

January 3 1988

CHAM Limited, Bakery House, 40 High Street
Wimbledon, London SW19 5AU, England
Telephone: 01-947 7651 Telex: 928517
Fax: 01-879 3497



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Computer modelling of fluid flow,
heat transfer and combustion for industry

*Dr V Siddhartha
c/o Office of Scientific Adviser to the Minister of Defence
Ministry of Defence
South Block
New Delhi 110011
India*

Dear Dr Siddhartha

As you may know, Brian Spalding is retiring from Imperial College in September 1988.

To mark the occasion we plan to produce a, non-technical, Festschrift by his friends, students and colleagues which will be presented to Brian on September 30 1988 at a dinner to mark his retirement.

I am writing to ask you to contribute to this 'Life of Brian' by providing an article (of say one A4 size page in length) of your own personal recollections of him; experience of working with him; studying with him; or whatever you consider appropriate. The style and content are left to your discretion.

Could you please let me have your contribution, typed, signed and addressed to me (in an envelope clearly marked private and confidential please) at the above address by the end of February 1988. Thank you.

If you will be (or could arrange to be) in London on September 30 we would also like to invite you to be our guest at the presentation dinner. To enable us to establish numbers and arrange an appropriate venue, I would appreciate your letting me know as soon as you can whether you will attend and whether you will be accompanied by a partner. If, in the same letter, you could indicate your willingness to provide the contribution requested above I would appreciate it.

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future and I would like to thank you in advance for your help in making the occasion a success.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely

Colleen I King

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51, Bharati Nagar
New Delhi 110003
INDIA
(Phone: 626366)

15 January, 1988

Dear Ms King,

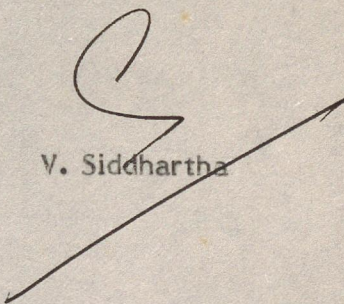
Your letter of January 3, 1988 re. the Brian Festschrift reached me today. (Brian retiring? Not another Mrs. T-inspired destructive event!)

I shall, of course, be most happy to send a contribution as requested and specified.

Regretably, public transport services between New Delhi and London are now infrequent and expensive. So I doubt very much if I shall be able to attend the presentation dinner on September 30. However, should I find myself in Europe at, or about, that time, I shall most happy to attend, if the inevitable extreme short notice will not put you out. (I am a poor eater anyway, so even CHAM's close-order cost-accounting should leave over enough surplus cheese for the odd drop-in).

With belated best wishes for the New Year,

Yours sincerely


V. Siddhartha

Ms Colleen I King
CHAM Limited
Bakery House, 40 High Street
Wimbledon
London SW 12 5AU
U.K

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New Delhi 110003
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23 February, 1988

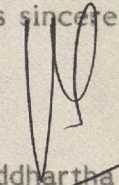
Dear Ms King,

Further to mine of 15 January, I enclose my contribution to the Brian Festschrift.

May I take this opportunity to wish the presentation occasion a success?

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,


V. Siddhartha

Ms Colleen King
CHAM Limited
Bakery House, 40 High Street
Wimbledon
London SW 12 5AU
U.K.

Contribution to the
Brian Spalding Festschrift

Dr. V. Siddhartha

At Cranfield, Arthur Lefebvre thought a boy of my age ought to live his youthful years where the Big Red Buses plied. Would Brian like to take me as a member of his team being assembled to intensify the New Light? I signed-up in the Autumn of 1966. The wage was £ 2 a day (plus free hot showers in one of the Mech. Eng. "Staff Only" bathrooms if one timed it right).

Brian handed me a bunch of his papers to digest and left me to learn the alphabet from the unflappable Suhas Patankar. Would I please review the literature on numerical methods to solve p.d.es and make a presentation? I did, and shared my opinion that numerical methods were a Machiavellian grey box - the ends justified the means; the box itself was not quite black, you had a rough idea of what was going on inside it. I guessed Brian must have had a word with Suhas after that; for I found the latter somewhat firmer in his tutoring.

I enrolled as a fully paid-up member of the fraternity of supplicants before the God of IBM in Elec. Eng. - a queue of devotee-junkies hooked on their twice-daily "fix" of print-outs. But while Brian was one of us, experiencing at first-hand the sado-masochism of one who had dropped a large card-deck, he was able to time-share his disciplined mind amongst many mental activities and new lines of enquiry. It is not easy to convey the value of this ability to the new generation of CFD practioners, used as they now are to very rapid turn-around. And with words now being "processed", will I not value his patient attempts to teach that difficult skill - the use of precise and carefully crafted language? (Has there not evolved a recognisable Brian-ese?) While the fountain-pen with the italics nib and black ink proliferated rapidly amongst us, some of our hand-writings became so like Brian's the Yard might have warned him.

While IC glowed in Mr. Wilson's White Heat, few of its students and faculty could be accused of being even dull red. (Not many IC scarves adorned the necks of Tariq Ali's marchers). One sensed that Brian was regarded as a lefty (by IC standards). We would find that he supported some innocuous gesture that furthered "student participation" ever so slightly, but he was in a minority and was not averse to sharing his frustration with us.

During his visits to India my wife and I have had the pleasure of introducing him to the joys of soaking-up the winter sun in the gentle rolling countryside outside Bangalore, while I have tried to induce him into spending more of his professional time with his team of All-Blacks.

We are ready when you are, Brian.

V. Siddhartha

Feb 1988

5 May 1988

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Dr V Siddhartha
51 Bharati Nagar
New Delhi 110003
India

Dear Dr Siddhartha

Thank you for your contribution to Brian Spalding's Festschrift for which I am most grateful.

I am delighted to inform you that the dinner has been arranged for the Friday 30 September, (7.30pm for 8.00pm) and the venue is as follows:

Selsdon Park Hotel
Sanderstead
South Croydon
Surrey CR2 8YA
Tel: 01-657-8811

I would appreciate if you could confirm, as soon as possible, whether you will attend and whether you will be accompanied by a partner. I enclose a descriptive leaflet of the hotel; if you wish to stay over-night please contact Reservations on 01-657-8811 who will be pleased to deal with your accommodation requirements.

Once again thank you for your contribution.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

Colleen I King