Hursley Museum Services - August 2014 Update

Current Activities & Acquisitions

The big acquisition for the museum this month is the Royal Army Pay Corps IBM 705 console, together with one IBM 727 tape unit, an 024 card punch, 056 card verifier and a 3350 disk drive from their S/370 model 158. These are on long-term loan from the Adjutant General Corps at Worthy Down.

Sadly we are missing many bits, such as the table tops and card weights for the punch and verifier. The innards of the tape unit were removed at some point and we have an interesting pile of bits and an empty case - mega Meccano! We had an interesting time getting the 3350 indoors, requiring us to remove all the door brackets to just squeeze through the doors, and the HDAs to get the weight down. There are more pictures at http://hursley.slx-online.biz/705_story.asp.

There have been a few small donations including a PC and PC-XT. The PC emitted lots of smoke and now smells bad, the XT is just dead, so static exhibit potential only (once the smell goes!)

Other News

In May we learned of a warehouse find in the US consisting of a large number of S/360, S/370 and peripherals. This was briefly reported in the Summer Resurrection. Amongst the hardware is a S/360 Model 40, which was developed at Hursley and was the first S/360 to be powered on. We expressed our interest in getting this back to the UK, and found a sponsor who might pay for shipment. Since then the people charged with disposing of this stash have stopped communicating, so we don't know what is happening. Hopefully they'll resurface soon.

Also in May, the museum loaned a number of artefacts to Barclays Bank for their 50th mainframe celebrations. We also had a visit from an employee of NATS, who rescued a S/360 Model 65 when they were discontinued many moons ago. He plans to get it working when he retires!

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

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