Welcome to CyberNorth's June Newsletter

CyberNorth is working to support the growth and development of the whole cyber security sector across the North East region. There is so much planned for the coming months - find out more below and make sure you get involved.

#CyberFest partners with Aspire for 2023

Yes, it's back! We're delighted to announce that #CyberFest 23 will be supported by Aspire Technology Solutions. This will be #CyberFest's sixth year as the North East's biggest cyber security festival with this year's theme 'Local talent - global ambition'.

Not only are we building on our platform to create a mixed festival of online and in person events throughout September, we are launching our flagship event to attract a local, national and international audience.

Save the date: Tuesday 26 September 2023
Venue: Newcastle United Football Club, St James' Park, Newcastle.

Bringing together cyber security leaders and technology expert speakers, Aspire CyberFest is aimed at business leaders across all organisational sectors through an in-depth programme to improve your security posture and defend against the constantly evolving business threat landscape.

Watch the video to find out more about the flagship event. Tickets are available from here, while sponsorship opportunities can be found here.

The rest of the #CyberFest programme will be announced as each event is developed.

Tackling big world challenges

The NWG Innovation Festival takes a selection of business challenges and issues currently facing the water industry, as well as looks at wider global issues that impact everyone, like climate change and water poverty. It brings together people from all over the globe with different skills and knowledge and works together to produce solutions and viable outcomes - all in five days or less.

CyberNorth, supported by its partners, the North East Business Resilience Centre and UK Cyber Cluster Collaboration are looking forward to this year with three daily dashes. A daily dash is a rapid style sprint workshop, working through all five stages in just one day. It can be intense and a little chaotic at times but delivers real results in a short time.

The cyber security space continues to innovate to stay ahead in a rapidly changing market and we're exploring three exciting areas of opportunity during the festival week: addressing the skills gaps; innovation across the North East regional Catapults and; using FinTech to address cost of living issues.

- Tuesday 11th July we will explore initiatives to address skills gaps in the cyber security sector.
- Wednesday 12th July we will delve into the cyber innovation opportunities between the North East regional Catapults
- Thursday 13th July we will use FinTech to support people with cost of living issues in a secure way.

You can attend as many of the dashes as you like so come and join us to help explore. Registration is now open [here](#).

Flexible apprenticeships

We've exciting news about the shared apprentice scheme in cyber security that we have been working on. In the proposal, apprentices will get the opportunity to work across more than one business, making the scheme more attractive to both apprentices and SMEs. This is a unique scheme, the first in the country though similar schemes operate in other non-technology sectors.

Delivery of these apprenticeships requires CyberNorth to set up a Flexi-Job Apprentice Agency (FJAA), the only legal route to do so, and we have submitted the proposal to the Department for Education.

We will not know the outcome until September but fingers crossed for this exciting and innovative idea.

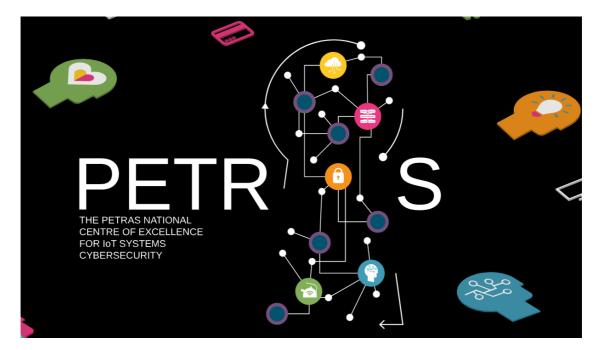# It Takes Allsorts : Neurodivergence in the workplace.

Neurodivergence in cyber security is a very real issue and is the topic of our recent podcast 'It's Cyber Up North'. Diversity in the workplace means more than gender or cultural issues and increasingly the information space needs a broader range of diversity, not just to represent and reflect society but in order to approach ever more complex problems especially in AI and Cyber Security.

The podcast's guests Adam Pickering, Director - Cyber Security, CGI; Yvonne Charrot, Diversity Inclusion and Wellbeing Manager, the IASME Consortium and; Jonathan Ellwood, Head of Assure Schemes, Visiting Fellow University of Gloucestershire talk with Phil Jackman about zebras, socks and the neuroverse.

Give it a listen and let us know your experiences. Remember to like, subscribe and share!

PETRAS Workshops

CyberNorth, working with Newcastle University and PETRAS, is supporting a pair of workshops bringing academic colleagues and user partners together. The first workshop is on 19 June and covers the Security and Privacy impact of IoT Home Adoption, while the second, on 27 June covers the Security of Digital Twin Enabled Systems

The PETRAS National Centre of Excellence exists to ensure that technological advances in the Internet of Things (IoT) are developed and applied in consumer and business contexts, safely and securely. We do this by considering social and technical issues relating to the cybersecurity of IoT devices, systems and networks.

Details can be found on the CyberNorth Events page.

There's always lots going on

We have a lot of events both open for registration (click on links) and in the planning stage. Keep checking the website for updates but here are some dates for your diary:

- 9 June - CyberFirst – The path to Cyber / STEM Ambassadorship, MIddlesbrough
- 19 June - Workshop on the Security and Privacy impact of IoT Home Adoption, Newcastle
- 20 June - Simple steps to protect your business in an online world – Tech NExt, Stellium Data Centres, Cobalt
- 20 June - Staying Safe from Online Threats - Tech NExt, Hexham
- 27 June - Workshop on the Security of Digital Twin Enabled Systems, Newcastle
- 30 June - CyberFirst event, Newcastle
- 11-13 July - Northumbrian Water Group Innovation Festival, Gosforth Park
- 8 July - Getting women into Cyber, Gateshead
- Throughout September - #CyberFest, across the region
- 23-24 November, Empower, Newcastle

About CyberNorth

CyberNorth is the region's cybersecurity cluster, supported by Accenture, the Innovation Supernetwork and recognised by the Department for Science, Information and Technology (DSIT) and the National Cyber Security Centre as representing the region. It is part of the UK Cyber Cluster Collaboration (UKC3) and Global Epic.

CyberNorth is working to support all organisations across the regional cybersecurity ecosystem including seventy cybersecurity service suppliers, support services providers, consumers of cybersecurity services, academia, government, other public sectors including blue light organisations, media and policy makers.

The cluster's aim is to position the North East as a great place to deliver cybersecurity services.

Contact us

If you would like any further information on the contents of this newsletter, or any other related issue then please contact us at hello@cybernorth.biz

Send free email today