



# Technician Partnership Conference 2026

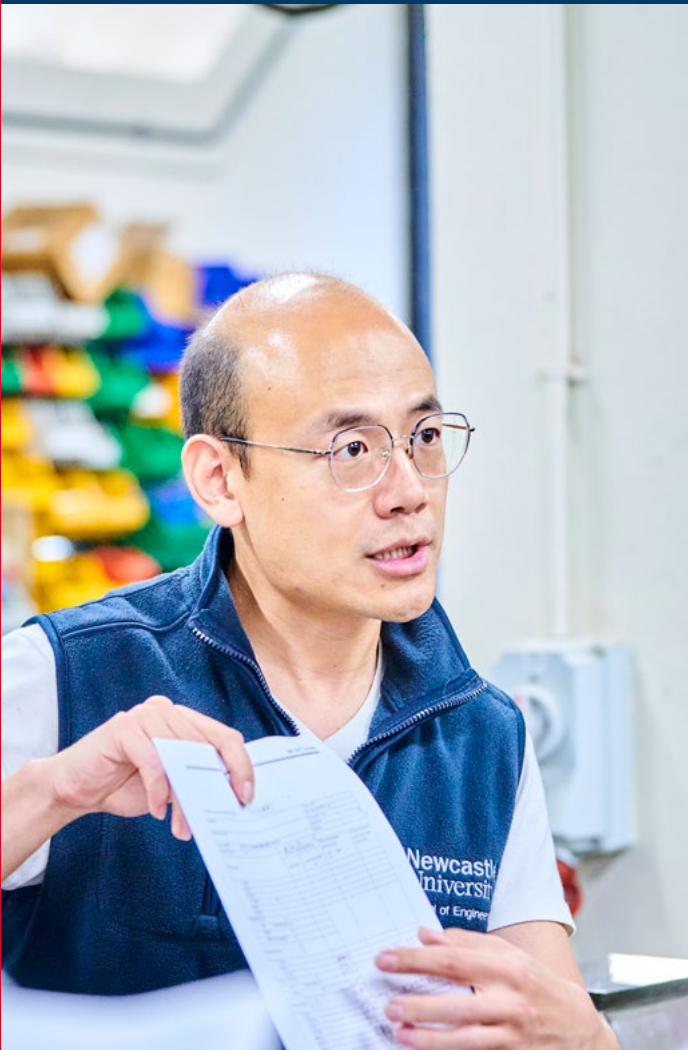
Technicians Stronger Together

# Event Programme

**1st July 2026:**

9am – 4:15pm

Networking until 6pm



**Venue:** Newcastle University,  
Frederick Douglass Centre, Helix Site

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# Welcome to the TPC2026

The first Technicians Partnership Conference (TPC) was held virtually in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. Since then, the conference has taken place in person every other year. TPC was originally established to give technicians in the North East the opportunity to attend a nationally focused conference. For some colleagues, it provided a rare chance to network with peers from across the UK and engage with a supplier exhibition in the same setting. Since those early events, attendance has continued to grow, and in 2024 the conference welcomed almost 450 delegates, bringing us close to full capacity.

The impact of the conference series has been significant, and three examples stand out in particular.

First, TPC has helped raise the profile of neurodiversity and increased understanding of how workplaces can become more inclusive for everyone. This led to Technicians at Newcastle purchasing access to the BBSRC-funded training developed by the John Innes Centre and making it available across the wider University. This, in turn, has led to collaboration and further follow-on funding from EPSRC. Clare Stevenson will speak about this later today.

Second, with support from the Royal Society of Chemistry, we created and equipped a quiet room for TPC2024. Feedback on this initiative attracted the attention of an academic colleague, who went on to ensure that this good practice was included in the University's conference guidance for all future Newcastle University Conferences.

Third, bringing technicians together through the Universities for North East England (UNEE) helped create a new regional network, UNEE-TEC.

Within this, a special interest group for imaging has already been established. Saimir Luli will provide an update on this work today. A sustainability network has also been developed, creating opportunities to share good practice and initiatives across North East universities.

The TPC2026 programme is varied and distinctive. The conference team hopes that you will enjoy the day and leave with ideas, insights or connections that you can apply in your own practice.

Please join us at 4pm for the creative presentation. We have employed creative artists to engage with delegates to co-create something which will be presented at the end of the conference. I have no idea what this will be, except it will be amazing. Social networking will continue until 6pm.

**The conference team:** Claire Hutton, Claire Kolenda, Karen Hendrix and Mel Leitch.

## Quiet space

A dedicated quiet room is available throughout the event. This offers attendees a calm space away from the pace of the conference, where they can recharge, maintain focus, and return to sessions feeling refreshed and ready to engage.





# Keynote Biographies



**Nicola Simcock**  
**Research Culture Manager**  
**Newcastle University**

**Talk title: Research Culture**

[Email](#), [LinkedIn](#)

As Research Culture Manager at Newcastle University Nicola oversees a variety of projects to deliver on Newcastle's first Research Culture Action Plan. The projects are diverse, including Behaviours, Development, Leadership, Open Research and Research Integrity. As part of her role, she also sits on Newcastle's Technician Commitment Steering and Operations Groups. Before transitioning to a professional services role Nicola spent 7 years as a postdoctoral researcher in both Newcastle and Texas A&M Universities. Her research used honey bees as a model organism to investigate the taste system and a bee paralysis virus.



**Alex Partridge**  
**Speaking/Founder**  
**ADHD Chatter Ltd**

**Talk title: Understanding ADHD through the lens of a late diagnosis**

[Email](#), [LinkedIn](#)

Founder of LadBible & UniLad, Entrepreneur, Speaker, Host of the ADHD Chatter Podcast, Author of Now It All Makes Sense – How An ADHD Diagnosis Brought Clarity To My Life and Why Does Everybody Hate Me?: Living and loving with Rejection Sensitivity Dysphoria.



# Speaker Biographies

**Jasmine Sara Irving**  
**Accessible Yoga Teacher**  
**Jasmine Sara Yoga**

[Email](#), [LinkedIn](#)

With about 20 years of self-practice, and 9 years as a yoga instructor, Jasmine has spent years developing an accessible and deeply well-informed approach to teaching Yoga. Her classes are thoughtfully planned and intuitively guided to remain inclusive for different bodies and brains so that each practice meets you where you're at.

With over 20 retreats led in five different countries, Jasmine brings a wealth of experience to holding space and designing workshops/ 1-1s/ group classes with care, connection, and inclusivity.

**Andrew Lambert**  
**Founder and Coach**  
**ADHDaptive Ltd**

[Email](#), [Website](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Blog](#)

Andrew Lambert is the Founder of ADHDaptive Ltd, and a workplace systems coach with lived experience of ADHD and autism. He previously worked at Newcastle University as a Faculty IT Manager and Head of IT Business Relationship Management, and before that as a School IT Technician and Enterprise Architect at Newcastle City Council.

Having spent years inside public sector systems, he understands the pressure of being accountable without always having control. Andrew now provides executive and neurodivergent coaching, alongside systems consultancy, helping professionals in higher education and public services reduce overload by redesigning how work is structured rather than simply coping.



# Speaker Biographies

## **Ed Bowerman** **Technical Training Manager** **Institute for Technical Skills and Strategy**

[Email](#), [LinkedIn](#)

Ed is a Technical Training Manager in the Institute for Technical Skills and Strategy, which seeks to raise the status of technical staff in higher education and research. Ed loves coaching and organising placements for technical colleagues and he has a passion for developing project management skills for technical staff. Many of his workshops have a 'learning by doing' theme, with hands-on activities to maximise engagement of technicians. Ed previously worked as a technician, engineer and technical manager in industry and enjoys applying his experience of problem solving, lean working, safety management and risk assessments to technicians from various disciplines.

## **Clare Stevenson** **Head of Science Coordination and Research Culture** **John Innes Centre**

[Email](#), [LinkedIn](#)

Dr. Clare Stevenson is the Head of Science Coordination and Research Culture at the John Innes Centre (JIC). She provides strategic leadership across the institute's research and cultural landscape, chairing the EDI committee and serving externally as associate lead for the Technician Commitment. Clare recently led a successful BBSRC-funded neurodiversity initiative and is now directing a collaboration with Newcastle University to develop STEM-specific online training focused on the Equality Act and microbehaviours. Her work focuses on cultivating inclusive workplaces through grassroots-led EDI interventions.

## **Stacey Wagstaff** **Research Integrity and Compliance Manager** **Newcastle University**

[Email](#), [LinkedIn](#)

Stacey Wagstaff is a Research Integrity and Compliance Manager at Newcastle University, specialising in research integrity, ethics, and responsible research practice. She focusses on developing tools, training, and resources that support all those involved in research to conduct high-quality, transparent, and ethical research across all disciplines. As well as ensuring research compliance she also plays a central role in promoting a positive and inclusive research culture.

## **Alex Laude** **Head of Biomedical Research Facilities** **Newcastle University**

[Email](#), [LinkedIn](#)

Dr Alex Laude is Head of Biomedical Research Facilities at Newcastle University, where he oversees the strategic and financial management of twelve core scientific facilities. His work focuses on strengthening research infrastructure, supporting technical staff, and ensuring sustainable investment in advanced equipment. Previously, he led the university's BioImaging Unit for over a decade, providing expertise in cutting-edge microscopy and research support. He has been recognised nationally, including a nomination for THE Outstanding Technician of the Year (2025) for his leadership and contributions to research infrastructure. Alex is an advocate for research technical professionals, their careers and their involvement in the grant writing process.



# Speaker Biographies

**John Paul Ashton-Kinlin**  
**Marketing Officer,**  
**Executive Member**  
**FIScT, MIHSCM**

[Email](#), [LinkedIn](#)

HEaTED is a leading organisation for Higher Education and Technician Educational Development, offering CPD, training, and networking opportunities for the technical workforce across all specialities.

As a HEaTED facilitator, an experienced business owner and senior consultant, JP brings a wealth of expertise across industry, higher education, and the non-profit sector.

He focuses on delivering professional development training to individuals and teams across the UK. As an IST Executive member, JP is actively involved in the IST's professional creative framework and serves as Editor and Creative Designer for IST's The Tech Magazine and The Journal.

**Aimee Parker**  
**Co-founder of ECTN**  
**Assistant Technician,**  
**Archaeology Department**

[Email](#), [LinkedIn](#)

**Aimee-Louise Wilkin**  
**Co-founder of ECTN**  
**Advanced Teaching and Research**  
**Technician, Geography Department**  
**Early Career Technicians Network,**  
**& Durham University**

[Email](#), [LinkedIn](#)

Aimee Parker and Aimee-Louise Wilkin are co-founders of the Early Career Technicians Network (ECTN) and work as technicians at Durham University. The ECTN was set up in 2025 and has a national membership of technical professionals working in education, industry and research across the UK and beyond. Aiming to build a supportive community for technicians in the first 10 years of their career that celebrates and centres early career voices, the network provides informative and engaging resources and guidance on LinkedIn and Instagram, ultimately striving to increase visibility and recognition of those who are the future of the technical workforce.

**Daniel Hinds**  
**Research Integrity**  
**Project Officer**  
**Newcastle University**

[Email](#), [Profile](#), [X](#)

Daniel Hinds is Newcastle University's Research Integrity Project Officer, and is part of the Research Policy, Intelligence and Ethics Team. Daniel has previously worked as an Executive Support Administrator in the School of Natural and Environmental Sciences and in the History, Classics and Archaeology School Office. He has a BA Honours degree in English Literature (First Class) and an MA in English Literature 1500-1900 (Distinction) from Newcastle University, for which he won the School Excellence Scholarship and the School Bursary Award. He is also a widely published and award-winning writer; his debut poetry collection was published in 2025.

**Billie Moffat-Knox**  
**Lecturer**  
**School of Psychology,**  
**Newcastle University**

[Email](#), [LinkedIn](#)

Billie is a Lecturer and Director of Student Experience for Psychology, and Chair of Rainbow (NU's LGBTQ+ Staff/PGR Network). Her pedagogy focuses on 1) understanding the functions and mechanisms of human cooperation and 2) training psychology students on fundamental skills including critical thinking, critical evaluation, scientific communication, and intercultural awareness. Her pedagogical research uses creative methods to enhance psychological literacy and scientific research skills in undergraduate students.



# Speaker Biographies

## **Sarah Tobin** **Sustainability Manager** **Scientific Laboratory Supplies**

[Email](#), [LinkedIn](#)

Sarah is the Sustainability Manager at Scientific Laboratory Supplies (SLS), where she collaborates with a wide range of stakeholders to support the company's sustainability commitments. She is passionate about driving positive change across the value chain and helping people deepen their understanding of sustainability topics. With experience in sustainability consulting and healthcare sustainability, she brings practical expertise in embedding responsible practices in everyday operations.

## **Lisa Valenti-Randell** **Regional Manager** **Starlab UK**

[Email](#)

Starlab is a leading provider of high-quality laboratory consumables and liquid-handling solutions for life science, clinical and industrial research. We supply innovative products such as pipette tips, pipettes, tubes, and plates designed for precision, reliability and ease of use. Committed to sustainability, Starlab offers a closed-loop tip recycling system that collects and repurposes used plastic tips, helping laboratories significantly reduce waste and environmental impact without compromising scientific performance.

## **Saimir Luli** **Facility Manager** **Newcastle University**

[Email](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Company](#)

Dr Saimir Luli is Preclinical In Vivo Imaging Facility Manager and IMA Theme Lead at Newcastle University. His work focuses on developing and applying non-invasive imaging methods to study disease processes, particularly liver fibrosis and cancer. He leads collaborative initiatives at institutional, regional, and national levels, including Special Interest Groups (SIGs), the Imaging North East (ImagiNE) network, and the UK Preclinical Imaging Network (UK-PIN). These networks create opportunities for shared skills, sustainable expertise, and career development, supporting a connected community that drives innovation and knowledge exchange across the UK.



# Programme Schedule

Schedule	Session Title	Speaker (s)	Abstract	Key Take Aways
9:00 – 9:45	<b>Registration, Coffee &amp; Trade stands</b>			
9:50 – 10:00	<b>Welcome</b>			
10:00 – 10:40	<b>Keynote 1:</b> Research Culture	Nicola Simcock	Technicians have always driven practical innovation, collaboration, and a "make it happen" approach that keeps our research and research-led education moving. This keynote explores what the wider research culture agenda can learn from the ambition, expertise, and everyday leadership shown by technicians across the North East and beyond. Using examples from research culture work across the sector you'll hear how technician led ideas and action are shaping real culture change. This session celebrates the impact technicians already have, and invites us to build a research environment where technical talent is visible, valued, and central.	An insight into how closely aligned the Research Culture Agenda and the Technicians Commitment are and how they can benefit from each other.
10:45 – 11:30	<b>Parallel 1</b>			
<b>Session A</b>	Special Interest Groups: Connecting Minds, Advancing Knowledge	Saimir Luli	This session explores the role of Special Interest Groups (SIGs) within the IMA as vibrant communities that bring members together around shared professional interests. It will highlight how SIGs create opportunities for connection, collaboration, and knowledge exchange across disciplines and career stages. Through examples and practical insights, the session will demonstrate how participation in SIGs can support professional development, foster a sense of belonging, and amplify collective impact. Attendees will gain an overview of current SIG activities and discover ways to get involved, contribute, and help shape the future of these communities.	The IMA community, enabling collaboration, shared learning, and the dissemination of expertise. The session will highlight how engaging with SIGs supports both individual development and collective advancement.
<b>Session B</b>	Practical Solutions for Sustainable Laboratories	Sarah Tobin	The session will outline the current landscape in laboratory sustainability and will offer practical advice for sustainability in the lab. Topics include LEAF, sustainable procurement, carbon footprint, product sustainability, and laboratory waste.	The overarching aim of the session is to deliver practical solutions to the key sustainability issues in laboratories.
<b>Session C</b>	Thinking about using AI to do your thinking for you? Think again	Billie Moffat-Knox	In this workshop we will draw on topics such as interdependence and intercultural awareness and use creative methods to consider the importance of critical thinking and how it applies (or doesn't apply) to generative AI.	Attendees will gain insight into critical thinking, human interdependence, and intercultural awareness. They will learn about the impact of generative AI on fundamental human attributes such as creativity and inference and consider ways that technicians can use generative AI ethically and responsibly.



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<b>Session D</b>	Research Integrity for Technicians: Training, Good Practice, and Fair Credit	Stacy Wagstaff	Technicians play a vital role in ensuring that research is reliable, ethical, and reproducible, yet the concept of "research integrity" is often framed around academic practices rather than the practical, technical expertise that underpins high-quality research. This session will demystify what is meant by research integrity and good research practice, highlighting the essential role technicians play. We will introduce recommended training, tools, and resources to support technicians in maintaining best practice across diverse research settings. The session will also explore authorship and attribution, using technician-specific examples to discuss how contributions should be recognised, common challenges, and how to navigate grey areas. Participants will leave with practical guidance they can apply immediately, as well as an understanding of how their everyday work strengthens the integrity of the University's research culture.	A better understanding of the concept of research integrity and the role technicians play. Signposting to useful tools and resources.
<b>Session E</b>	The EDI STEM Training Hub: Cultivating Inclusive Workspaces through Collaborative, STEM-Specific online training	Clare Stevenson	The presentation will introduce the Understanding, Valuing and Celebrating Neurodiversity project led by John Innes Centre but brought to Newcastle by technicians for the whole University. The presentation will transition from the impact of the initial neurodiversity e-learning to an update on a new, collaborative EDI project currently in development. This upcoming training suite, featuring voices from the Newcastle community, provides a bespoke look at the Equality Act and the profound impact of microbehaviours and microaggressions within STEM research and Higher Education environments.	<p><b>The Impact of Context-Specific Training:</b> Attendees will see how bespoke training, co-designed with STEM staff and students, is significantly more effective and engaging than commercial options because it reflects the unique power structures and working cultures of research environments.</p> <p><b>Addressing the "Hidden" Culture:</b> Participants will learn how the cumulative impact of microbehaviours and microaggressions that can discourage marginalised groups from entering the academic pipeline and how active bystanding strategies can be used.</p>
<b>Session F</b>	Resilience within Teams – Thinking Creatively about Doing More with Less	Ed Bowerman	This workshop will explore practical tools and techniques for time prioritisation. Learning lessons from industry we will find out about lean principles and how they can apply to our technical workplaces.	Learning how to bring order and efficiency to our workplaces by removing waste.
<b>Session G</b>	Chair Yoga and Breathwork for Wellbeing	Jasmine Sara Irving	An accessible chair yoga session supporting participants to move, breathe, and relax. This session offers practical tools that technicians can take away and implement in their working day to support focus, resilience, and overall wellbeing.	Learn how to use simple yoga practices to reduce stress, enhance calm, and be more present. Explore the benefits of chair yoga, and what it can do for you.
<b>Session H</b>	Trade Stands and Networking			



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Schedule	Session Title	Speaker (s)	Abstract	Key Take Aways
11:30 – 12:00	Break			
12:00 – 12:45	Parallel 2			
Session A	Designing Systems that don't Burn out your Technicians	Andrew Lambert	<p>Technicians are often the people who make things work while holding risk they didn't create and decisions they didn't make. They manage complexity, absorb last minute change, and quietly carry accountability when something slips. Over time, that builds pressure. Not because they aren't capable. Because the system around them is misaligned.</p> <p>This session looks at where that pressure actually sits in technical roles. We'll explore the gap between accountability and control, the invisible labour that rarely gets named, and why "resilience" is usually the wrong answer.</p> <p>It won't be abstract wellbeing theory. It will be practical and grounded in real working environments.</p> <p>Participants will map where pressure accumulates in their own context and identify small structural shifts that could make work more sustainable without lowering standards. The aim is simple. Clearer systems. Less silent overload. Better performance without burnout.</p>	Attendees will gain a clearer understanding of where pressure accumulates in technical roles, practical language to describe accountability without control and invisible labour, a simple way to map system strain in their own context, and concrete ideas for small structural shifts that reduce overload while protecting performance.
Session B	Thinking about using AI to do your thinking for you? Think again	Billie Moffat-Knox	In this workshop we will draw on topics such as interdependence and intercultural awareness and use creative methods to consider the importance of critical thinking and how it applies (or doesn't apply) to generative AI.	Attendees will gain insight into critical thinking, human interdependence, and intercultural awareness. They will learn about the impact of generative AI on fundamental human attributes such as creativity and inference and consider ways that technicians can use generative AI ethically and responsibly.
Session C	From Resistance to Resilience: Supporting Technicians through Change	JP Ashton-Kinlin	Change is a constant in technical environments, from new technologies to evolving processes and organisational priorities. This interactive workshop explores how technicians can move from resistance to resilience during periods of change. Participants will discuss common challenges faced in technical roles and explore practical strategies for adapting to new systems, supporting colleagues, and maintaining effective technical services during transition.	<p><b>Participants will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognise common challenges technicians face during organisational or technical change.</li> <li>• Explore practical strategies for adapting to new processes and technologies.</li> <li>• Share experiences and approaches for supporting colleagues during transition.</li> <li>• Identify ways technicians can contribute positively to successful change.</li> </ul>



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<b>Session D</b>	Succession Planning Tools to Avert a Crisis in our Teams	Ed Bowerman	Succession planning means building resilience and capability in a workforce to help with the ups and downs of life in any organisation. Nothing is more relevant to today's academic and research environment than focussing on continuity and career pathways for technical staff and being able to minimise single points of failure. This session will include case studies and tools that will relate to the technical workplace. This workshop will explore the principle of honest engagement between leaders and technical staff members in order to better understand retirement and resignation.	New succession planning management tools. The importance of having good annual review and check in conversations to discuss retirement and resignations. Insights into how good collegiality and citizenship can enable knowledge sharing.
<b>Session E</b>	A Survival Guide for Early Career Technicians	Aimee Parker & Aimee-Louise Wilkin	There are a lot of challenges to navigate and skills to learn as a technical professional in your early career which can often feel overwhelming, and until now there have been limited resources tailored specifically to this area of the technical community. In this workshop, we aim to provide you with an introduction/ update to the Early Career Technicians Network and the work we do to support early career voices in the wider technical space, offering practical tips, tricks and activities to help your development of essential career skills such as networking, CPD, time management and asking for useful feedback. The main goal of the workshop is to give participants the opportunity to share their ideas about the things that would make navigating the world of technical work easier for those in the beginning stages of their career. Through interactive discussions and small-group tasks, we'll work together to develop a wish-list and action plan that participants can implement to support their personal development, and which the ECTN can integrate into their future work to help inform positive change in the wider technical environment. All technical professionals are welcomed and encouraged to attend regardless of whether they are in their early career (first 10 years) or not – discussions will greatly benefit from a wide range of experience levels and perspectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Learn practical tips and achievable actions to support you in your development of essential career skills.</li><li>• Gain a greater understanding of the Early Career Technicians Network and how you can get involved with their work.</li><li>• Contribute to the construction of a wish-list and action plan of key needs to support your personal career development and the future work of the ECTN.</li><li>• Make new connections with other technical professionals, both in their early career and in more experienced roles.</li><li>• Develop a greater appreciation of early career technicians and their essential role within the maintenance and future development of the technical workforce.</li></ul>



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<b>Session F</b>	ORCID: An Introduction for Technicians	Daniel Hinds	Open Research and Contributor IDs (ORCID) can help with the visibility, discoverability, and portability of your work, and help ensure that it is correctly attributed to you. This presentation will provide an introduction to ORCID, including the benefits of ORCID for Technicians, how to register for an ORCID, and how to link your ORCID to research systems. Additionally, the session will feature an ORCID profile demo and provide top tips on how to make the most of your ORCID (for example, by linking Scopus and ORCID), and further resources.	<b>Knowledge of:</b> what an ORCID is, how to register for an ORCID, who should register for an ORCID, how to link your ORCID to research systems, the benefits of ORCID, and best practice for ORCID profile settings.
<b>Session G</b>	Chair Yoga and Breathwork for Wellbeing	Jasmine Sara Irving	An accessible chair yoga session supporting participants to move, breathe, and relax. This session offers practical tools that technicians can take away and implement in their working day to support focus, resilience, and overall wellbeing.	Learn how to use simple yoga practices to reduce stress, enhance calm, and be more present. Explore the benefits of chair yoga, and what it can do for you.
<b>Session H</b>	Trade Stands and Networking			
<b>12:45 – 14:15</b>	<b>Lunch</b>			
<b>14:15 – 15:05</b>	<b>Keynote 2:</b> Understanding ADHD through the lens of a late diagnosis	Alex Partridge	Founder of LadBible & UniLad, Entrepreneur, Speaker, Host of the ADHD Chatter Podcast, Author of Now It All Makes Sense – How An ADHD Diagnosis Brought Clarity To My Life and Why Does Everybody Hate Me?: Living and loving with Rejection Sensitivity Dysphoria.	How to support yourself or someone you know with ADHD.
<b>15:20 – 16:00</b>	<b>Parallel 3</b>			
<b>Session A</b>	Grant Writing and Funding opportunities for Technical staff	Alex Laude	This presentation explores how research technical professionals (RTPs) and technical staff can craft strong, strategically framed grant applications. It focuses on showcasing technical skills and leadership, evidencing innovation, and communicating the value that they can add to collaborative grants or their own. We will cover how to position your work within institutional priorities and funding criteria, improving the narrative and emphasising the impact of your work. We'll also highlight some possible funding opportunities.	Grant writing is not just for academics.



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<b>Session B</b>	From Resistance to Resilience: Supporting Technicians through Change	JP Ashton-Kinlin	Change is a constant in technical environments, from new technologies to evolving processes and organisational priorities. This interactive workshop explores how technicians can move from resistance to resilience during periods of change. Participants will discuss common challenges faced in technical roles and explore practical strategies for adapting to new systems, supporting colleagues, and maintaining effective technical services during transition.	<p><b>Participants will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognise common challenges technicians face during organisational or technical change.</li> <li>• Explore practical strategies or adapting to new processes and technologies.</li> <li>• Share experiences and approaches for supporting colleagues during transition.</li> <li>• Identify ways technicians can contribute positively to successful change.</li> </ul>
<b>Session C</b>	A Survival Guide for Early Career Technicians	Aimee Parker & Aimee-Louise Wilkin	<p>There are a lot of challenges to navigate and skills to learn as a technical professional in your early career which can often feel overwhelming, and until now there have been limited resources tailored specifically to this area of the technical community. In this workshop, we aim to provide you with an introduction/ update to the Early Career Technicians Network and the work we do to support early career voices in the wider technical space, offering practical tips, tricks and activities to help your development of essential career skills such as networking, CPD, time management and asking for useful feedback.</p> <p>The main goal of the workshop is to give participants the opportunity to share their ideas about the things that would making navigating the world of technical work easier for those in the beginning stages of their career. Through interactive discussions and small-group tasks, we'll work together to develop a wish-list and action plan that participants can implement to support their personal development, and which the ECTN can integrate into their future work to help inform positive change in the wider technical environment. All technical professionals are welcomed and encouraged to attend regardless of whether they are in their early career (first 10 years) or not – discussions will greatly benefit from a wide range of experience levels and perspectives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn practical tips and achievable actions to support you in your development of essential career skills.</li> <li>• Gain a greater understanding of the Early Career Technicians Network and how you can get involved with their work.</li> <li>• Contribute to the construction of a wish-list and action plan of key needs to support your personal career development and the future work of the ECTN.</li> <li>• Make new connections with other technical professionals, both in their early career and in more experienced roles.</li> <li>• Develop a greater appreciation of early career technicians and their essential role within the maintenance and future development of the technical workforce.</li> </ul>
<b>Session D</b>	Starlab TipOne and Closing the Loop	Lisa Valenti-Randell	Learn about how Starlab closed the loop and out sustainable practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TipOne</li> <li>• Recycling</li> <li>• Closed Loop</li> <li>• Sustainability.</li> </ul>



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<b>Session F</b>	Trade Stands and Networking			
<b>16:00 - 18:00</b>	<b>Creative finale with networking and drinks reception</b>	Mortal Fools Collective	Mortal Fools Collective is a mobile theatre company dedicated to curiosity-based approaches to classical texts, brave rehearsal spaces, and clear and accessible performances, testing the limits of what classical theatre can handle and adapting our approach as we go.	Stick around to find out!



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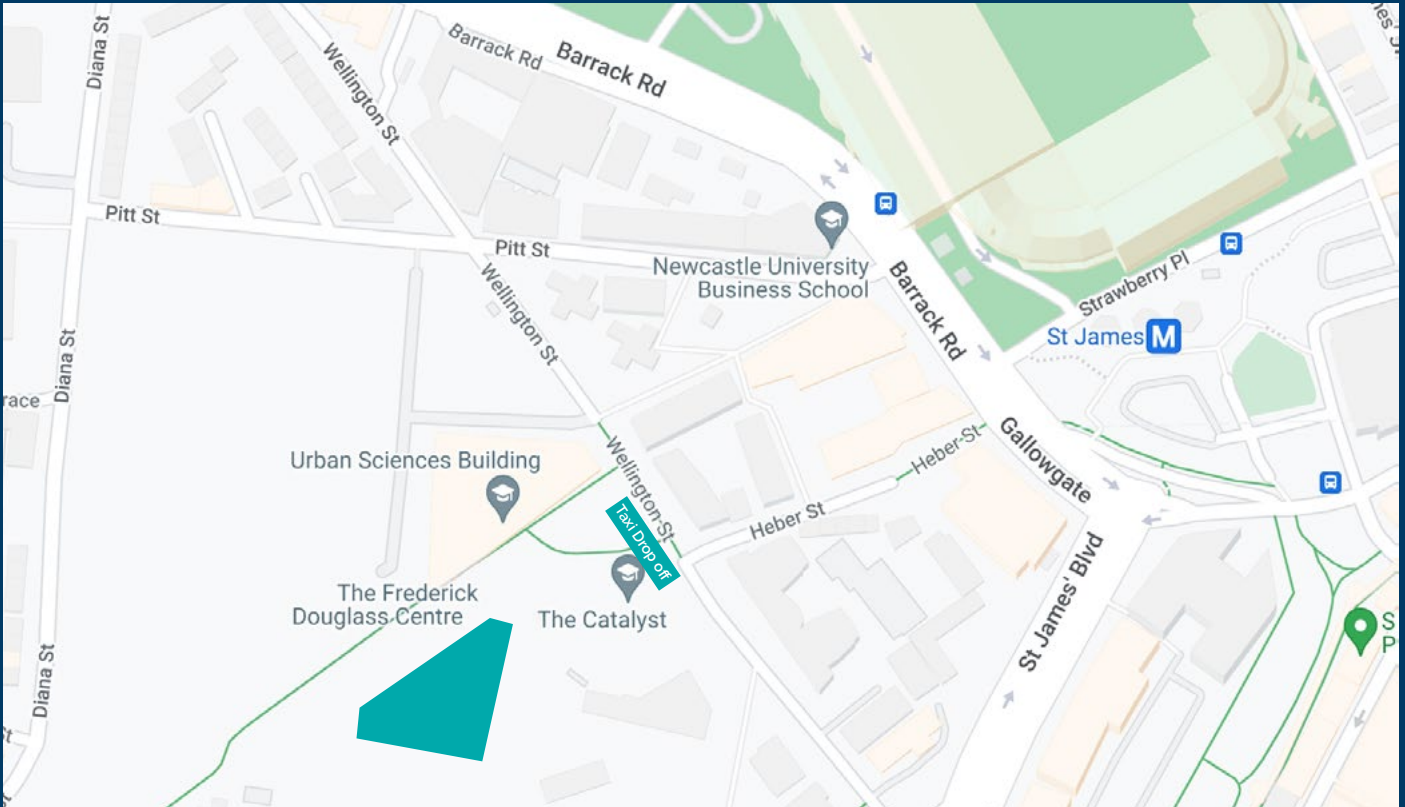
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## Map & Directions for Frederick Douglass Centre – Newcastle Helix, NE4 5TG



**The Frederick Douglass Centre is located on the new Newcastle Helix Site, close to St James Park.**

### What 3 words \\ \upper.frames.shaped

#### **By Train (15-minute walk from Central Station)**

From Central Station cross the road onto Westgate Road. Turn left and walk up Westgate Road and then right onto Bath Lane. Cross over St James' Boulevard and continue on Bath Lane for 200m. The building is on the left-hand side.

#### **By Metro (5-minute walk from St James Metro)**

From St James Metro Station cross over Gallowgate and walk up Heber Street (with the Sandman Hotel on your left). The building will be in front of you.

#### **By Bus (5-minute walk from Barrack Road)**

The nearest bus stop is Barrack Road-St James Park. Walk down Barrack Road in the direction of the City Centre. Turn right onto Heber Street and continue to Wellington Street. The building will be in front of you.

#### **By Taxi**

Our postcode is NE4 5TG. Taxis can drop off on Wellington Street, just outside The Frederick Douglass Centre.