Keith Devlin*, Stanford University, Stanford, CA. Leonardo Fibonacci, Liber abbaci, and the rise of the modern commercial world.

The first personal computing revolution took place not in Silicon Valley in the 1980s but in Pisa in the 13th Century. The medieval counterpart to Steve Jobs was a young Italian called Leonardo, better known today by the nickname Fibonacci. Thanks to a recently discovered manuscript in a library in Florence, the story of how this little known genius came to launch the modern commercial world can now be told. How we came to know there even was a revolution, and Leonardo’s role in it, is a fascinating story in its own right. (Received July 03, 2012)