

The BITUG Independent Newsletter

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Welcome to the newly named BITUG newsletter, we hope you enjoy this quarters edition. The committee would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Prosperous 2006.

BITUG 2005: Chairman's Note

This year BITUG held a number of successful SIG Days covering: Middleware, BCP and Disaster Recovery, Security, Communications / System Management and Performance. Of course we held the BITUG Summit in March which contained 12 SIG sessions, Vendor presentations, HP announcements and sessions, ASE courses, an Education day and the annual BITUG Golf Challenge Day. With the help of HP BITUG facilitated another education day in November. All of these events were very successful and well attended. I must thank Dave Russell and HP plus the many third party suppliers who have supported BITUG so well all year.

There have been a number of developments and changes at HP: old friends of BITUG such as Derek Ginger, Ron Lapedis, Hank Ceranko and others have now retired leaving BITUG members wondering who we speak to at Cupertino about products. Other members raised concerns about the future of the NonStop platform, member vendors voiced concerns about the partnership program and the treatment of smaller vendor companies. Representatives from the BITUG committee met with Neil Pringle at one meeting and the with Scott Stallard: SVP & General Manager Enterprise Storage & Servers Business Unit and other high ranking HP staff at another to highlight the concerns and raise the questions re the void left by the retirements. A full report regarding the meetings can be found on the BITUG web.

I would like to thank David Lawler who also attended the second meeting and helped us put forward all the points raised by members.

Darren Coffey, Dave Russell and I met with Richard Buckle and Margo Holen from ITUG to voice BITUG's disappointment that the 2006 event has been moved to Amsterdam. Read the full report on the BITUG web from what was an open and detailed meeting.

Members of the committee represented BITUG at both the Berlin and San Jose meetings where we met with reps from many of the other RUGs from around the world. I must say I'm proud to report that BITUG is still regarded as one of the busiest and best supported RUGs. Smug smile from the Chairman here.

As you can see, the committee has been busy this year with organising the SIGs, the Summit, the Education Days and representing BITUG members at various meetings with HP and other RUGs. We also had a good Golf Day, we have produced the News Sheet and of course our BITUG web is better than ever.

I would like to thank the committee for their support and efforts this year. I would like to single out Dave Russell who has worked hard to ensure that HP has been there to support all the BITUG events.

We are now finalising a very full programme for 2006 and as I always say, BITUG is *your* user group - feel free to contact any member of the committee with feedback or ideas, we want to make BITUG as useful as possible to all HP NonStop Users. I look forward to hearing from you.

Happy New Year.

Charles Penney Chairman of BITUG



Report from the BITUG AGM

The BITUG AGM was held at the HP Offices, Wood Street, London on the 1st December 2005.



The Treasurer (Steve Garlick) reported that there was a small profit made this year.

Chairman (Charles Penney) gave an overview of the year's activities: see Chairman's Note for details, he also spoke about the plans for next year and how BITUG will not only cover the core NonStop issues but will also address solutions and how NonStop interacts within the modern Data Centre.

Charles reported that he had taken on the Chairmanship this year after the elected Chair Angela Sandy had to stand down. He also reported the loss from the committee of Janet Alabaster and Eric Lawson and the welcome addition of Karen James to the committee.

The officers were proposed and agreed as follows:

Chairman : Charles Penney End User

Deputy Chairman: Darren Coffey End User

Treasurer: Steve Garlick End User

Committee:

Sean Bicknell (Vendor), Karen James (Vendor), Neil Barnes (End User),

Graham Neild (End User), Steve Tanham (Vendor), Richard Farrow (End User), Peter Born (End User),

Dave Russell (HP)

BITUG—Dates for the diary

The BITUG Diary of Events will be on the BITUG Web by the end of December.

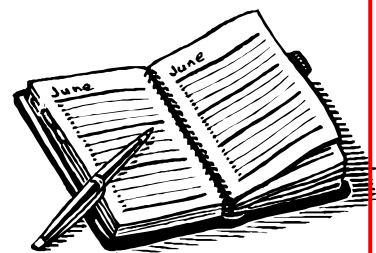
The first SIG of the year is scheduled for 25 January 2006. This meeting will cover Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity and will be held at Wood Street. The agenda and booking details will be out soon.

For the rest of the year's events, please see the BITUG Web.

One highlight to point out is the new **BITUG Road Show**. We are planning to bring BITUG to you so if you live in the north we will be in Manchester on the 4th April. If you are from the south, we will be in London on 6th April. Of course you can attend either or both of these meetings. There will be no attendance fee, lunch will be provided.

Our Golf Challenge Day will be held in the Manchester area on Monday 3rd April.

Full details will be released early in 2006.



This edition of the newsletter was sponsored by ACI Worldwide who are celebrating 30 years—Happy Birthday ACI. If you would like your organisation to sponsor the next edition of the BITUG Independent, please submit your request to Charles Penney BITUG Chairman for consideration, cost to advertise is £100.00.

