Record Nr. UNINA9910453507003321 **Titolo** Alan Turing and his contemporaries [[electronic resource]]: building the world's first computers / / Simon Lavington (editor) Pubbl/distr/stampa Swindon, U.K., : British Informatics Society Ltd., 2012 **ISBN** 1-78017-105-6 1-78017-106-4 1-78017-107-2 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (128 p.) Altri autori (Persone) LavingtonSimon Disciplina 004 004.0922 Soggetti Computers - History Computer engineering - History Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Includes index. Nota di contenuto Copyright; CONTENTS; AUTHORS; ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS; PREFACE; 1 THE IDEAS MEN; SCIENCE AT WAR; THE MOORE SCHOOL: THE CRADLE OF ELECTRONIC COMPUTING; THE UNIVERSAL TURING MACHINE; PRACTICAL PROBLEMS, 1945-7; THE RICH TAPESTRY OF PROJECTS, 1948-54; 2 ACES AND DEUCES; TURING'S FIRST COMPUTER DESIGN; TOIL AND TROUBLE: INTELLIGENCE AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: PILOT ACE ARRIVES AT LAST; 3 IVORY TOWERS AND TEA ROOMS; MAURICE WILKES AND THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY MATHEMATICAL LABORATORY: POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION AND THE STORED-PROGRAM COMPUTER; A MEMORY FOR EDSAC; EDSAC, ACE AND LEO; NOT JUST EDSAC FIRST STEPS IN PROGRAMMINGWILKES, WHEELER AND GILL; THE LAST DAYS OF THE EDSAC; 4 THE MANCHESTER MACHINES; MEMORIES ARE MADE OF THIS ...; THE BABY COMPUTER; THE BABY GROWS UP;

FERRANTI ENTERS THE PICTURE; A SUPERCOMPUTER; PROGRAMS AND USERS; WHAT CAME NEXT?; 5 MEANWHILE, IN DEEPEST HERTFORDSHIRE; THE ADMIRALTY'S SECRET; INNOVATIONS AT BOREHAMWOOD; SWORDS INTO PLOUGHSHARES; THE COMING OF AUTOMATION; 6 ONE MAN IN A

BARN; X-RAY CALCULATIONS; THE CHALLENGE OF MEMORY; COMPUTERS FOR ALL!; THE BOOTH MUTIPLIER; COMMERCIAL SUCCESS; 7 INTO THE MARKETPLACE; OUT OF THE LABORATORY; DEFENCE AND THE COLD WAR

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERINGTHE WORLD OF COMMERCE AND BUSINESS; THE MARKET GROWS AND THE MANUFACTURERS SHRINK; 8 HINDSIGHT AND FORESIGHT: THE LEGACY OF TURING AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES; WHO DID WHAT, AND WHEN?; TURING AS SEEN BY HIS CONTEMPORARIES; TURING'S REPUTATION BY 1984; APPENDIX A: TECHNICAL COMPARISON OF FIVE EARLY BRITISH COMPUTERS; THE MANCHESTER SMALL-SCALE EXPERIMENTAL MACHINE (SSEM), KNOWN AS THE 'BABY'; INSTRUCTION FORMAT FOR THE ENGLISH ELECTRIC DEUCE; APPENDIX B: TURING AND COMPUTING: A TIMELINE; ALAN TURING AT NPL, 1945-8; ALAN TURING AT MANCHESTER, 1948-54 APPENDIX C: FURTHER READINGGENERAL ACCOUNTS OF THE PERIOD 1945-60; CHAPTER-SPECIFIC BOOKS; INDEX; Back Cover

## Sommario/riassunto

Secret wartime projects in areas such as code-breaking, radar and ballistics produced a wealth of ideas and technologies that kick-started the development of digital computers. This is the story of the people and projects that flourished in the post-war period. Their influence is still discernable deep down within today's hardware and software.