

# People and Computers XVIII – Design for Life

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Sally Fincher, Panos Markopoulos,  
David Moore, and Roy Ruddle (Eds)

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# People and Computers XVIII – Design for Life

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Sally Fincher, BA, MA, LHG, FSEDA  
Computing Laboratory, University of Kent, UK

Panos Markopoulos, MSc, MSc, PhD  
Industrial Design, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands

David Moore, PhD  
School of Computing, Leeds Metropolitan University, UK

Roy Ruddle, BSc, PhD, CEng, MBCS  
School of Computing, University of Leeds, UK

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## *Preface*

The eighteenth annual British HCI Conference chose as its theme Design for Life. ‘Life’ has many facets, from work (of course, or should we say inevitably!) to travel, fun and other forms of leisure. We selected 23 full papers out of 63 submitted, which covered our interaction with computer systems in a variety of types of life situation — including games, tourism and certain types of work — and also covered a variety of stages in our lives, from the young to the elderly. These papers were complemented by others that described more traditional aspects of research in the field of human-computer interaction.

In putting together the programme we followed a three-stage process. First each paper was reviewed by at least three reviewers. Then a member of the committee conducted a meta-review. Finally, all sets of reviews were considered by the technical chairs who assembled a programme that was submitted to, and approved by, the full committee. This process was greatly assisted by the use of the Precision Conference Solutions web-based submission system. Even more important, of course, were the volunteer reviewers themselves. In recognition, this year we have made an award for the best reviewer as well as one for the best paper.

The conference continues to attract delegates from around the world, and this year the authors of the accepted papers come from Australia, Canada, China, Denmark, France, Malaysia, the Netherlands and Sweden, as well as the UK. Our keynote speakers are also international in outlook, comprising Thomas Erickson (IBM’s T. J. Watson Research Center, New York), Wendy Hall (current President of the BCS) and Kees Dorst (Designed Intelligence Research Group, Faculty of Industrial Design Eindhoven University of Technology).

As usual, many people deserve our thanks for helping to put together this conference and these associated proceedings. As well as the reviewers, we would like to express our gratitude to our fellow members on the committee, to Russel Winder for his eagle eye and endless patience, and to the production team at Springer Verlag. All that remains is for us to commend the papers to you and for you to enjoy them.

***Sally Fincher, Panos Markopoulos, David Moore, Roy Ruddle***

*May 2004*

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