

Alumni
Association



Northumbria
University
NEWCASTLE

NEWS BULLETIN

NEWS



The Times and The Sunday Times name Northumbria 'Modern University of the Year'

Northumbria University has once again been recognised as one of the top universities in the UK after being awarded the title of Modern University of the Year 2025 by The Times and The Sunday Times. It marks an impressive and sustained run of national recognition in recent years. In 2022 Northumbria was crowned Times Higher Education's University of the Year, the most prestigious accolade in the UK higher education sector, in recognition of its transformation over more than a decade into a research-intensive university with social mobility at its heart.

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Inspiring alumni win big during a summer of sport

The eyes of the world turned to Paris this summer as athletes from more than 180 countries gathered to compete in the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Among the thousands of elite athletes who qualified to represent their countries were a number of Northumbria alumni, competing in boxing, archery, swimming and triathlon events.

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NESST vision achieves regional business recognition for Pro Vice-Chancellor

Professor John Woodward, Pro Vice-Chancellor (International), has been named Business Person of the Year for Northumberland and Tyneside at the North East Business Awards for his work to develop the new North East Space Skills and Technology Centre. John has been a key figure in the development of NESST, a £50 million centre which will be a new national space asset that brings together industry and academia to collaborate on internationally significant space research and technological developments. It will be a "game-changer" for the UK space economy.

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Procter & Gamble praises innovative students helping to drive the business forward

Pharmaceutical giant, Procter & Gamble, has praised students from Northumbria University for their innovative impact in helping to take the business forward, during a 13-month placement. Students shared their experiences at an end-of-placement celebratory event and outlined their projects and how insights into the world of work had increased their confidence. The partnership with Procter & Gamble supports the University's 2030 strategy for experiential learning and empowering students to get first-hand experience of industry.

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Major funding awards announced for studies into lead poisoning and sonic innovation

Studies to improve the monitoring and testing for lead poisoning in children and communicating data through sound have been awarded more than £1.1 million through a new funding scheme. Northumbria is the only university in the north of England to have had two projects selected in a new UKRI pilot scheme designed to stimulate new interdisciplinary research across nine different research councils. Academics will collaborate with colleagues across the country to unlock new research approaches and methods that would not emerge from established disciplinary thinking.

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Working in partnership to fund food banks

Northumbria graduate Robin Ferris Hon DCL, Founder of Bankuet, the UK's first zero waste food donation platform, has joined forces with Northumbria University Students' Union to fundraise for UK food banks. Joining forces with UK band *The Last Dinner Party*, the team launched the *Ribbons for Provisions Campaign* with the Newcastle City Hall concert generating the highest funds to date in the appeal.

[Find out more](#)



Northumbria expands international appeal

Northumbria University is opening up new overseas study opportunities for students by renewing and expanding its partnership with the prestigious Fulbright Commission. Recognising academic excellence and fostering educational exchanges between the UK and North America, Fulbright is one of the most sought after global scholarship programmes. Its focus on attracting students from traditionally less represented backgrounds is also closely aligned with Northumbria's commitment to advancing social mobility.

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BENEFITS



International Short Programmes with funding available to work or volunteer abroad

As a graduate you still have the opportunity to have an international experience supported by Northumbria. There are a range of International Short Programmes on offer, where you can work or volunteer for 4-8 weeks abroad. We're delighted to be able to offer this opportunity to graduates within one year of leaving university. Hear from Sam who volunteered in Sri Lanka over summer and learn about his experience of taking part as a recent graduate.

[Find out more](#)



Access free CPD & support future generations of Northumbria University students

Santander Open Academy is a digital learning platform providing access to 1,000 courses and scholarships. You can earn credentials and certificates to enhance your qualifications and achieve your goals. Enjoy the flexibility of learning at your own pace, wherever you are, and all for free. You will also be supporting a great cause as with every registration Santander will donate £1.20 to Northumbria's [Higher Education Without Barriers Fund](#).

[Find out more and sign up](#)



Building a fitter university

Our Sport Central state-of-the-art facility at the heart of our City Campus in Newcastle upon Tyne, offers a wide variety of sports facilities. Over 90% of students who engaged with Northumbria Sport during 2023-24 told us that it had a positive impact on their mental and physical health.

As a graduate you can join Sport Central at a reduced '[Associate Membership](#)' rate to access the gym and other facilities.

[Find out more](#)

EVENTS



Northumbria Graduate Jobs and Placements Fair 2024

Northumbria Graduate Jobs and Placements Fair 2024 will take place on Tuesday, 22 October, 11am - 3pm, at Sport Central, Newcastle Campus. Open to recent graduates, the event features over 100 employers offering graduate roles and internships. Connect with recruiters from a wide range of sectors, with two-thirds eager to hire graduates from any degree discipline. No booking is required, just show up on the day to see what is on offer!

[Find out more](#)



2024 - 2025 Public Lecture Series

Northumbria University's public lectures and events allow you to explore the cutting-edge research of the University's leading lights, alongside high profile guest speakers.

Hear from the North East's finest musicians in our Concerts and Recitals Series, and enjoy art and creative talents by visiting our galleries and exhibitions. These events are free of charge. #ExpandYourMind

[Find out more and book your place](#)



Northumbria University Carol Service

You and your family are invited to Northumbria University's Carol Service on Monday, 16 December 2024. The service will take place at 6.30pm in Newcastle Cathedral, St Nicholas Square, and will be followed by light festive refreshments.

Northumbria University's Carol Service is an annual event and will include performances from the University and Cathedral Choirs.

[Book your place](#)

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NEWCASTLE

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[†]Department for Education's Graduate Labour Market Statistics 2023. [†]Complete University Guide 2025.
^{**} Terms and Conditions apply.

MAKE IT HAPPEN | APPLY TODAY



 **GET INVOLVED**

Northumbria University Alumni Association encourages our graduates to get involved in the work of the University as one of our Alumni Ambassadors. From providing an alumni profile to providing a lecture, talk or workshop, there are lots of ways to volunteer.

 **DONATE**

There are a range of opportunities to support the University and our students. With your support we can continue to inspire students to take on the challenges of tomorrow without financial barriers. Join our growing numbers of alumni supporters today!

 **OBITUARIES**

We commemorate and celebrate the lives of alumni and friends of the University who are no longer with us. If you would like to submit an obituary for an alumnus or former member of staff for inclusion, please email alumni@northumbria.ac.uk.



northumbria.ac.uk/alumni



Stay connected to your Alumni Association [here](#). If you have any comments or queries, please email us at alumni@northumbria.ac.uk.