

# Science Careers Outside the Lab

Monday 21 March 2022, 16:00 - 18:00  
The Boiler House, Newcastle University



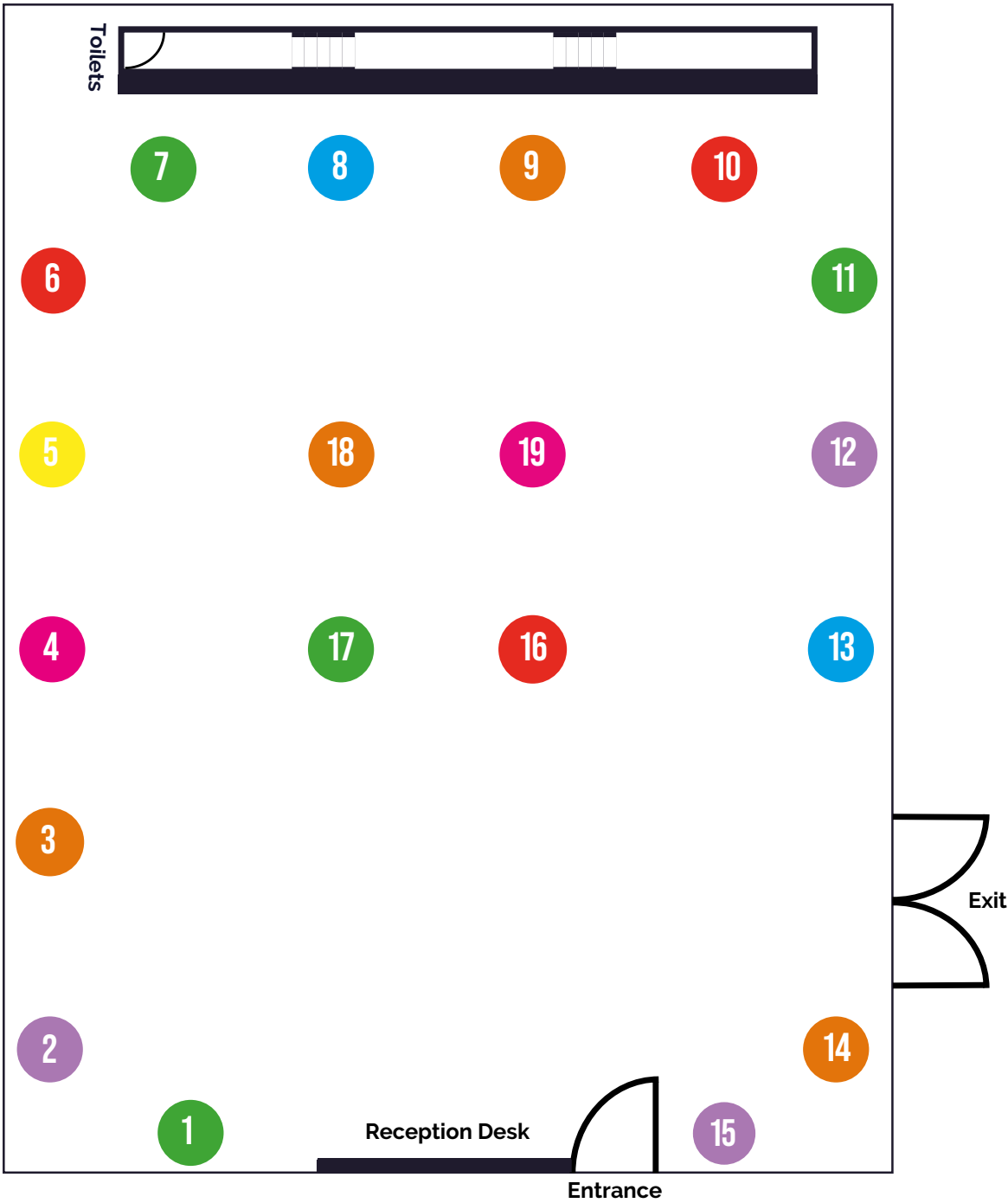
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**Newcastle**  
University

# Floor Plan



● Science Communication, Education and Outreach

● Government and Policy

● Business, Consultancy and Finance

● Agriculture, Environment and Sustainability

● Legal Services

● Scientific Sales, Marketing and Recruitment

● Healthcare

# Exhibitors

- 1 **Yordas Group**
- 2 **PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC)**
- 3 **Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**
- 4 **CY Partners**
- 5 **Civil Service Fast Stream**
- 6 **Muckle LLP**
- 7 **Newcastle University Sustainable Campus Team**
- 8 **Teach First**
- 9 **Sir Bobby Robson Cancer Trials Research Centre (Freeman Hospital, NHS)**
- 10 **HGF Limited**
- 11 **Environment Agency**
- 12 **National Audit Office**
- 13 **Great North Museum: Hancock**
- 14 **GlaxoSmithKline plc (GSK)**
- 15 **Ryecroft Glenton**
- 16 **Enviresearch**
- 17 **Northumbrian Water Group**
- 18 **Reckitt Benckiser**
- 19 **Jackson Hogg Recruitment Ltd**

# Exhibitor Profiles

## Civil Service Fast Stream (government and policy)

The Civil Service helps the government of the day to implement their commitments and deliver high quality services to the public. Our work impacts every aspect of society and our organisation is built on a culture where people genuinely matter. The Fast Stream is an accelerated career path to leadership with supported development. Our work impacts every aspect of society and our organisation is built on a culture where people genuinely matter. Our 414,000 staff work across the UK and internationally, contributing to professions as diverse as: Finance, Diplomacy, Health, Human Resources, Communications, Digital, Science and Technology.

### **Lewis Nixon, Science Capability Advisor** [www.linkedin.com/in/lewisjpnixon/](http://www.linkedin.com/in/lewisjpnixon/)

My name is Lewis Nixon, I'm a Science Capability Advisor in the Government Office for Science, headed up by the UK Government's Chief Scientific Advisor Sir Patrick Vallance, and based in Westminster. The Government Office for Science advises the Prime Minister and members of the Cabinet, to ensure that government policies and decisions are informed by the best scientific evidence and strategic long-term thinking. This is my first posting in the Science & Engineering scheme of the Civil Service Fast Stream graduate programme, which I joined shortly after finishing university. I'm originally from Cumbria and moved to Newcastle in 2016, where I spent 3 years studying Chemistry at Northumbria University, graduating with the highest degree on the course. Followed by a year developing washing powder for the Middle East at Procter & Gamble, 4 months on a research contract working on a new COVID disinfection method, and finally my Master's degree in Chemistry here at Newcastle University. Despite having really enjoyed my 5 years studying chemistry, I decided that a career in the lab wasn't for me. So, I combined my love of science with my passion for politics and applied for the Civil Service Fast Stream, where I am now the manager of programme to improve science capability across the whole of government, giving me a lot of responsibility and exposure to senior government officials.

### **Rory Duncan, Associate Commissioner** [www.linkedin.com/in/roryandrewduncan](http://www.linkedin.com/in/roryandrewduncan)

My name is Rory Duncan, I'm an Associate Commissioner within the Ministry of Defence and this is my first posting on the Science and Engineering scheme of the Civil Service Fast Stream. My background is in Mechanical Engineering where I did my undergraduate degree at Heriot-Watt University before moving back to Newcastle where I come from to work in the pharmaceutical industry for a year. I then studied for a Master's degree at Newcastle University Business School before moving to Sheffield to work for an engineering simulation company. I always knew I wanted to stay in the science and engineering space however I knew I didn't want to be deep in the lab and so joining the Civil Service Fast Stream has allowed me to explore my passion for engineering outside of the workshop. I'm looking forward to meeting you all in person on the 21st.

## CY Partners (scientific sales, marketing and recruitment)

CY Partners is an independent specialist scientific and technology recruitment consultancy. Established in 2008, it has a strong reputation for providing technically-skilled candidates in the Pharmaceutical, Oil & Gas, Life Science, Chemicals, Electronics and the High Technology sectors.

### **Jack Ramshaw, Recruitment Consultant**

I graduated from Newcastle in 2018 with a degree in Chemistry with Medicinal Chemistry. After my degree I moved over to sales and joined a company that manufactures and sells activated carbon cloth. I spent three years working in sales before joining CY Partners as a Recruitment Consultant in January 2022.

### **Dan Wainwright, Delivery Consultant**

I graduated from Newcastle University in 2018 with a Master of Research degree in Medical and Molecular Bioscience. After finishing my masters, I branched out into sales where I'm now a Delivery Consultant specialising in Biotechnology and Diagnostics.

## Enviresearch (legal services)

Enviresearch Ltd, established in 2001 and part of the RSK Group since March 2021, is a chemicals regulatory affairs and risk assessment company based in Newcastle upon Tyne. The team at Enviresearch includes risk assessors and regulatory consultants from a combination of academic and regulatory backgrounds in the fields of environmental and chemical science. The company delivers regulatory and risk assessment services to the chemicals industry, covering the key chemical regulatory frameworks established in the European Union, including Plant Protection Products, Biocidal Products, and general-use chemicals registered under the 'REACH' regulation.

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/enviresearch/mycompany/>

### **Scott Watson, PhD, Commercial Director** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/scott-watson-58813933/>

Scott Watson is the Commercial Director at Enviresearch Ltd, having also previously worked in roles as a Regulatory Affairs Consultant (November 2017 – October 2020) and Head of Regulatory Affairs (October 2020 – December 2021) with the company. Scott graduated with a Master's degree in Chemistry from Durham University in 2004, before staying on to complete a PhD in the field of chemical nanoscience (2004-2008).

Following six years working in academic research at the Chemical Nanoscience Laboratories based at Newcastle University, Scott joined the Chemicals Regulation Division of the UK's Health and Safety Executive (HSE) in May 2015. As a Regulatory Scientist, Scott contributed to the work of HSE in delivering regulatory responsibilities on behalf of the UK government concerning pesticides, biocides, and general-use chemicals.

In November 2017, Scott moved to Enviresearch Ltd as a Regulatory Affairs Consultant to provide support to the chemicals industry concerning the regulatory requirements and procedures for the registration of pesticides, biocides and REACH chemicals in the EU and UK. In his current role as Commercial Director, Scott oversees Enviresearch's commercial activities, including working with industry stakeholders to understand their needs and challenges to see how Enviresearch can support them, and overseeing the development of products and services that Enviresearch delivers to the chemicals industry.

## Great North Museum: Hancock (science communication, education and outreach)

The Great North Museum: Hancock was purpose built in Newcastle as a natural history museum in 1884 to house the growing collections of the Natural History Society of Northumbria. Following a £26million redevelopment in 2009, (when the Hancock Museum merged with the Museum of Antiquities and the Shefton Museum), the Great North Museum: Hancock is now a popular free family destination with a varying programme of exhibitions, expert talks, courses and activities for children. It is managed by Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums on behalf of Newcastle University.

### **Dr Kate Holden, Learning Officer**

My first degree is in Geography and my PhD is in Luminescence Dating, which is a method of dating sediments. I worked as a postdoctoral research assistant for three years then was a Lecturer in Geography for seven years, continuing with research alongside teaching and student support. Made redundant from a temporary contract, I finished the research project I was engaged with as a consultant. I then stayed at home with my children for several years, after a while volunteering in their school. I was appointed as an Assistant Learning Officer at the Great North Museum: Hancock in 2012 and worked for six years co-ordinating the science programmes until I was promoted to Learning Officer in 2018. As Learning Officer, I manage the team who create and deliver our learning programme, including workshop sessions, support resources for visits, family activities, exhibitions and a public events programme. Another important component of my role is to work with academics to translate work at the research frontier into a form which resonates with a non-specialist audience.

## HGF Limited (legal services)

HGF is one of Europe's leading Intellectual Property firms, bringing together 195 patent attorneys, trade-mark attorneys, design attorneys, IP solicitors and attorneys-at-law across 22 offices in seven European countries to provide a dynamic and complete IP solution.

### **Elliot Stephens, Patent Attorney**

Elliot Stephens is a UK and European Patent Attorney based in HGF's Newcastle office. He graduated from Newcastle University in 2016 with a Master's degree in Medicinal Chemistry. During his studies, Elliot spent time at a global pharmaceutical company as a synthetic chemist, synthesising and studying compounds for the use in the treatment of cystic fibrosis. Following his graduation, Elliot joined a large European IP firm in which he prosecuted and advised on patent matters across a wide range of technology, including medical devices and chemical compositions. Since joining HGF in 2019, Elliot has acted for clients in the biotechnology, pharmaceutical and automotive sectors in several patent matters, including contentious issues, such as litigation and oppositions, as well as advising on due diligence during investment rounds. HGF Limited is one of Europe's largest intellectual property specialist firms and has a strong group of commercial minded IP attorneys with experience and expertise covering chemistry, engineering, electronics, life sciences, nano-technology, trademarks and IP litigation.

## GlaxoSmithKline plc (GSK) (healthcare)

We are a science-led global healthcare company that researches and develops innovative Pharmaceuticals, Vaccines and Consumer Healthcare products. These help millions of people around the world do more, feel better and live longer.

### **Salma, Kodi and Hannah, Industrial Placement Students**

Salma, Kodi and Hannah are industrial placement students at GSK Barnard Castle within the Steriles Business Unit. We are science students working in a manufacturing environment. Hannah works across the whole of vials interacting with both the manufacture/fill teams and the inspect/pack teams. Kodi and Salma both work for syringes but specifically in Man/fill and inspect/pack respectively. Our role is related to business improvement and as a result we are constantly seeking ways to improve the steriles business unit, whether it be through safety/quality or through accountability processes.

## Environment Agency (agriculture, environment and sustainability)

We are the Environment Agency. We are the biggest and most wide-ranging environmental regulator in Europe. We work with businesses and communities to protect and improve the environment, for people and wildlife. And the need for our work is becoming ever more important.

### **Ross Lowrie, Decarbonisation and Net Zero Senior Advisor**

Ross studied Zoology at the University of Sheffield, before completing a Master of Law in Environmental Legal Studies at Newcastle University. He has worked at the Environment Agency since 2004 and has a broad range of experience in Net Zero and climate change adaptation policy, hydropower and other renewables, environment regulation, partnership project development and project governance.

Ross currently works as a Decarbonisation and Net Zero Senior Advisor where he is responsible for setting policy and leading the Environment Agency's contribution to the UK Net Zero by 2050 target. He liaises with industry, environmental regulators and the government. Before that, he specialised in hydropower and was a national sector lead managing the Environment Agency's hydropower permitting issues. Ross leads a team of policy advisors, supporting their development and wellbeing. A passionate advocate of science education, he mentors university students and is a school governor and STEM Ambassador, including delivering climate change workshops in schools.

## Teach First (science communication, education and outreach)

Teach First is a charity that develops and supports teachers and leaders who are determined to make a difference where it's needed the most.

### **Jessica Lowes, Teacher**

I'm a teacher of science at Southmoor Academy, Sunderland and have been since September 2019, where I trained through Teach First. I was a remote learning coordinator during the 20-21 academic year and am now teaching 53 lovely Y11s through their GCSE exams. Prior to this, I studied Psychology at Durham University, achieving first class honours.

## Jackson Hogg Recruitment Ltd (scientific sales, marketing and recruitment)

Jackson Hogg is a leading specialist recruitment and outsourced people services partner focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering and Manufacturing industries, internationally. Our team of discipline experts provide high quality, innovative recruitment and people services solutions to organisations seeking to find, train and retain exceptional talent across all functions. We offer a personal and tailored service that ensures you secure the right people for your organisation for the long term.

### **Olivia Robinson, Specialist Pharmaceutical Consultant – Life Sciences**

My name is Olivia and I am a specialist pharmaceutical recruiter for the Life Sciences team at Jackson Hogg. I graduated last year, and I have a 2:1 degree in Biomedical Sciences. Although our company is based in the Northeast, I work with pharmaceutical companies nationwide and seek to find talented individuals to place in graduate, junior and senior roles across the sector. I have worked on a variety of roles, including but not limited to, QA, QC, Formulation Scientists, Technical Project Associates, Analytical Chemists, Synthetic chemists, Project Scientists and Bioanalysis. If you are unsure on what route you would like to take within the pharmaceutical sector, I would be happy to speak to you.

### **Eleanor Buckley, Specialist Pharmaceutical Consultant – Biotechnology and Medical Devices**

My name's Eleanor and I am a specialist consultant within the Biotechnology and Medical Device industries at Jackson Hogg. I am originally from the Northwest of England, and my life in Newcastle began when I came to study a BSc Biomedical Sciences (Honours) degree at Newcastle University. Once I graduated, I decided that a role within the laboratory was not as interactive as I desired, so I ventured into a career within scientific recruitment. My team and I work closely with companies across the UK, who are seeking scientists from graduate to senior levels within Research and Development, Molecular Biology, Immunology and many more. If you're like me and are interested in becoming a recruiter after graduating, get in touch! Equally, if you're unsure of the best direction for your career, I'm here to help!

## Ryecroft Glenton (business, consultancy and finance)

Ryecroft Glenton has been a successful independent advisory firm for over 100 years and has built on this heritage with a dynamic, fresh brand and matching modern culture. Our business is built around its core values and its people. The culture of the firm is hard working but friendly, with many of our people having been with the firm for 10 years or more. For those wishing to progress, the firm provides excellent training and career opportunities.

### **Kenny Johnstone, Manager - Accounts and Outsourced Services**

Kenny joined Ryecroft Glenton in 2011, completing his AAT and ACCA qualifications whilst working for the firm. He became a training supervisor in charge of trainees in 2018. Kenny works in RG's Accounts and Outsourced Services division and is a member of the firm's Agricultural and Landed Estates team, as well as specialising in Solicitors Accounts Rules (SAR) work.

### **Emily Williamson, Audit & Accounts Assistant:** [linkedin.com/in/emily-williamson-2a08961bb](https://www.linkedin.com/in/emily-williamson-2a08961bb)

Emily obtained a first class honours degree in Chemistry from Newcastle University before joining Ryecroft Glenton in September 2021. Since then, Emily has gained a wide range of work experience while studying towards the ACA qualification with the ICAEW. This experience includes preparing accounts for limited companies, partnerships and sole traders, VAT returns and in the next few months she will be taking part in audit work.

## Muckle LLP (legal services)

Muckle LLP is a leading commercial law firm in the North East of England. The firm has an excellent base of successful private and public companies, property investors and developers, financial institutions and public sector and educational organisations, which recognise that its innovative commercial skills are a major benefit in enhancing its service delivery to them.

### **Charlotte Patterson-Ryan, Senior Lawyer**

I work at Muckle LLP, a commercial law firm based in Newcastle with a wide-ranging client portfolio and a diverse sector offering. I am a senior lawyer in the Agriculture, Farms and Rural Property team. I provide rural focused property law advice to individuals, businesses, farmers and other private and institutional landowners on a wide range of matters relating to their farms, estates and rural property portfolios. I originally studied Genetics at Newcastle University before completing a PhD in Structural and Molecular Biology at St Andrews University. I then spent two years as a research associate in my PhD lab before relocating back to Newcastle to complete the law conversion course at Northumbria University and my training contract at a large international law firm called Womble Bond Dickinson (then, Dickinson Dees). The first six months of my training contract were with the Agriculture team and very much a 'wild-card' choice – as luck would have it we were perfectly matched and I've never looked back. After 12 years at WBD it was time for pastures new (pun intended) and I'm now part of a growing team with exciting plans for building up a fresh offering for clients operating in the agriculture and rural property sector.

### **Jake Thompson, Apprentice Solicitor**

I joined Muckle LLP as a solicitor apprentice straight from sixth form back in 2019 and have never looked back since. I had known the career I wanted long before applying for the role, more specifically after my first few lessons of studying law at A-level when I was 17. I found out shortly after that a new apprenticeship scheme for school-leavers had made its way to the Northeast. University wasn't something I was completely set on and I mainly saw it as a must-do in order to get the career I ultimately wanted, so the apprenticeship scheme was perfect for me, allowing me to work in a professional environment as early as possible whilst obtaining a degree at Northumbria University at the same time. My first two years were in the Real Estate team, and I now reside in the Agriculture, Estates and Rural Property team where I will sit for another two years. I am thoroughly enjoying learning new skills and tackling challenges along the way which are not only crafting me into a better lawyer, but a better person.

## National Audit Office (NAO) (business, consultancy and finance)

The National Audit Office (NAO) is the UK's independent public spending watchdog. We support Parliament in holding government to account and we help improve public services through our high-quality audits.

### **Alexander Kirkman, Audit Principal**

I joined the NAO in early 2017 after studying Biomedical Sciences at Newcastle. I worked primarily on the audit of the International Development budget and the Rural Payments Agency, and to my knowledge am the only person in the office's history to have camped on a Lake District fell as part of an audit! I have held other roles auditing the BBC, Seafish UK, DEFRA and the Environment Agency, and am on the office's Mental Health First Aider and Sport Relief committees. Since qualifying as a Chartered Accountant I've been working on a study examining the management of the reduction in the aid budget, co-authored published studies on the state of the country's SSSI land, and the reforestation plans in place for the coming decades. I have just joined the team auditing the British Council, and am looking forward to the opportunity to travel to its offices overseas to expand my experience of public sector finance in other nations.

## Newcastle University Sustainable Campus Team (agriculture, environment and sustainability)

Newcastle University's Sustainability Team is responsible for a variety of environmental sustainability issues including energy, waste management and travel planning. Our work promotes and demonstrates continuous improvement in environmental and energy performance, ensuring best practice, statutory compliance and value for money.

### **Katherine Smith, Sustainability Officer**

My role involves engaging with the University community on sustainability and climate action. This includes tasks like running colleague action programmes, website management, social media communications, event organisation and campaigns. Additionally, I help to implement and audit our environmental and energy management systems. These systems place procedural control on University activities to decrease their negative impacts.

Previously, I worked for the University of York as a College Welfare Tutor. I provided welfare support to students primarily through meetings, activities and email. During this role I also worked on the college's environmental sustainability by promoting climate action amongst the students and improving energy efficiency, waste management and biodiversity. I graduated from the University of York with an MEnv in Environmental Science.

### **Melissa Stephenson, Assistant Sustainability Officer**

My current role within the University's Sustainability Team is incredibly varied as I am the only assistant within the team, which means I get to work with all members of the team who have different areas of expertise. This means week-to-week I can work on various projects and operational activities relating to waste and recycling management, energy management, environmental auditing, social media and community engagement, and other areas.

I graduated from Northumbria University in 2018 with a BSc in Environmental Science, and initially pursued a nature conservation career. My first role after graduating university was as a Volunteer Trainee Ranger for the National Trust where I gained practical conservation skills, which led to a full-time paid role as an Assistant Ranger for Durham County Council. I left this role to pursue a career in sustainability starting at Newcastle University as it I believe there are more opportunities for personal and career development in sustainability, as well as being able to assist with enacting positive change on a practical level. That being said, being a Ranger is an incredible opportunity that I feel very privileged to have had!

## Reckitt Benckiser (healthcare)

Reckitt Benckiser is a British multinational consumer goods company, headquartered in Slough, England. It is a producer of health, hygiene and nutrition products.

### **Charlotte Stafford, R&D Assistant**

I am a Research Assistant at the multinational consumer good company Reckitt. I am working in new product developments with the brand Airwick, on a variety of product formats. I am a Newcastle University graduate, graduating in 2020, with a master's in biomedical sciences. In addition to my primary job functions I am driven by my work with our Hull site's Diversity and Inclusion team, where my focus is wellness.

## PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC) (business, consultancy and finance)

PwC is the largest professional services firm in the UK and we have been serving clients in the North East since 1912. We are proud of our local links with the wider community and support a number of public and private sector organisations.

### **Abbie Carr, Audit Associate**

I recently graduated with a Master's in Medicinal Chemistry in July 2020. During university, I focused my spare time on travelling, working part time in a restaurant, and taking part in a summer research project. I also won an award for the best MChem Chemistry final project in my fourth year. I started my role as Audit Associate in September 2020 at PwC Newcastle and currently studying part time with PwC towards an ACA chartered accountancy qualification. I also joined Newcastle's PwC social and student recruitment team.

### **Emily Tiernan, Audit Manager**

I graduated with a degree in Business, Accounting and Finance in June 2019. During the next 3 years, I qualified as an ACA Chartered Accountant in September 2020 and have been promoted early to Audit Manager in January 2022 at PwC Newcastle. Alongside my day-to-day role, I am involved in Student Recruitment, Experienced Hire Recruitment, Social and Wellbeing.

### **Beth Lawson, Audit Associate**

I graduated from Durham university with a degree in Accounting and Finance in summer 2021. During university, in my spare time I enjoyed yoga with the yoga society and social events such as formal dinners. I completed a placement year at PwC in Newcastle in my third year of university as Audit Associate starting September 2019. I then returned in September 2021, on the graduate scheme. I am currently studying part time with PwC towards an ACA chartered accountancy qualification. I also joined PwC's recruitment team alongside my role and take part in social events and PwC sports, such as Netball.

## Sir Bobby Robson Cancer Trials Research Centre (Freeman Hospital, NHS) (healthcare)

The Sir Bobby Robson Cancer Trials Research Centre carries out all phases of cancer trials, coordinates North of England Cancer Network studies and is an integral part of the Newcastle Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre. The trials unit is based in the new regional Northern Centre for Cancer Care at the Freeman Hospital. It is a designated unit for the administration of first in human experimental cancer drugs and the staff has many years expertise in the regulatory submission and running of clinical trials. A dedicated clinical trials pharmacy ensures safe handling and monitoring of experimental agents.

### **Helen Porteous, PhD, Oncology Trials Coordinator, The Sir Bobby Robson Cancer Trials Research Centre, Northern Centre for Cancer Care**

Following my Bachelor's degree in Biomedical Sciences from Newcastle University I went on to study a PhD researching Type 2 diabetes, also at Newcastle. I was looking at the effect of fat on pancreatic beta-cells and continued this work after finishing my PhD with two years of funding as a Research Associate. I currently work as an Oncology Trials Coordinator working in the Sir Bobby Robson Cancer Trials Research Centre at the Freeman Hospital. In my current role I am responsible for overseeing the smooth running of a large portfolio of early phase oncology trials. This involves a wide range of activities including: working alongside sponsors, medical and nursing staff to set up new studies, preparing the costings for new studies, ensuring all approvals are in place for both before a study begins and amendments when they are submitted. I regularly attend teleconferences often relating to safety of the drug under investigation where I give short updates on our patients taking part in the trial. I am also responsible for keeping the trial data up to date, and work alongside monitors from the clinical research organisations who are responsible for running the trials for the sponsor. Since starting in January 2017 I've found the role to be varying, challenging and worthwhile. I really enjoy all the different aspects of the role and always look forward to the continual learning the job provides.

## Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals – NHS Foundation Trust (healthcare)

We offer a wider range of specialist services than any other group of hospitals outside London. We're much more than a provider of local care. We're recognised nationally as a centre of healthcare excellence, with more than 30% of our patients coming to us from outside the region to take advantage of our expertise. Some patients come from as far afield as the USA and the Middle East.

### **Amy Clarkson, Genetic Counsellor**

I studied Human Sciences at University and began training as a Social Worker after this. I enjoyed my training but found that the role was not for me. I had wanted to become a Genetic Counsellor for a while and very luckily an opportunity came up to join the STP in Newcastle the following year! I completed the STP, which is a three-year programme, in September 2021 and am now a qualified Genetic Counsellor working in Newcastle. As a Genetic Counsellor, I see patients in clinic regularly, spend time preparing for clinics and carrying out post-clinic tasks, undertake on call duties, support education of other healthcare professionals and more.

### **Rachel Theobald, Trainee Genomic Counsellor**

I studied Biomedical Sciences at Newcastle University, before deciding to pursue a career in Genetic Counselling. Before applying to the STP I gained a research scholarship in genetics and completed an MSc in Prenatal Genetics and Fetal Medicine at University College London. From here I worked as a healthcare assistant and Clinical Trial Coordinator for a year. Whilst applying to the STP I also briefly worked in a clinical genetics service. I am currently in my third and final year of training – where I am based at the Centre for Life in Newcastle but attend university in Manchester for a few weeks each year for the MSc component of the course. I spent my first year in a range of areas within the Trust, and from second year have been based predominantly in the clinical genetics department. As a trainee Genomic Counsellor, I am seeing patients in clinic regularly, alongside the other work such as competencies and writing up my dissertation.

## Yordas Group (sustainability services/multiple)

Yordas Group is a leading international provider of scientific and consultancy services, regulatory advice and training to industry in sustainability, chemicals management and risk assessment. We help ensure companies are compliant and up-to-date with the regulations affecting their supply chains and product portfolios.

### **Kelly Hodkinson, HR Manager** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/kelly-hodkinson-b3a5b116/>

Kelly is an experienced HR Manager with over 15 years of experience in human resources. Having joined Yordas in July 2021 she looks after all the recruitment at Yordas as well as onboarding new starters and being a first point of contact for any HR enquiries. Previous background includes working as a HR Manager in a hotel for 15 years as well as experience in sales and marketing. Whilst working she completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Personnel Management and Development, an MBA and is currently working towards a Doctorate in Business Studies.

### **Jonathan Holding, Data Engineer**

I got a Master's degree in Theoretical Physics from Lancaster University, but then spent most of my career around data and data systems, either entering, processing, or reporting data. Previously to Yordas, all of this work was outside of STEM fields (despite working on a nuclear power station for a decade), and mostly in the areas of managerial and cost data, producing very complicated scorecards to let important people know how their multi-million pound projects were doing. I started working for Yordas three years ago. Although the role has probably been an excellent fit due to a lifetime of problem-solving and learning the dynamic of medium-sized businesses, I like to say that I got the job because of one line on my CVs that listed the programming languages I knew! The job at Yordas was initially a 'fresh start', solving data problems and making automations using macros, but as the company has grown I now see myself shepherding growth into areas of Data Analysis and Data Integration.

## Northumbrian Water (agriculture, environment and sustainability)

Northumbrian Water operates in a fast-changing world, with new technologies that are shaping how we relate to the world and to each other, rising customer expectations, a sharp focus on the world's finite resources, and a wide range of other external factors that we as a company must be ready to manage - from economic pressures to extreme weather events. We serve a very diverse and large community across an equally diverse geographical area, from remote uplands to the fast-growing margins of the capital city.

### **Karen Farr, Technical Advisor Wastewater Performance**

Karen graduated from her degree in Chemistry at Newcastle University in 1990 and worked in pollution prevention and environmental protection roles to protect water, land and air quality with the National Rivers Authority, the Environment Agency and Environmental Health at Wansbeck District Council and Northumberland County Council. Karen now works in the Wastewater Performance team at Northumbrian Water to improve the quality of wastewater effluent and assess how well the sewage treatment process deals with chemicals in the environment for the national Chemical Investigation Programme.

### **Amelia Lillie, Water Quality Scientist**

Amelia graduated from Newcastle University in 2019, after completing a degree in Medicinal Chemistry. During this degree, Amelia undertook a placement year at Northumbrian Water, within the Water Quality department. Following this, Amelia returned to Newcastle University in 2019 to complete a Master's degree in Environmental Engineering, completing in 2020. After graduation Amelia went on to work for a geo-environmental firm based in Durham, and re-joined Northumbrian Water as a Water Quality Scientist in October 2021. As part of the varied role Amelia oversees water quality of treatment works in the Northumberland area, and the areas of supply. Her key roles include monitoring water quality, problem solving and trouble-shooting, analysing data and sample results, optimisation of treatment works, aiding investigations into the surrounding areas of production including reservoirs, and working to maintain standards as set by our key regulators.