



Manchester 2025



Event Programme



Saturday, 15th November 2025



09:00-16:30



**University Place: Theatre B, University
of Manchester, Oxford Road, M13 9PL**

**Connecting young engineers with
their local engineering community**

Sust-CHAIN-Ability: NEW theme
highlighting inspirational leaders; emphasising
the role of engineering in innovation and
tackling sustainability and social challenges

Institution of
**MECHANICAL
ENGINEERS**



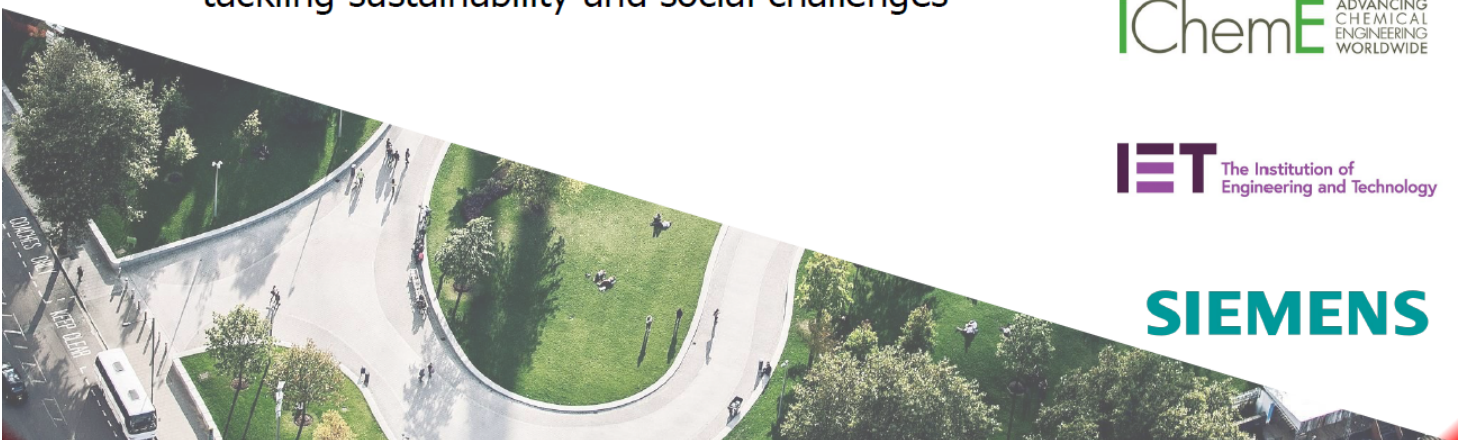
The Institution of
StructuralEngineers



IChemE ADVANCING
CHEMICAL
ENGINEERING
WORLDWIDE

IET The Institution of
Engineering and Technology

SIEMENS



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WELCOME

Welcome to CHAIN Manchester 2025!

Since the first event took place in Manchester nearly 10 years ago, CHAIN events have taken place all over the world, connecting young engineers from a huge variety of disciplines and backgrounds. This year, the theme for Manchester is **sustainability**, the challenge of our generation, and a challenge in which engineers play a key role! We can only get there by working together, and that's why CHAIN exists: to bring young engineers together to get inspired and learn how each discipline is rising to the challenge.



We hope that you come away from this event with a new idea, a new connection, or even both!

Nick Valentine came up with the idea for CHAIN in 2015 and delivered the first event in 2016.

He's now an engineer working for the UK Civil Service in South West England, and is currently the Chair of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers' Young Members Board.

I believe education is the first step to action — it changes mindsets and behaviours. That's my favourite takeaway from COP26, a climate conference that truly reshaped my perspective and inspired me to focus on sustainability in my personal life and career. We've designed this conference to be that same spark of inspiration — a chance to explore, connect, and discover your own path to making a difference. As young engineers, your voice matters. Advocate for change, collaborate, and remember — while none of us can do it alone, together, we have the power to engineer a sustainable future.



Rosie Mulligan, Sustainability Engineer at CRP

Chair CHAIN Manchester 2025 & IMechE Greater Manchester Young Member Panel

ITINERARY

The running order, including the speaker and panel sessions, is outlined below. Refreshments will be served during registration and breaks, and a packed lunch will be provided. These breaks will be your opportunity to visit the Institution Stalls and network with peers. Questions for the speakers will be submitted digitally and held for the speaker panel sessions.

Start	Finish	Order	Speaker Name	Affiliation
9:00	9:30	Registration		
9:30	9:35	Welcome & Housekeeping	Rosie Mulligan	IMeche
9:35	9:45	About CHAIN	Nick Valentine	CHAIN Founder
9:50	10:15	Speaker 1	Kit Wolverson	ICE
10:20	10:45	Speaker 2	Mark Gardiner	NI
10:45	11:05	Break		
11:10	11:35	Speaker 3	Zeina Al-Nabulsi	IStructE
11:35	12:00	Speaker 4	Ian Hancock	IMechE
12:00	12:35	Panel Discussion	Morning Speakers	
12:35	13:20	Lunch		
13:20	13:25	Welcome & Panel Q&A reminder		
13:25	13:50	Speaker 5	Lara Hill, Ben Hilton	IChemE
13:55	14:20	Speaker 6	Lionel James	CIBSE
14:20	14:40	Break		
14:45	15:10	Speaker 7	Amy Bloom	CIWM
15:10	15:45	Panel Discussion	Afternoon Speakers	
15:45	15:55	Closing Remarks & Thanks	Rosie Mulligan	IMeche

HOUSEKEEPING

VENUE

The event will be held in The University of Manchester, University Place.



ENTRANCE

Ground Floor:

- Registration
- Cloakroom
- Institution stalls
- Catering and seating area.
- Toilets

First Floor:

- Lecture Theatre B
- Toilets

PLEASE:

Do not take food up to the first floor/lecture theatre

No outside food or drink is allowed. It is recommended to bring a refillable water bottle.

Toilets - please ask volunteers for directions.

WIFI

Visitors to key locations on campus can register for free Wi-Fi access with the University's guest Wi-Fi network - **UoM_Guest**

It's easy to use - just connect to the UoM_Guest network on your laptop or mobile device, open your web browser and follow the onscreen instructions.

You can register with your own Facebook, WhatsApp or LinkedIn account, or you can register via a text (SMS) message sent to your phone.

Note: Staff and students at the University should use the eduroam network instead, as this all

SPEAKERS

KIT WOLVERSON CEng MICE - Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE)

Talk title: **The third sustainability pillar: Building for Communities – The Nyabihunyira Trailbridge**



Kit is a Senior Design Manager at Mott MacDonald (an international engineering consultancy) based in Manchester. She is a chartered civil engineer with the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) and also currently chairs the ICE North West Region.

After graduating from the University of Leeds with a degree in Civil and Structural Engineering, Kit has spent the past 8 years working primarily on rail and bridges projects, including Northern Powerhouse Rail, HS2 and East West Rail. For the past two years, she has been working on Healthcare Projects, including the New

Hospital Programme. In 2022 she was part of a team who travelled to Rwanda to build a footbridge for the community which will form the focus of her presentation at Chain.

EUR ING MARK GARDINER MEng(hons) CEng IntPE(UK) MIMechE MIET MNucI MAPM PMP - Nuclear Institute (NI)

Talk Title: **Nuclear Mythbusting around the World**



Mark is a highly skilled chartered and internationally professionally registered nuclear engineer. Professional Member of the Nuclear Institute, Institute of Engineering Technology, Institute of Mechanical Engineers and Association for Project Management with 15 years of experience working in the nuclear sector in a variety of roles in the UK, Germany and Canada.

Mark has direct on-site experience with all aspects of nuclear lifecycle from design and commissioning through to operations and then decommissioning and is highly knowledgeable on all current fission reactor designs and been following fusion developments. Some cool career

highlights - flying a drone inside a nuclear reactor building, designing and attaching radiation monitors to a robot dog, 3D printing nuclear fuel pellets.

Dr. ZEINA AL-NABULSI Ph.D - Institution of Structural Engineers (IStructE)

Talk Title: **Building a Sustainable Future- Our Journey as Structural Engineers Tackling Climate Change**



Dr Zeina Al-Nabulsi is a driven civil structural engineer working at AtkinsRealis with seven years of industry experience. Currently seconded to Rolls-Royce SMR, she previously contributed to HPC and Sizewell projects within the EPR-E transverse team. Her early career at Dar Al-Handasah involved international projects across the MENA region. Zeina holds a PhD from the University of Warwick, with published research on WAAM technology in construction. She's an active contributor to ISO/ASTM standards and has presented at global conferences, including IABSE, ASTM, and ICAM. Her

expertise spans diverse materials and project scales, with a strong focus on innovation and sustainable engineering.

Ian K Hancock Eng Tech MIET IEng FIMechE - Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE)



Ian has 35 years' experience in Engineering and is registered as an IEng Engineer in a variety of disciplines including mechanical, electrical and instrumentation and is a fellow of the IMechE and member of the IET.

He studied at Canterbury College of Technology in the Department of Engineering and Mining, followed by a technician apprenticeship in aerospace. He then made a move into heavy engineering in a wide range of industries from paper mills and power generation to quarrying and dredging specialising in bulk material handling with

conveyors, size reduction and heavy trommel equipment

Chair of the IMechE Bulk material handling committee and IMechE Process industries board

He now works for Bradley Pulverizer Company as Vice President Sales and Operations, managing pulverizing, air classification, acidulation, and granulation projects from quote to commissioning worldwide, as well as managing upgrades and modernisation of existing plants. Specialising in Phosphate fertilizers, fine powders production and size classification for a wide range of industries as well as specialised small-scale milling and classification of unusual materials.

LARA HILL & BEN HILTON - Institution of Chemical Engineers (IChemE)

Talk title: **Access is Sustainability: Why Work Experience Matters**



Lara and Ben represent early careers professionals at Sellafield Ltd, working to strengthen social sustainability by making STEM education accessible to all. Through meaningful community engagement and early work experience, they help young people discover engineering pathways they may not have considered. Their own journeys—earning Masters in Chemical Engineering with Industrial Placements and now working as Process Design Engineers—highlight the impact of early engagement. They're committed to ensuring similar opportunities exist for local communities, creating lasting social value, reducing barriers, and inspiring a diverse generation equipped to tackle tomorrow's challenges.

LIONEL JAMES CEng FCIBSE, MIET, CMgr MCMI - Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE)

Talk Title: **Sustainable Knowledge Transfer through Mentoring**



Hello Everyone my name is Lionel James, I have held major roles within the Building Services Design Departments as Associate Director and Lead Principal Designer. As Lead Principal Designer, whilst working on various projects responsible for managing Teams of 3 – 6 multi-disciplined (ME&P) Engineers, designing and coordinating design proposals for review with other Design Team Members, Clients and End Users.

Throughout my career progression in Building Services Design/Project Management, I have worked with both ME&P Consultancies and Contractors of various sizes within the Construction Industry.

My core skills are in Project Management and the delivery of detailed design solutions with an expert understanding and interpretation of the client's specific needs. I have a strong commitment to low-energy solutions and their implementation on all types of projects.

Due to my passion for continued professional development (CPD) and continuous learning for young Design Team Members I have successfully achieved Chartered Engineering (CEng) status of the Engineering Council (EngC), and Chartered Member status of Chartered Management Institute (CMgr MCMI).

I have also acquired formal Mentoring qualifications with both the Chartered Management Institute (CMI) & the Northern Council for Further Education (NCFE), each were self-funded.

I am also an active STEM/STEAM Ambassador for the Birmingham & Solihull/Hereford & Worcestershire Regions since 2013.

I joined Jacobs as an Associate Director (Formally Mechanical, now ME&P) at the Birmingham office. I look forward to working with you all.

AMY BLOOM CRWM MCIWM MEng (Hons) AMIChemE- Chartered Institution of Wastes Management (CIWM)

Talk Title: **Sustainability in the Waste Management Industry**



Amy is an experienced technical plant engineer at SUEZ, Social Value and Sustainability lead for the Technical Team and an ambassador in CIWM's Early Career Presidential Team. Her work focuses on building future skills resilience to support the development of a circular economy and the achievement of climate targets. She actively advocates for green-skills development in showcasing opportunities within the waste management sector. She is also the Young Director for Sustainability West Midlands, a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to

creating a more sustainable, fair and green region. In recognition of her contributions, she has been named a *35 Under 35* status holder by letsrecycle.com.

SIMON COULING - MASTER OF CEREMONIES - Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE)



Simon holds a master's degree in mechanical engineering and is an accomplished engineering professional with over five years' experience in delivering complex projects across construction, process industries, renewable energy, decarbonisation, oil and gas. In roles ranging from Lead Engineer to Project Manager, he has successfully delivered projects at every stage of the project lifecycle – from concept and detailed design through to construction and handover.

Currently at Murphy, Simon focuses on decarbonising critical UK infrastructure while improving energy security. He also serves as Vice Chair of the IMechE Greater Manchester Young Members Panel.

INSTITUTION LIST

NI - Nuclear Institute

Representing around 5000 professionals at all levels across the nuclear industry, from new build and operations to decommissioning, we maintain the Nuclear Professionalism Standard, the independently defined standard for nuclear professionalism.

<https://nuclearinst.com/About>



IMechE - Institution of Mechanical Engineers

The Institution of Mechanical Engineers provides life-long learning opportunities for over 110,000 members, many of whom will achieve professionally registered status. The IMechE provides the opportunity to meet, exchange ideas and innovate and also support our members and the wider engineering community to develop their skills throughout their careers.

<https://www.imeche.org/about-us>



IStructE - Institution of Structural Engineers

The Institution was originally founded in 1908 as the Concrete Institute. Since 1922 we have been known as the Institution of Structural Engineers.

'Our members undergo rigorous technical assessment and commit to continual learning and development.' This means that professional membership of the Institution is a global benchmark of competence and technical excellence, driving safety and innovation in the built environment. <https://www.istructe.org/about-us/what-we-do/>



ICE - Institution of Civil Engineers

The Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) is a 97,000-strong global membership organisation with more than 200 years of history. It is a centre of engineering excellence, qualifying engineers and helping them maintain lifelong competence. 'Our network of experts offers trusted, impartial advice to politicians and decision makers on how to build and adapt infrastructure to create a more sustainable world.' <https://www.ice.org.uk/about-us>



Institution of Civil Engineers

IET - Institution of Engineering & Technology

The Institution of Engineering and Technology was formed in 2006 by the joining together of the IEE (Institution of Electrical Engineers) and the IIE (Institution of Incorporated Engineers).

'We are the IET and we inspire, inform and influence the global engineering community to engineer a better world. As a diverse home across engineering and technology, we share knowledge that helps make better sense of the world in order to solve the challenges that matter. It's why we are uniquely placed to champion engineering.'



The Institution of
Engineering and Technology

<https://www.theiet.org/about/a-brief-history>

ICHEME - Institution of Chemical Engineers

Founded in 1922, the Institution of Chemical Engineers (ICHEME) is the UK based and internationally recognised qualifying body and learned society for chemical, biochemical and process engineers. 'We exist to advance chemical engineering's contribution for the benefit of society.' ICHEME members can be found in a wide range of industry sectors, and at different stages of their careers. They play a key role in our governance and day-to-day operations. <https://www.icheme.org/about-us/>



CIBSE - Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers

The Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers (IHVE) was founded in 1897 and the Illuminating Engineering Society was founded in 1909. By Royal Charter, these two institutions were amalgamated in 1976, forming the Chartered Institution of Building Services. CIBSE (the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers) is the professional body that exists to advance and promote the art, science and practice of building services engineering, to invest in education and research, and to support our community of built environment professionals in their pursuit of excellence. <https://www.cibse.org/about-cibse/>



CIWM - Chartered Institution of Wastes Management

Founded in 1898, CIWM (the Chartered Institution of Wastes Management) is the leading professional membership organisation for individuals in the sustainability, resources and waste management sector. CIWM represents and supports over 7,000 individuals and 250 Affiliated Organisations across the UK and overseas.



At CIWM, membership means more for professional life: more knowledge, more connections, more resources, more representation, more partnerships and, ultimately, more potential. <https://www.ciwm.co.uk/ciwm/about-us/ciwm/about-us.aspx>

SheCanEngineer

SheCanEngineer is a charity working to close the gender gap in engineering industries by showcasing the accomplishments of female engineers, raising awareness around issues relating to Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DE&I), and promoting engineering to children. With the support of our sponsors, Professional Engineering Institutions, collaborators and volunteers, we have reached diverse audiences — connecting with professional engineers, students and their teachers, parents and guardians.



The SheCanEngineer ethos has inclusion at its core - with all activities open to all genders.

<https://www.shecanengineer.com>

MIC - Muslims In Construction

Muslims in Construction (MIC) is a professional network dedicated to empowering and connecting Muslims across the construction industry.

'We provide a platform for mentorship, networking and knowledge sharing while promoting career growth, representation and excellence rooted in Islamic values.

Our events and initiatives create spaces where professionals can thrive both in their careers and in their faith.' <https://muslimsinconstruction.uk/about-us/>



MechSoc - University of Manchester Mechanical Engineering Society

'We are a group of students who represent the 'Mechanical Engineering Society' at the University of Manchester. This society is aiming to strengthen the connection of engineering students with industries in order to improve the chances of employability.'

'A society for ALL engineers!! Best place to meet new and exciting people! Wild socials, Exclusive industry trips, Rewarding activities, Sexy merch, Juicy collabs with other societies. Find us on: Facebook: @MechSocUoM Instagram: @mechsoc_uom'



ECS - Engineering Computation Society

The Engineering Computation Society (ECS) at the University of Salford is a welcoming group for students interested in computational engineering, particularly in areas such as Finite Element Analysis (FEA) and Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD), to industry standards.

www.linkedin.com/company/engineering-computation-society



WindAid - Wind Aid Institution

WindAid Institute, an American and Peruvian-based environmental non-profit and educational institution, has been at the forefront of small-scale wind energy development and design since 2006. 'Through our international community of interns and volunteers, we have constructed 50+ wind turbines in remote Peruvian communities where there is limited or no access to grid electricity. We engineer solutions to this problem by harnessing wind energy to provide a clean and reliable source of electricity. Our work transforms the lives of underserved populations by providing basic electricity for powering light and phone charging capabilities.' Students and professionals come from all over the world to work together designing, building, and installing wind generators and their electronic systems in these communities. <https://www.windaid.org/>

