TNMOC – headline review of 2011

January

Great demand for education visits in 2011 with new programming modules. Surprise student favourites: spinning 1940's Dekatrons and the 1960's Elliott with a teletype!

Plans announced to recreate 1940's EDSAC computer at TNMOC.

February

TNMOC opens its doors for company away-days.

Video tour of TNMOC available on You Tube.

Jack Schofield pays tribute to TNMOC.

Restoring the oldest PC in the UK – an SWTP 6800 from 1976.

March

Tony Sale talks about George the Robot on BBC Radio 4 Saturday Live.

Welsh teenagers get TV tour of TNMOC and we all learn the Welsh for mouse.

April

The History of Acorn Computing temporary display: photo-gallery report by ZDNet's Richard Goodwins.

Elliott 903 takes a step closer to joining the Elliott 803 as a fully-furnished, functioning computer from the 1960s.

May

The new Tunny Gallery opens – BBC videos the event with a 1940's re-enactment of code-beaking.

Domesday Reloaded – the 1986 BBC project is revived and updated 25 years on – with another leap forward at TNMOC in December.

ICL 2966 runs real 2900 programs again and its line printer starts chattering in June.

June

Tunny Commemorative stamp covers issued – almost sold out, but a few still available in the TNMOC shop.

The 1992 Cray Y-MP EL successfully reboots after many years and still looks as elegant as it did then.

July

At Her Majesty's personal request, the Queen visits Colossus and meets a delighted Tony Sale – and George the Robot.

The world's first purpose built computer centre, home to **The National Museum of Computing**

August

TNMOC shocked and saddened by the sudden death of Tony Sale. Tributes pour in from TV, national newspapers and across the internet.

Young coder in Young Rewired State at TNMOC wins national award for his "Where's My Train" application.

September

Colossus Gallery refurbishment announced in honour of Tony Sale. You can still donate here.

Daughter of Bletchley Park code-breaker wins BBC Radio 4 code-breaking competition and comes to TNMOC to collect her prize.

TNMOC introduces a modest admission fee for the first time to help pay substantial overheads to the Bletchley Park Trust.

1980's ICL System 25 comes to life with a program "Hello World".

October

Gil Hayward, original Tunny builder and then rebuilder, dies, aged 93.

Two new trustees for TNMOC – Margaret Sale and Tim Reynolds.

IRIS is regularly replaying air traffic control incidents again with radar data now being supplied from a PC.

Long overdue: Bill Tutte (deduced the workings of Lorenz) and Tommy Flowers (built Colossus) acclaimed in BBC2 Code-breakers TV programme for their work in breaking the Lorenz encrypted messages (Tunny) of the German High Command during World War II. Programme seen by more than 3.5 million people.

Restoration of TAC restarts – as a computer at Wylfa power station from 1968-2004, it may be the longest-running computer in the world.

IBM 1130 powered up after much work and the core store is found to still contain a program!

November

The Archive's rapid growth continues – and the entire catalogue of printed Computer Weekly arrives.

A new collections database is begun – based on opensource software developed specifically for the museum community.

Volunteers become collection curators with responsibilities for specific computer brands or types.

December

Domesday Touchtable unveiled at TNMOC and here it is in action. It is already highly popular with Museum visitors young and older.

New exhibit: the BBC and 1980's computing in Britain.

2012? There's plenty more on the way … TNMOC continues to look smarter by the month thanks to sponsors Bletchley Park Capital Partners, and a new Guidebook, sponsored by Insightsoftware.com will be published early in the new year.

Thanks to TNMOC 60 volunteers, sponsors, donors and members.