

How could they get it so wrong?

"I think there's a world market for about 5 computers."

-- Thomas J. Watson, Chairman of the Board, IBM (ca. 1948)

"It would appear that we have reached the limits of what it is possible to achieve with computer technology, although one should be careful with such statements, as they tend to sound pretty silly in 5 years." -- John von Neumann (ca. 1949)

"There is no reason anyone would want a computer in their home."

-- Ken Olson, president, Digital Equipment Corporation, 1977

"DOS addresses only 1 Megabyte of RAM because we cannot imagine any applications needing more."

-- Microsoft, 1980, on the development of DOS

The people behind these quotations were undoubtedly intelligent and well-informed in their time. But no-one could have foreseen the phenomenal changes in computer speed and memory capacity. It is the scientists and the visionaries who made their careers in computing that have carried the technologies forward at an incredible and unpredictable rate in the last 60 years.

A revolution has occurred that is now going deeper and changing the way we think about computers and computing. This revolution in thought has barely started and, of course, is completely unpredictable ...

"In their capacity as a tool, computers will be but a ripple on the surface of our culture. In their capacity as intellectual challenge, they are without precedent in the cultural history of mankind. "

-- Edsger Dijkstra

You can, if you wish, be part of this on-going revolution. Find out about degrees and careers in Computing at **What's in IT for You?** at the University of Warwick on Wednesday 19th November 2008.

The contact teacher for your school/college needs to register your school's group no later than Wednesday 5th November (places are limited so it is first come, first served).

What's in IT for You? An Invitation ...



University of Warwick
19th November 2008

What's happening?

It's an event for sixth-formers about degrees in Computing and careers in Computing. Only a small number of schools and colleges have been invited to participate.

It's being held on the Westwood Campus of the University of Warwick.

- 11.30 Buffet lunch in Café Westwood
- 12.00 Westwood Lecture Theatre
Your Future in IT
Vanessa Donnelly BSc, MBCS
Senior Consultant
IBM UK Technical Consultancy Group
- 12.15 Interactive School Team IT Quiz
Speed, surprise and suspense ...
(Learn about the IT industry too!)
- 12.30 Computing Degrees for You
Round-up of degrees in Computing
Students tell it how it is
- 12.45 Computing Careers for You
Clips from the companies (including Accenture, BT, Capgemini, Fujitsu, IBM, Logica, Microsoft, RM, Siemens and the British Computer Society)
- 13.15 Which Workshops? (last minute changes)
Where? (student guides show you to locations)
- 13.30 Workshops (see opposite page)
- 14.30 Competition 'Finale', feedback and prizes
- 15.00 Tea and home ...

We look forward to welcoming you on 19th November and hope you will find the day interesting, informative and entertaining.

What are the Workshops?

These go into more detail on both degrees and careers and will invite and address your questions. There are three kinds of workshop:

Day in the Life of ... , or **Hot Topics**, or **Degrees for You**.

The **Day in the Life of ...** ones are about careers like Business Analyst, Technology Consultant, Software Developer, and will try and show you what it could be like doing those kinds of jobs.

The **Hot Topics** are ones like: Virtual Worlds, Social Networking, Large-scale Software Development, Web Services, Security, Games Design. These workshops will give you some insight into topics likely to be important in the next few years and that you could be involved with in an IT career.

The **Degrees for You** workshop will describe some very different kinds of degrees that are available and go into some depth and detail on what to look for when browsing a website about Computing degrees or when you visit a Computing Department.

Look out for the link to 'What's in IT for You?' from the front page of the website for the Department of Computer Science at the University of Warwick: <http://www.dcs.warwick.ac.uk>

You will find more details there and a brief description of the workshops. We ask that you choose the two workshops you are likely to attend and we recommend you choose different kinds. You will be able to change your mind on the day (to some extent!). Your school or college group must be accompanied by a teacher who will register your group online and will tell us the numbers requested for different workshops. Your teacher will also help to form you into teams for entering the Quiz (on the programme), and the Competition (details will appear on the website by 31st October, submissions are requested in advance).

Questions still? If you have received this leaflet, and would like to attend, but are not sure who the contact teacher is at your school, or if you have any other questions about the day, you can send email to: whatsIT@dcs.warwick.ac.uk