



Agenda, Speakers, and Volunteers

Manchester Boot Camp, 6th - 10th November 2023

Virtual	Mon, 6/11	Tue, 7/11	Wed, 8/11	Thu, 9/11
17:00 - 17:30	Introduction to Flight Crowd & Future Flight - Mariya Tarabanovska	Future Flight in Policing - Keith Bennett	Future of Aerial Motorsport - Stephen Sidlo	Careers Panel Discussion - Karun Harrar , Vaishnavi Pawar , Juan Antonio , Auli Gomez
17:30 - 18:00	Introduction to Boot Camp & Activity Brief - Mariya Tarabanovska	Fireside chat with a Pilot - Patrick Kershaw	Public Speaking Tips & Tricks - Mariya Tarabanovska	Team Project Work
18:00 - 19:00	Team Project Work	Team Project Work	Team Project Work	Team Project Work

Fri, 10/11 (In-Person)	Cohort A	Group B
9:45 - 10:15	Arrival	
10:15 - 10:30	Welcome from Flight Crowd - Mariya Tarabanovska	
10:30 - 10:45	Keynote Speech - Sophie Harker	
10:45 - 11:15	Assessment Centre Style Challenge - Ben Rochelle	
11:15 - 12:45	Mini Careers fair - Luke Bateson , Dan Holford , Richard Negus / Speed Networking / CV drop-in - Nurina Sharmin	Team Presentations
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch	
13:30 - 15:00	Team Presentations	Mini Careers fair - Luke Bateson , Dan Holford , Richard Negus / Speed Networking / CV drop-in - Nurina Sharmin
15:00 - 15:30	Winners & General Feedback	
15:30 - 16:00	Goodbyes & Collect Goodie Bags	

Boot Camp Speakers

Mariya Tarabanovska

Founder of [Flight Crowd](#), the Boot Camp Lead & Future Flight Advisor

An award-winning Air Mobility and Future Flight advisor with a traditional Aerospace Engineering education, a passion for STEAM volunteering and outreach, as well as a background in Art and Design. Mariya founded Flight Crowd to empower individuals to shape the Future of Flight and enable people to interact with the Air Mobility ecosystem. She believes that 21st-century Aerospace professionals should aim to shape an accessible, sustainable and inclusive future of mobility and transportation; and is very enthusiastic about the benefits that Future Flight solutions will bring to the world.



Keith Bennett

Police Sergeant Drone/UAV Lead & Aviation Ambassador at [West Midlands Police](#)

Sergeant Keith Bennett is a serving Police Officer with 29 years' experience in front line policing. He is the drone and counter-drone capability lead for West Midlands Police in the UK and as the Flight Safety Manager he oversees development, guidance and support for 50 Emergency Service Pilots. Keith has worked collaboratively with the National Police Chiefs' Council to develop UAV solutions and training, and more recently has worked alongside the Home Office. Keith has developed the West Midlands Police Drone youth engagement programme and is keen to share his passion for aviation and drones with a wide audience.





Patrick Kershaw

Red 9 at [RAF Red Arrows](#) (2024 season)

Patrick joined the Royal Air Force (RAF) in 2006 after completing a degree in Business Administration at Leicester De Montfort University, where he was a member of the East Midlands University Air Squadron.

After Initial Officer Training, he was selected to fly fast jets and was posted to the Tornado GR4 at RAF Marham where he took part in operations over North Africa and the Middle East. In the past decade, Patrick served as a Qualified Flying Instructor on the Hawk T1, and has been a

part of the Typhoon Operational Conversion Unit and XI(F) Squadron, where he conducted NATO Air Policing duties.

The 2024 display season will be Patrick's third year on the RAF Red Arrows team.

Sophie Harker

Assistant Chief Engineer - Electric Products
at [BAE Systems Air](#)

In her role at BAE Systems, Sophie is responsible for the technical development of the company's future electric and hybrid air vehicles, leading a team of multidisciplinary engineers across three different air vehicle types. Previously, Sophie has worked on future flight control system technologies for Team Tempest and as an aerodynamicist, she ran analyses on future concept aircraft, including spaceplanes and hypersonic aircraft.



Sophie is one of the youngest engineers to ever achieve Chartered Engineer status with the Royal Aeronautical Society at just 25 years old. A multi-award-winning STEM Ambassador and public engineering communicator, she is also the Chair of Epistemic, a STEM outreach charity.

In pursuit of her astronaut dreams, Sophie is training to be a pilot and is an Analog Astronaut, completing her first mission for Lunares Research Station in 2023, testing equipment, procedures and psychological load for future Lunar and Martian spaceflights.

Stephen Sidlo

Global Media & Marketing Director at [Airspeeder](#)

Stephen is an experienced and dynamic leader with 15+ years of experience in media and marketing. In his role, he oversees the creation of media and marketing for human and remote eVTOL racing at Airspeeder, sports media rights, AR / VR media production, audience analytics, and the sale of sports media rights. He is responsible for leading a talented team to deliver consistent results and is involved in creating innovative projects across the aerial motorsport including 5G interconnected aviation filming, live AR graphics for air racing, and storytelling for the booming eVTOL sector.



With a proven ability to drive media value for multiple rights-holder properties, including in the past Formula E, Goodwood, Gran Turismo, and World Rugby, he is constantly seeking new technology to stay ahead.

Karun Harrar

Strategy Manager at the [Aerospace Technology Institute \(ATI\)](#)

Karun is the Strategy Manager at the ATI and works across both the Innovation and ATI Strategic Programme teams.

He supports start-ups and SMEs in the UK aerospace sector through the ATI Funding Programmes and leads ATI's Advanced Air Mobility engagement ensuring alignment across the sector with investors, experts, academics, and market expertise. Karun also leads the ATI Framework Agreement, a fully digital process designed to enable applicants to engage with the ATI, access funding and protect their IP throughout the programme.



Vaishnavi Pawar

Graduate Aerospace Structures Engineer
at [BAE Systems](#)

Vaishnavi, originally from India, came to the UK in 2018 to pursue Aerospace Engineering with Space Technology degree from the University of Hertfordshire. She won a gold University and Ambitious Student awards and was awarded Bronze Honour for the International Youth Maths Challenge.

She is a Graduate Engineer at BAE Systems, having previously done an industrial placement year at the company. Vaishnavi has always been interested in space and astronomy and is currently exploring how to use a telescope to find planets.



Juan Antonio Auli Gomez

Graduate Fuel Cell Systems Engineer at
[ZeroAvia](#)

Juan graduated from the University of Manchester as an Aerospace engineer in 2020. During the pandemic, he spent a year teaching the basics of flight in a school in Colombia with the mission of encouraging them to learn STEM subjects. Later, he attended Imperial College London for an MSc in Advanced Aeronautics. He joined ZeroAvia in January 2023 and is very proud to be part of the company's incredible mission! Juan has a great interest in promoting STEM to the younger generations and encouraging people to tackle today's biggest problems with science.





Richard Negus

Creative Director/Head of STEM Outreach
for The Cosmos Corner

Richard is a Creative Director/Head of STEM Outreach for The Cosmos Corner Ltd - Interactive STEM Education; an Astrophysics Graduate and a member of Liverpool Astronomy Society. Embarking on a quest to transform STEM education, he channelled his astrophysics insights from the University of Liverpool into The Cosmos Corner, a space where Universe Sandbox simulations and LEGO interactivity turn complex science into captivating experiences. Richard's journey from student to STEM Educator reflects his goal of equipping the next generation with a modern, technology-integrated STEM education, inspiring young people to explore, create,



and dream within the vast playground of The Universe. On Friday, Richard will bring an interactive display to our mini-Careers fair to take the attendees on a journey from the basics of plane mechanics to the complexities of space travel, demonstrating the interconnected nature of STEM disciplines.



Robin Brownsell

Director at [Flight Crowd](#)

Robin has over 45 years of sales and marketing experience, working with asset leasing, energy trading, construction and financial services companies, as well as assisting in the expansion of the UK banking sector in his work with challenger banks. He is recognised as a global thought leader in future mobility and clean-tech solutions and brings his latest interest and experience in smart mobility, built environment, and transport infrastructure to inform the delivery of impactful public dialogue as part of Flight Crowd's outreach programmes. As a Director of Flight Crowd, he supports our Founder Mariya in strengthening existing collaborations and building new partnerships with organisations in the UK and abroad.

Luke Bateson

Geodesy and Remote Sensing team and
Drone pilot at [BGS](#)



Luke is a part of the Geodesy and Remote Sensing team at the British Geological Survey (BGS) and has over 25 years of experience in processing and interpretation of a range of Earth observation data for a range of different geological applications. As a trained Geologist, Luke has undertaken geological mapping both in the UK and overseas (Botswana, Chile, Greece) and has led the remote sensing work packages of large international geological mapping projects in the UAE, Mauritania, Madagascar, Ghana, Botswana, Bolivia.

Luke uses drones for geoscience applications and manages the BGS capability in this area. As a qualified drone pilot, he uses different platforms to apply various data to different applications, for example, the acquisition of LiDAR and photographic data to understand coastal erosion processes in the UK.

Nurina Sharmin

Industry Research Lead at [Flight Crowd](#)

Nurina is an Aircraft Design and Aerospace Engineer, with a research background in Sustainable Aviation (SAFs, AAFs and Future Flight infrastructure) and computational modelling and simulations. Nurina is involved in the literary content creation for Flight Crowd's Inform stream, which includes the UAM Glossary and FC Explains articles, as well as supporting our outreach initiatives. She also works within academia and the education management sectors. Nurina has a true passion for education and outreach and champions EDI in STEM through various involvements in charitable and education sectors.



Ben Rochelle

Aerospace Engineer at [BAE Systems](#) and
STEM Outreach Officer at [Flight Crowd](#)

Ben is a Graduate Aerospace Engineer at BAE Systems, with a degree in Mathematics gained from the University of Birmingham. He is keen to inspire the next generations of pioneers and innovators in science, engineering, and mathematics and is volunteering with Flight Crowd in his spare time as a STEM Outreach Officer. Ben loves history and military aviation and wrote his dissertation on the Effectiveness of Military Codebreaking in the 20th century. He has an impressive LEGO collection and enjoys exploring the endless possibilities of the range of models which can be created using the building blocks. If you see any of the Flight Crowd LEGO activities - Ben was probably the one who created them!



Dan Holford

Future Combat Air Specialist at [Inzpire](#) and
Climate Change and Sustainability Advisor
at [RAF](#)

Dan joined Inzpire in 2021 as a technical specialist and advisor in future Combat Air systems. He is also a Volunteer Ex-Regular Reservist with 616 Squadron, Royal Auxiliary Air Force. Here he is an advisor working in the RAF Climate Change and Sustainability directorate focusing on supporting strategic decision makers in next-generation procurement decisions to support the RAF ambition to be Net-Zero by 2040.

Dan originally joined the RAF as a Tornado Navigator conducting operational tours throughout the Middle East and training exercises worldwide. As an electronics and reconnaissance specialist, he went on to instruct young aviators before completing an exchange tour with the Luftwaffe, where he learnt to speak German. After regular service, in 2016 Dan worked for Jaguar Land Rover (Electric vehicles) and Leonardo (Team Tempest) before joining Inzpire.

Volunteers and STE(A)M Ambassadors



Mariya Tarabanovska

Founder, [Flight Crowd](#)

Ask me about... being a female Aerospace Engineer, Future Flight, Career Mentoring, and Advice



Robin Brownsell

Director, [Flight Crowd](#)

Ask me about... anything related to Air Mobility, Smart Transportation or Infrastructure



Ben Rochelle

Aerospace Engineer ([BAE Systems](#)) and STEM Outreach Officer ([Flight Crowd](#))

Ask me about... anything to do with Military Aviation and Engineering, as well as the History behind the military



Nurina Sharmin

Aircraft Design and Aerospace Engineer & Industry Research Lead, [Flight Crowd](#)

Ask me about... anything to do with Aerospace Engineering Degrees/ Apprenticeships, Career Pathways in Aviation, Space, and Aerospace; how to choose the best programme for you



Tonubari (Tonu) Wiwa

BEng Aerospace Engineer

Ask me about... how it feels to be a woman in aviation and what you can do in university to be more involved in the aviation industry



Rama Murali Gk (Murali)

Engineering Manager, [Airbus](#)

Ask me about... Space Systems, Satellites, Space Missions, Electronics and Communications, and Careers



Nataniela (Nat) Guterres

Student, BEng Aerospace Engineering, [University of West England](#)

Ask me about... eVTOLs, Hydrogen-Electric Aircraft, internships, university degrees, STEM



Dan Holford

Future Combat Air Specialist ([Inzpire](#)) and Climate Change and Sustainability Advisor ([RAF](#))

Ask me about... Defence Aviation Net Zero and Sustainability



Shivangi Joshi

Student, Aerospace Engineering, Astronautics and Space Technology, [Kingston University](#)

Ask me about... routes into STEM / Aerospace and life in university



Keith Bennett

Police Sergeant Drone/UAV Lead & Aviation Ambassador at [West Midlands Police](#)

Ask me about... Drones / Emergency Services



Steven (Steve) Cooper

Senior Systems Engineer, [BAE Systems](#)

Ask me about... Flight Test Engineering



Ivana Ostojic

Graduate Data Analyst, [NATS](#)

Ask me about... the opportunities at NATS, the UK's leading provider of Air Traffic Control services



Richard Negus

Creative Director / Head of STEM Outreach, The Cosmos Corner

Ask me about... Astronomy, Astrophysics, Cosmology, LEGO Learning, Engineering in Space, and the History of Space Travel - Sputnik 1 to Artemis



Helen Khilkova

CEO, DonStream

Ask me about... Design Thinking, Creative Thinking



Oladapo Folarin

Senior Research Associate, [Syngenta](#)

Ask me about... the use of drones for Agriculture



Ling Ling Lim (Ling)

Research Fellow, [Manchester Metropolitan University](#)

Ask me about... career pathways into Aviation



William Caton

Engineer, [Element Digital Engineering](#)

Ask me about... FPV drones, Computer-Aided Design, Computer Simulation and Mechanical Engineering



Shemaine Vij

Student, Computer Systems Engineering, [University of Manchester](#)

Ask me about... Hardware Systems, Chip Design, Tech risk consulting and Artificial Intelligence



Ryan Billings

Stress Repair Engineer, [Airbus](#)

Ask me about... Engineering Degree Apprenticeships



Cyrus Mathew Javillo

Graduate Systems Engineer, [Thales UK](#)

Ask me about... 3D Printing, Microelectronics (Arduino and Raspberry Pi), and General Aerospace / Systems Engineering



Rakhshanda Huda

Graduate Mechanical Engineer, [AtkinsRéalis](#)

Ask me about... Computer-Aided Design, Mechatronics, Aerodynamics & Fluid Mechanics, or Engineering Simulations!



Junaid Moolimani

Rotary Operations Controller, [Flexjet](#)

Ask me about... Business / Civil Aviation, Rotary Operations, Rotary Commercial Operations, Integration of eVTOLs in our current Aviation ecosystem and the upcoming eVTOLs in the industry



Ross Houlbrook

Air Mobility Technical Specialist, [Flight Crowd](#)

Ask me about... the fundamentals of Aircraft flight, such as how different types of engines work, along with Aerodynamics and Avionics

You can read more details about the 'Propel into Future Flight' Boot Camp here:
<https://www.flight-crowd.com/bootcamp>

If you wish to get involved and support Flight Crowd's 'Propel into Future Flight' Boot Camp, or any other outreach initiative, or have any questions, please email:
bootcamp@flight-crowd.com