The BITUG Independent Newsletter
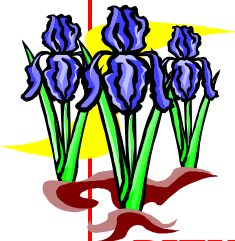
Welcome to the Spring edition and first BITUG newsletter of 2006.

BITUG 2006: Chairman's Chat

Hello, we are already heading towards the end of the first quarter for 2006 and since the start of the year; the committee have been busy organising and running this year's events as well as being involved in various ITUG committees. As you will see, we have set up a fairly busy diary of events for the year, but please do feel free to tell the committee of new ideas for subjects to be covered. We have already had one very good SIG, the next being held this month.

Committee News

Karen James who joined the committee only last year has had to resign after moving from her company. In her short time with us, Karen created the new format for the BITUG News Sheet and did the work to book the London venue for the BITUG Road Show. She also did the initial work for venues in the UK should ITUG decide to bring the European Meeting to the UK. I, with the rest of the committee would like thank Karen for her work and wish her well in the future. Good Luck Karen.

SIGS

The Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity SIG, held on the 25th January was a great success. The event was held at the HP Thames Valley Technical Centre in Reading. There were numerous presentations which included updates from HP, Data Vaulting, a couple of Vender presentations, User presentations and an introduction to the HP Continuity User Group HPCUG plus many more. My thanks go to HP who welcomed us to the Centre, brought in experts and provided the refreshments. See the BITUG web: www.bitug.com for presentations and in depth details.

On the 15th March we have another SIG, this time relating to Security. This SIG has a very strong agenda and will be held at the HP office in Wood Street. If you haven't already booked, please have a look at the BITUG web for details and the booking facility.

Diary of SIGs/Meetings/Education for 2006

15 March 2006	Security Sarbanes Oxley
03 – 06 April 2006	The BITUG Road Show
15 – 17 May 2006	The European ITUG Event, Amsterdam
27 July 2006	Solutions Middleware
13 September 2006	OSS & SQL MX
15 – 19 October 2006	ITUG Conference, San Jose
16 November 2006	Education Day
29 November 2006	S Series to Itanium, ITUG report, BITUG AGM

Details, registration forms and reports from all of the BITUG SIGS will be found on the BITUG web at the right time.

The BITUG Roadshows

The Roadshow will replace the normal BITUG Two Day Event this year. This new idea is to bring the meeting to a venue near you. At the end of the meeting we will review the feedback to see if this type of event is preferred by the members.

Details are currently being finalised. The meeting will be held on the 4th April in Manchester; Marriott Worsley Park Hotel and Country Club and on the 6th April in London; The Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre, Westminster. Both days will cover the same agenda, so you need only attend one of the days at a venue near you.

The content of the Roadshow will include a Key Note Speaker, exciting announcements from HP on the future of NonStop. I think once we have heard from HP, we will see that there is a bright future for NonStop in the UK.

There will be parallel tracks running in the afternoon covering technical and environmental issues as well as more updates from HP. I do urge everybody to attend to hear first hand how much of a future the NonStop has.

Of course we will be having the annual **BITUG Golf Challenge Day** and this will be held at Worsley Park Country Club Golf Course.

Keep an eye on the BITUG web for the details and registration.
Attendance is free, Teas/Coffees/Lunch will be provided.

I hope to see you all either in Manchester or London.

Charles Penney, Chairman of BITUG