



Football Collective 2024

How can football take on tomorrow?

Newcastle Upon Tyne Civic Centre
21st & 22nd November 2024

Hosted by colleagues from Northumbria University



Welcome



A very warm welcome to everyone attending the Football Collective's 2024 conference. The Collective aims to provide a platform for stimulating critical debate among academics and professionals interested and involved in building football for the future.

Following an insightful and thought-provoking conference at Leeds Beckett University last year, we are delighted and honoured to be hosting this year's event at Newcastle's Civic Centre and sharing our fabulous city with so many fascinating and diverse people. It promises to be a truly international affair with delegates travelling from countries such as Brazil, France, Ireland, Japan, Malta, The Netherlands and Spain, among others.

Like the world around it, football is subject to shifting and developing power imbalances. As these grow, critical thinking about the game has never been more necessary. The Football Collective can not only lead the way in holding people and organisations to account, such as clubs, governing bodies, media, or others, but also by pursuing new thinking which can help shape the future. Therefore, this year the Football Collective conference will seek to answer the question "How can football take on tomorrow?"



**Northumbria
University
NEWCASTLE**

To answer this question, we have split the conference into three strands: Football Business, the Sport of Football, and Football & Society. This, we hope, reflects the diverse impact football has on the world, focuses on key aspects of the game, and will foster as much debate as possible. There should be something for everybody!

We have run the conference on a tight budget, to ensure the price of tickets was kept as low as possible and was thus accessible to everyone who wanted to join the conversation. We'd like to thank the Football Supporters' Association (FSA) for a donation towards our running costs. Their kind donation has allowed us to add a few extras that we hope will help make the conference a little bit special.

We'd also like to thank the publishers Routledge for their kind donation of £250 worth of book vouchers which will be awarded as prizes for the best presentation in each strand and to the two best presentations by early career researchers.



Leeds Beckett University, 2023

Lastly, we'd like to thank you. The conference wouldn't work without you; you are the people that make it, so please accept our gratitude for attending. Whether you're a panellist, presenter, or delegate, you are very welcome. We hope you enjoy the event.

*The organising committee
Roger, Mark, Lisa, Nick, Mikhail & Aarti*



Dr. Roger Domeneghetti is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Arts, Design and Creative Industries. His research interests are in sports media and its wider impact on popular culture, the history of sport, and the new and social media. He has previously held senior roles at the *Sunday Sun* and *Shields Gazette*.

Dr. Lisa Ferguson is a lecturer in Accounting and Finance. Lisa is currently working on various projects including ownership structures in English football and lessons learned from club challenges. She also researches the importance of financial literacy.



Dr Mikhail Batuev is an Assistant Professor in Sport Management. As well as having worked in professional sport business, Mikhail's research interests include the evolution of sports, mega-sport events and contexts around them.

Meet the team



Dr Mark Middling is an Assistant Professor of Accounting. He researches accounting, accountability and governance in football and completed his doctorate titled 'Accounting for Supporters' in 2022. Mark has made many media appearances commenting on football finance and governance matters.

Dr Nick Gibbs is an Assistant Professor in Criminology. As well as being a keen amateur footballer, Nick's current work focuses on youth academies and social harm. He positions his work in the sub-discipline of critical sports criminology.



Dr Aarti Ratna is an Associate Professor in Criminology and Sociology. She writes about race and gender in women's football and has recently completed a project on hate crime and football fandom.

Our thanks to the FSA



Kevin Miles

CEO

The Football Supporters Association (FSA)

It is my pleasure to represent the FSA in being part of, and donating to, The Football Collective Conference 2024.

We are excited by the strong schedule of presentations and panels covering many important aspects of the game both domestically and internationally, over such important areas as the sporting, business, and social aspects of the beautiful game.

All these aspects are crucial to the past, present and future of football, and to allow every fan, no matter their background or status, to be part of the game they love.

We believe that academic research and collaboration is critical in the campaign for a better football ecosystem, allowing all stakeholders, and fans in particular, to take on tomorrow with confidence and pride. We wish to work with academics like you in exploring research in areas such as governance, inclusion, grassroots, fan experience, and much more. This conference provides us the opportunity to kick start this journey.

I'm looking forward to seeing you there, *Kevin*

The FSA - by fans, for fans

The Football Supporters' Association is by fans, for fans - and totally free to join.

We are the nationally recognised, democratic body for football supporters, and we meet regularly with the DCMS, Premier League, EFL, FA and many other football organisations such as PGMOL, the PFA and more.

Historically we've had many "real world" wins for fans, such as the establishment of a top-flight away price cap, 7,000 more FA Cup final tickets directly into the hands of supporters every year and the introduction of safe standing.

We've helped hundreds of fans gain access to legal expertise, offered support to many thousands who've had matchday problems and given "crisis clubs" a great deal of help.

Recent campaigns have centred around the introduction of an independent regulator, which looks set to be another win, and the problem of high ticket prices with our new #StopExploitingLoyalty campaign. Watch this space as that one grows.

We've also helped establish scores of new ethnically diverse and LGBT fans' groups, in big part thanks to our Fans for Diversity initiative which is run jointly with Kick It Out.

Supporters who wish to join the FSA commit to rejecting violence and promoting a positive culture of goodwill between fans while supporting diversity and opposing discrimination.

We're only as strong as our members, be they individual members or supporters' groups, and we'd love you to get involved by joining the FSA: thefsa.org.uk/join/

FSA.

Our thanks to Routledge



Critical Research in Football book series

Published by Routledge on behalf of The Football Collective

The Critical Research in Football book series aims to showcase the inter-and multi-disciplinary breadth of debate relating to 'football'. The series defines 'football' as broader than association football, with research on rugby, Gaelic, Australian rules and gridiron codes also welcome. Including monographs, edited collections and short books, the series features work by leading experts in the field while consciously also affording space to emerging voices in the area, and is designed to appeal to students, researchers and practitioners who are interested in the range of disciplines in which critical research in football connects.

For more information, to discuss ideas for new books, or to submit a book proposal, please contact either the lead series editor, Prof Pete Millward (P.Millward@ljam.ac.uk) or the publisher, Simon Whitmore (simon.whitmore@tandf.co.uk).

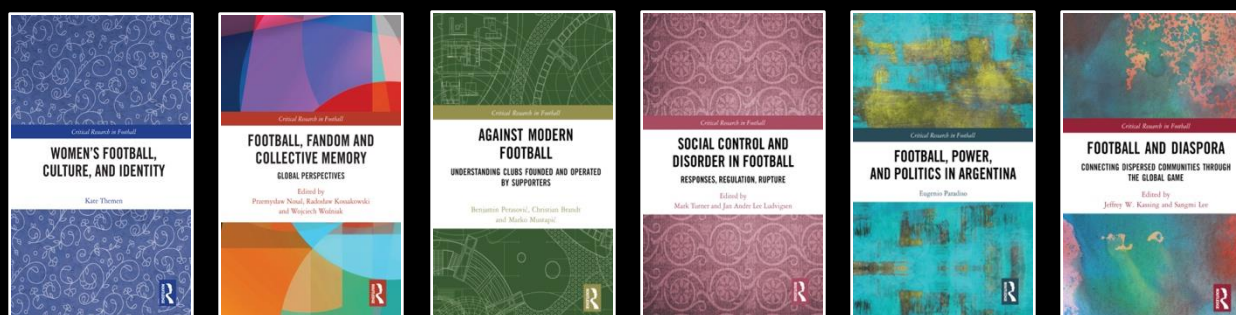
www.routledge.com/Critical-Research-in-Football/book-series/CFSFC

Recent books published in this series:

- **Women's Football, Culture, and Identity** - Kate Themen
- **Football, Fandom and Collective Memory** - Przemysław Nosal, Radosław Kossakowski, Wojciech Woźniak
- **Against Modern Football** - Benjamin Perasović, Christian Brandt, Marko Mustapić
- **Social Control and Disorder in Football** - Mark Turner, Jan Andre Lee Ludvigsen
- **Football, Power, and Politics in Argentina** - Eugenio Paradiso
- **Football and Diaspora** - Jeffrey W. Kassing, Sangmi Lee

Our friends at Routledge have kindly donated £250 of book tokens to be given as prizes, which we will award as follows:

- Best parallel presentation in the Football Business stream (£50)
- Best presentation in the Sport of Football stream (£50)
- Best presentation in the Football & Society stream (£50)
- Best Early Career Researcher/student presentation (2 x £50)



The three strands

The conference is organised into three colour-coded areas, critical to the future of the game

Football business What's it like to work for a club? What's going on behind the scenes and in the boardroom? What are the numbers and pound signs that drive the sport? And what are the plans that could change the fabric of the game forever?	The sport of football What does it take to play the game? To put a game on? To manage stadiums? To be part of women's football? What about youth football, and the grassroots game? A critical look at all these issues and more.	Football & society This theme explores the factors that connect football and members of society. For example, what impact does gambling have on the game? How does it affect men's mental health? And what role does fan culture play?
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Keynote panels

Will the Football Governance Bill improve football club governance?	Player care: Past, present and future	On the same team? Embedding diversity into the beautiful game
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Parallel Sessions

The political (Middle & Far East)	Women's football (1)	Gambling
HR & employees	Women's football (2)	Migration, tourism & environment
Finance & regulation (1)	Youth football	Fandom & football culture (1,2 & 3)
Leadership, coaching and recruitment	Playing the game	Community ownership and volunteers
Finance & regulation (2)	Grassroots football	Racism and Nationalism
		Men & masculinities

Please feel free to attend any session you like, in any strand.

We have done our best to accommodate all presenters in a session that is as closely linked to their field as possible, to accommodate presenters who can only attend for one day and those with specific requirements. With 72 slots and 80 speakers scheduled, this was not an easy task. We hope we have got it right and that presenters are happy with their slots, but our apologies if your presentation is not in your first-choice session.

Where we appreciate there may be multiple parallel session presentations of interest to you taking place at the same time, we ask that attendees keep movement between parallel sessions to a minimum where possible to aid the focus of presenters.

Thank you

To everyone who is presenting and attending the conference, it cannot happen without you !

Our keynote panels

The sport of football



Tansy Tomlinson



Abbey Carrington



Charlie Miall

Chair: Chris Platts



Keynote panel, Thursday 21st November, 9.30: Player care: Past, present and future

The number of players in professional football academies has grown exponentially over the past thirty years. This panel will debate the current challenges facing Player Care within professional football clubs and offer suggestions for a future with a more player-centred approach that can be fostered.

Football business



Kevin Miles (FSA)



Christina Philippou



Jane Purdon



Dan Plumley

Chair: Mark Middling



Keynote panel, Thursday 21st November, 2.40: Will the Football Governance Bill improve football club governance?

A discussion of the state of football governance, both in the men's and women's game. How will the Football Governance Bill and Independent review of Women's football impact the game? What are the arguments against it? Why are there two camps? Why is a bill, review and a regulator even needed? And will it work?

Football & Society



Zoe Hingston



Clarke Carlisle



Jon Holmes



Seema Patel

Chair: Roger Domeneghetti



Keynote panel, Friday 22nd November, 9.40: On the same team? Embedding diversity into the beautiful game

Football is a compelling site of cultural negotiation which brings into sharp relief specific forms of identity. This panel will explore the barriers and opportunities faced within the sport by people from traditionally under-represented communities and ask what needs to be done to make the game more diverse and inclusive.

Please note: All panels will take place in the Council Chamber and will follow the format of a 40-minutes chaired discussion followed by a 20-minute Q&A from the audience.



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Thursday 21st November

8.45 – 9.15	Registration & refreshments (lower floor)		
9.15 – 9.30	Conference Introduction (Council Chamber)		
9.30 – 10.30	Keynote Panel 1: Player care: Past, present and future Abby Carrington, Charlie Mail, Dr. Chris Platts, Tansy Tomlinson		
10.30 – 11.00	Refreshments		
11.00 – 12.20	Collingwood room	Dobson room	Council Chamber
Parallel block 1	Football business The political (Middle & Far) East	The sport of football Women's football (1)	Football & Society Gambling
	<i>Saudi United: Football, visuality, and sportswashing</i> (Tom Walsh)	<i>Womanization of football, an issue of space</i> (Louise Lecomte)	<i>Gambling TV advertising during major tournaments: prevalence, content, and patterns</i> (Steve Sharman)
	<i>Navigating Nationalism Narratives: The Guangdong-Hong Kong Cup's evolution from sports cooperation to political dissent</i> (Zesheng Yang)	<i>Men vs Girls: Framing and visibility of the non-consensual kiss during the 2023 FIFA women's world cup final in the UK media</i> (Beth Dann)	<i>The prevalence of gambling marketing during the opening weekend of the English Premier League</i> (Jamie Wheaton)
	<i>Exploring Attitudes of Fans Towards Qatar as a World Cup Host Nation: The influence of sport fandom and human rights endorsement</i> (Leo Watkins)	<i>Breaking New Ground: The formation of women's football governing bodies in 1970s Ireland</i> (Helena Byrne)	<i>For the Love of the Game: Grassroots football and gambling</i> (Maria Moxey)
	<i>The State Owner: A netnographic study of Newcastle United supporters</i> (Chris Toronyi)	<i>'Forgive me for saying, but rugby is not a game for women': An exploration of contemporary attitudes towards women's rugby union</i> (Michael Skeay)	
12.20 – 1.00	Lunch		
1.00 – 2.20	Football business HR & employees	Football & Society Migration, tourism & environment	Football & Society Fandom & football culture (1)
Parallel block 2	<i>An examination of bonuses and incentive pay among footballers and backroom staff in male professional football clubs in the United Kingdom</i> (Jacob Griffiths)	<i>Dalian Shide FC's 'Lion Cub' Player Naturalisation Program: Motivations, challenges and unintended outcomes for club and players</i> (Tobias Ross)	<i>The Rules of the Game: Informal schooling through immersion in working-class football culture</i> (Gary Poynton)
	<i>Unravelling internships in professional football and future directions. A case study of Dundee FC</i> (Calum Strang)	<i>'The Football Dads': entanglements of economy and care in the football migration industry</i> (Emily Lindberg)	<i>German Ultras as Ultra Germans? Understanding football fandom through Germany's raison d'être</i> (Arne Koch, Brendan Althoff)
	<i>Collaborating Within, Competing Outside: how employees' extra-organizational affiliations affect intra-organizational collaboration</i> (Maren Mickeler)	<i>Simmel and Durkheim as 'Football Tourism Pundits': Commentaries about the online behaviour of tourists at the Anfield Stadium</i> (Julie Ann Thomas)	<i>The depiction of League of Ireland facilities and fans within Irish media</i> (Brian Martin)
	<i>The moral economy and the ethics of the real living wage in UK football clubs</i> (Peter Prowse)	<i>'What Does it Even Look Like?' Conceptualising environmental sustainability and green initiatives for the League of Ireland and other small, non-fully professional football clubs and leagues</i> (Barry OSullivan)	<i>A Call to Arms: Football fandom as a form of citizenship</i> (Patricia Mahon-Daly)
2.20 – 2.40	Refreshments		
2.40 – 3.40	Keynote Panel 2 – Will the Football Governance Bill improve football club governance? Kevin Miles, Dr. Christina Philippou, Dr. Dan Plumley, Jane Purdon		
3.50 – 5.10	Football business Finance & regulation (1)	The sport of football Women's football (2)	Football & Society Community ownership and volunteers
Parallel block 3	<i>What can English football learn from the far east? A comparative analysis of financial distress among EPL, EFL and J-League clubs between 2011-2020</i> (Sarthak Mondal, Dan Plumley)	<i>Menopause and Walking Football: A qualitative exploration of the experiences of female players in Scotland</i> (Laura Wallace)	<i>Super Duper St. Anne's F.F.C. and other clubs</i> (Jonathan Kelham)
	<i>An historical analysis of the government's approach to the regulation of football finances: from self-regulation to the independent regulator for football</i> (Sean Hamil, Christina Philippou, Geoff Walters)	<i>Levelling the Playing Field or Playing In a Paradox? An exploration into the experiences of women's grassroots football in London</i> (Leonie Strak)	<i>From Despair to Victory: An ethnography of 'Unionistas de Salamanca', the social movement that turned into a football club</i> (Pau Lopez-Gaitan)
	<i>A review of competitive balance in European football leagues before and after Financial Fair Play regulations</i> (Adam Davis)	<i>Investigating Spectators' Perceptions, Motivations, and Ethical Values: A case study of Urawa Red's Ladies in the WE League</i> (Ken Sumida)	<i>'Conditions at community football clubs that result in a sense of belonging amongst volunteers</i> (Matthew Hindmarch, Anees Ikramullah)
	<i>The impact of the Football Association's Code of Governance on County Football Associations</i> (Haojin Zhou)	<i>Communicating legitimacy in women's football online media</i> (Oz Ozinani)	<i>'Rovers 'till I Die': The faces and voices of volunteers at Shamrock Rovers FC</i> (Glenn Doyle)
5.10 – 7.00	Free time / Personal networking		
7.00 +	Social event @ The City Tavern		



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Friday 22nd November

9.00 – 9.15	Registration & refreshments (lower floor)		
9.15 – 9.20	Welcome back (Council Chamber)		
9.20 – 9.30	Kevin Miles: Football Supporters Association (FSA)		
9.30 – 9.40	Jo Welford: The Sports Grounds Safety Authority: Being Research-Informed		
9.40 – 10.40	Keynote Panel 3 – On the same team? Embedding diversity into the beautiful game Clarke Carlisle, Zoe Hingston, John Holmes, Dr Seema Patel		
10.40 – 11.00	Refreshments		
11.00 – 12.20 Parallel block 4	Collingwood room	Armstrong/Stephenson room	Council Chamber
	Football business Leadership, coaching and recruitment	The sport of football Youth football	Football & Society Racism and Nationalism
	<i>Theoretical Failure, Practical Success: Reimagining the football agent's role when their client shuns celebrity status</i> (Paul Cook)	<i>Relegating football dreams: A 'social harms' exploration of English youth academy football</i> (Nick Gibbs)	<i>Is football prepared for an Azeem Rafiq versus Yorkshire County Cricket Club case?</i> (Mark Mierzwinski)
	<i>The Evolving Role of the Football Development Practitioner: Football coach to social worker</i> (Andrew Bailey)	<i>Bench Warmers and Broken Promises: The Exploitation of Young Footballers</i> (Adele Muscat)	<i>Racialised constructions of local identities in Merseyside soccer fanzines, 1979–1992</i> (Cameron Huggett)
	<i>Football As a Force for Good: Measuring sporting directors' capacity for conscious leadership</i> (Matthew Roberts)	<i>maturityMonitor: A new tool to level the playing field and reduce the maturity-selection bias in adolescent football</i> (Jamie Salter)	<i>From Discrimination to Diversity: The shifting promotional framing of the English Premier League's anti-racism campaign "No Room for Racism" on Instagram and X by the League and its clubs during the 22/23 and 23/24 seasons</i> (Jonathan Cable, Dan Kilvington)
	<i>A review of head coach recruitment processes at multi-club ownership groups</i> (Joel Rookwood, James Gow, Tiernan Harris)	<i>A strategic review of youth football in Northern Ireland</i> (Kyle Ferguson)	<i>Nationalism and Anti-LGBTQ+: Exploring the role of nationalism in soccer fans' protests against LGBTQ+ equal rights</i> (Mateusz Grodecki)
12.20 – 1.00	Lunch		
1.00 – 2.20 Parallel block 5	Football business Finance & regulation (2)	The sport of football Playing the game	Football & Society Fandom & football culture (2)
	<i>The Challenge on the European Sport Model: a crisis or an opportunity for sports law and governance?</i> (Robert Blaszczyk)	<i>The Split: Analysing contest design in the Scottish Premier League</i> (Johan Rewilak)	<i>How do we ensure sports grounds meet the needs of all – now and in the future?</i> (Jo Welford)
	<i>Multi-club Ownerships: The brighter the light the darker the shadow?</i> (Idlan Zakaria)	<i>Before the Goalposts: Contextualising spatial design approaches to the player mindset</i> (Natalie Straker, Seton Wakenshaw)	<i>From Clameur to Choralité: Towards a musical approach to football fans in France</i> (Phil Bonjour)
	<i>The Boiling Frog of European Club Football: Building Legitimacy for the UEFA European Super League</i> (Dominik Antonowicz, Mateusz Grodecki)	<i>Has VAR Changed the Game? A try of an epistemological approach to a current question</i> (Wolfgang Theis, online)	<i>Liverpool vs Celtic: Comparing supporter-created media publications</i> (Sean Huddleston)
	<i>Beyond the Pitch: Strategic Action and the Role of Players' Unions in Czech Football Governance</i> (Adam Urban)	<i>Possession Football: The tactical brand behind FC Barcelona's success and the Spanish national football team's golden generation</i> (Krishna Satish), online	
2.20 – 2.40	Refreshments		
2.40 – 4.00 Parallel block 6	Football & Society Men & masculinities	The sport of football Grassroots football	Football & Society Fandom & football culture (3)
	<i>Moving the Goalposts: Evolving visions of masculinity in French football films</i> (Jonathan Irvine)	<i>The political limits of care in solidarity grassroots football</i> (Federico Genovesi)	<i>'Through the Hoops': Fandom and Shamrock Rovers FC, Dublin</i> (Anna Maria Mullally)
	<i>Alternative Sporting Masculinity and the Politics of "Othered" Bodies: Debunking the Northern sporting hero in Barry Hines' A Kestrel for a Knave/Ken Loach's Kes</i> (Callum Ratcliffe)	<i>From promotion to development: Implementing a life skills program at a grassroots football club</i> (Armin Marquez, Lewis Cann)	<i>What Time's Kick Off? The commemoration of Busby Babe Duncan Edwards in graphic form</i> (Gayle Rogers)
	<i>Transgender footballers in Japan</i> (Aya Sada masu)	<i>A Tale of Two Pitches...</i> (Andy Carmichael)	<i>'Who Can Represent Shanghai?': A Study of the derby rivalry between Shenhua fans and Port fans</i> (Congcong Qi)
	<i>How is men's mental health affected within male professional football?</i> (Gary Soutar)		<i>A Cultural Audit Strategy: Football Clubs and the identity problem</i> (Paul Widdop)
4.10 - 4.30	Closing remarks & farewells		

The venue



The Football Collective Conference 2024 is hosted at the iconic Newcastle Civic Centre.

Built in 1967, this period venue is symbolic of its time and offers a large and airy space for us to enjoy the conference.



It is located at the top end of Newcastle city centre, just past the Haymarket area of the city.

Newcastle Civic Centre, Barras Bridge, NE1 8QH

Getting there

On the train?

The Civic Centre is a 13-minute walk from Newcastle Central railway station (see map on page 11).

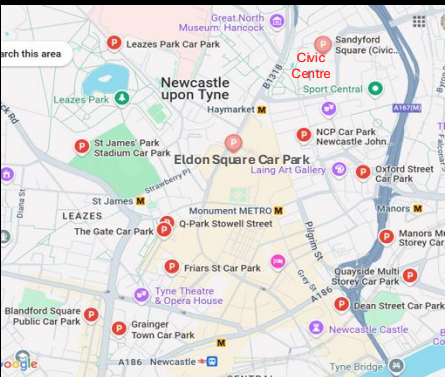
Alternatively, it is just across the road from Haymarket Metro Station. You can jump on a Metro from Central Station at a cost of around £4.



Haymarket Metro Station, at the top of Northumberland Street

Flying in?

From Newcastle International Airport, just jump on the Metro to Haymarket (for the Civic Centre), Monument (for Motel One), or Central Station (for the south end of the city centre).

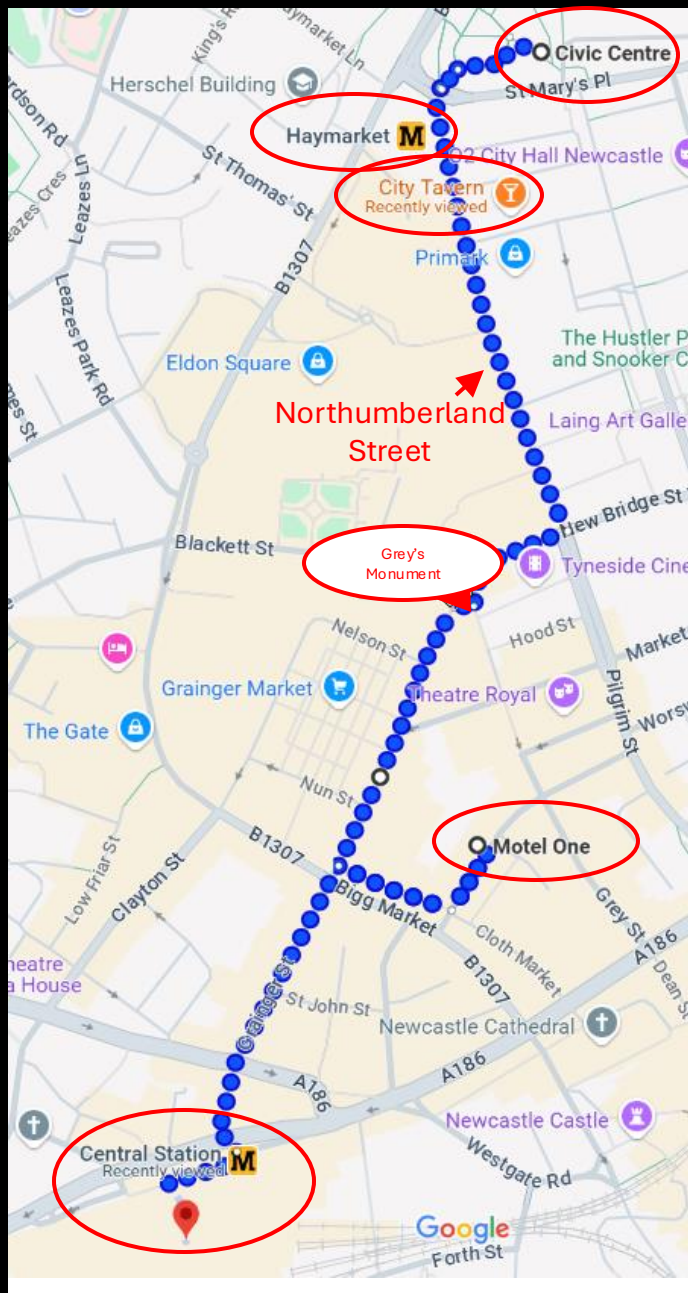


Driving?

The Civic Centre is easily accessible by all major motorway links. There is parking available at the Sandyford Square (Civic Centre) Car Park NE1 8HW. This costs £2.10 per hour between 8am and 7pm.

Alternatively, there are many other car parks dotted around the city centre, most of which are no more than a 20-minute walk to the Civic Centre.

Key location map



Newcastle upon Tyne is a compact city, and easy to get around by foot.

The Civic Centre is a 13-minute walk from Newcastle Central Train Station, with Motel One and the City Tavern en-route. As you walk around you may see some Newcastle landmarks:



Newcastle Central Station



Grey's Monument, built to commemorate Earl Grey, Prime Minister 1830 to 1834, recognised for passing the Great Reform Act of 1832. (Yes, the tea is named after him!)



Northumberland Street, the main pedestrianised shopping street in Newcastle



Fenwick's Christmas window:
The local department store famously creates a heart-warming and eye-catching Christmas display every year.

This year's theme is 'The Twelve Days of Christmas', reimagined by celebrated illustrator Chris Riddell.

Other key locations



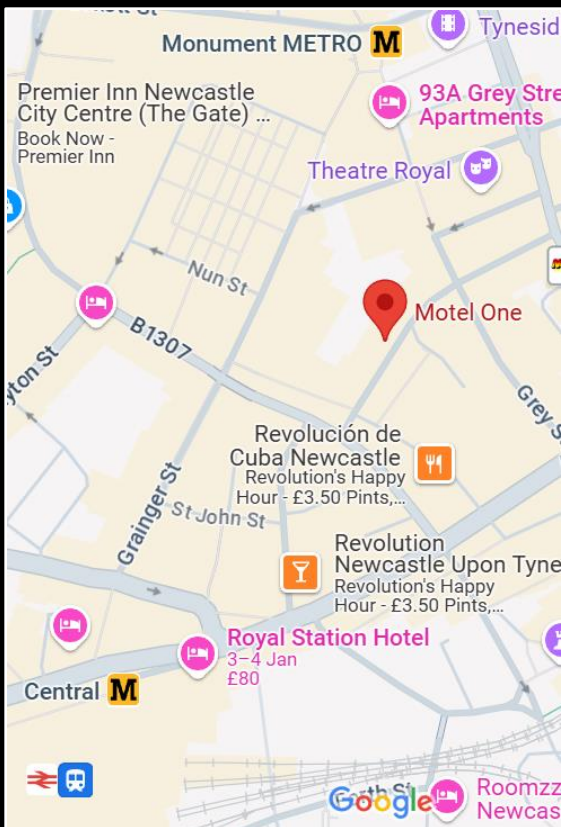
**Conference
social
Thursday
7 pm - late**

Food provided
All attendees
welcome

10 Northumberland Rd, NE1 8JF



A stone's throw from the Civic Centre is the quaint and charming City Tavern.
A relaxed and friendly atmosphere, popular with Northumbria Uni staff and Geordies alike.
Please come and join us for an informal and enjoyable evening.



Our 'HQ' hotel is Motel One, in the heart of Newcastle's city centre.

A favourable rate of £69 per room per night can be found on the conference booking site.

(15-25 High Bridge Street, NE1 1EW)

From 7pm on Wednesday night, we'll be having an informal get together at the Old George Inn, just over the road from Motel One.

(Old George Yard, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1EZ)



Aarti, Lisa, Mark and Roger from the organising committee will be staying here on Wed, Thur and Fri nights and will be on hand to help if required.



Other Newcastle landmarks



St. James' Park

The 'Cathedral on the Hill' has been home to Newcastle United since 1892. With a capacity of 52,000 it not only hosts Premier League, FA Cup and European Games, but is also regularly used for international matches, including during London 2012 Olympics, and the Men's Rugby League World Cup.

St. James' Park is located on the west end of the city, about a 10-minute walk from the Civic Centre. It is surrounded by bars and restaurants, most notably Newcastle's China town.

Quayside and bridges

No visit to Newcastle is complete without a walk down the Quayside. The river Tyne is famous for a history of ship building and idolised in many songs – come on you know those words sung by Gazza... 'Fog on the Tyne ...'

Nowadays the Quayside is bustling with culture, especially in the evening when the many bars and restaurants come to life. On the Gateshead side of the river, you will also see The Glasshouse International Centre for Music (formerly The Sage Gateshead) and the famous Baltic Flour Mill, now a modern art gallery.

Inspiring our logo, the Tyne bridge was opened in 1928 by King George V. It inspired the Sydney harbour bridge, and is now a symbol of the city around the world



Sutherland Building



Students' union



CIS Building

Northumbria University City Campus

Northumbria University city campus is located right next door to Civic Centre. It is a collection of old and new buildings dating back as far as 1895.

It hosts a modern six-floor library with lots of collaborative space, it has over 15 education buildings and a modern sports centre, Sports Central.



CCE1 – Business and Law



Library



Sports Central (left)

The organising committee work right across campus, with four different schools represented.

The next phase of the university's development is a £50m space skills, research and development centre due to open in 2026.



The Angel of the North

Those driving to the conference from the south will pass the famous Angel of the North. The iconic statue is located in Gateshead and has welcome visitors to the area since 1998.

Designed by Antony Gormley and standing 75 metres tall, the famous landmark can often be seen wearing a Newcastle United shirt – usually with the No. 9 of Alan Shearer!





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