulty capacitors on one of the power supply lines and have ordered replacements.

Computer Conservation Society / Bletchley Park

Following the successful visit to Hursley last year by 50 members of the Computer Conservation Society, a second visit is planned this coming September, both for the many members who were disappointed last year, as the event sold out within days, and a number who are keen for a second visit.

Mainframe 50

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the mainframe, the museum has put together a small display of artefacts in the "History of Hursley" room. These are the only items we have from S/360, and we were able to loan them to Barclays for a few days in May for their Mainframe 50 celebrations. We have also added a new page to the museum web site at <http://hursley.slx-online.biz/mainframe.asp>.

Web Site: <http://hursley.slx-online.biz/>

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Mainframe 50 Display



S/360 Model 40 Find

Visitors

Rob Lamb, the new Lab Director, and Scott Couper, the new Lab Manager, visited the museum in June. We also had a visit from an employee of NATS, who was involved in the discontinuing of the old air traffic control system at West Drayton. Back then he rescued a S/360 model 65, which he intends to get working again when he retires!

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