

Social Guide to EPOP-upon-Tyne

September 1-3, 2022, Newcastle

[#EPOPuponTyne](#)



Welcome to EPOP 2022!

We are delighted to welcome you to the 2022 EPOP meeting at Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne. The 2022 meeting is held in-person at Newcastle University from September 1-3, 2022. We hope that some of the suggestions in this document will help you enjoy not only the academic side of the conference but what Newcastle has to offer, too.

Conference and dinner venues

The conference is held in the very centre of Newcastle at the **Frederick Douglass Centre**. This is part of Newcastle University's new campus, conveniently located right next to Newcastle United's football stadium. A spoiler alert: Newcastle will have a home game on Saturday afternoon (as organisers, we are not responsible for any of the celebrations or booing during your presentation). All pre-EPOP workshops, the full academic programme and all lunches and coffee breaks will take place at the Frederick Douglass centre. This is also where we'll celebrate *The Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties* first ever Impact Factor with a pop-up craft beer (and cider) reception on Saturday night.

Pre-EPOP meet-up (Thursday 7pm) at the **Brinkburn St. Brewery** (first drink(s) and some nibbles brought to you by **Ipsos UK**) is about 25-minute walk from most of the conference hotels. If the weather allows, we'd suggest walking down to the Tyne Bridge and then heading east by the River Tyne on the quayside. If you're early, Free Trade Inn and Tyne Bar both have great beer gardens, with the former offering iconic views over Tyne.

Friday night, we will head to **Newcastle's Civic Centre** -- home for Newcastle City Council -- where we'll have a wine reception (sponsored by **YouGov**) and the more formal of the two conference dinners. This pearl of a 1960's modernist architecture is 12-15 min walk from the conference venue.

Saturday's conference dinner (and hopefully quiz) will be held at the **Discovery Museum**, just 5-min walk from the conference venue. Discovery Museum, the former Co-operative Wholesale Society Headquarters for the Northern Region, is another fine example of Newcastle's architecture, but this time from the period of Newcastle's industrial heyday.

Getting around Newcastle

Newcastle is a very walkable city. The main train station is about 10-minute walk from the main conference venue. If you arrive to Newcastle Airport, the Metro takes you to the city centre (either leave at ‘Monument’ or ‘Central Station’ for most hotels and at ‘Haymarket’ for the Civic Centre).

You can also use the Metro for a quick trip to the coast, to visit Tynemouth or Whitley Bay. Both have stunning sandy beaches and excellent fish & chips options as well as a more ‘up-scale’ Fish Shack at King Edward’s Bay.

Besides walking and the Metro, there are also city buses, taxis, Uber and Bolt.

Good coffee and small bites

Not to undersell University catering, but if you care about the quality of your daily caffeine hit, then you can supplement what’s offered at the conference venue with a good coffee from one of the following independent coffee shops and café’s:

- **Pink Lane Coffee** is right across the street from the Central Station, on your way to the conference venue.
- **Laneway & Co** coffee shop is another independent café in the middle of the city on High Bridge street. They also have great baked goods and breakfast offer.
- **Anyone** does one of the best flat whites in town and is right by the main campus of the University, across the street from the Civic Centre.
- **Ouseburn Coffee Company** has a small stand in the entrance to the Food Hall of the Fenwick department store on Northumberland Street.
- **Grainger Market** in the city centre has also a couple of good independent coffee shops. If you arrive early on Thursday, it is also a great place to get lunch as there’s an ample choice of different street food options, including hand-made Chinese dumplings, Indian, Cuban, Lebanese, Greek and Turkish street food stands, as well as pizza by the slice, mac’n’cheese, etc.
- **Les Petits Choux**, in between the old and new campus, offers an excellent choice of tea and cakes, but also very decent coffee.
- **Pablo Eggsgobao**, located on 79 Blandford St, less than 10 minutes away from the conference venue is a great place for a breakfast/lunch bao and a quick coffee.

Pubs, bars and tap rooms

Newcastle may be somewhat infamous for its nightlife scene, but besides the regular spots for hen and stag dos, it's home to a surprising number of craft breweries and tap rooms as well as a wide variety of independent pubs and bars.

Ouseburn area to the east of the city centre is perhaps home to the highest concentration of independent pubs and tap rooms. It's a good area to explore on Thursday night when we're starting off at **Brinkburn St. Brewery**, right at the gateway to Ouseburn. Besides already mentioned **Free Trade Inn** (usually ca. 15 different craft beers on tap) and **Tyne Bar**, it's worthwhile to venture deeper into the Ouseburn valley. **Ship Inn** is a more traditional pub, serving exclusively vegan menu, while **The Cluny** right across of it hosts live music shows on most evenings. Few steps away, **Arch2** is home for Newcastle Brewing Ltd. tap room and Thali Tray for Indian street food (there are also fire places and s'mores!). **Earnest** hosts some great parties and is also an excellent place for brunch (booking might be necessary). **Cumberland Arms** (good local beer selection, both keg and cask) – dating back to 1870s – is worth the climb to the top of the hill (great beer garden).

The Bridge Tavern, **Mean Eyed Cat**, **Mosaic Tap**, **Lady Greys**, and **The Town Mouse Ale House** offer a good selection of independent beer in the city centre. Right across the River Tyne, **By The River Brew Co.** is an independent container community, where you can enjoy a variety of street food and craft beer in a massive beer garden, right by the river.

The **Pink Triangle** is Newcastle's historical LGBT+ district, which more recently has become a favoured haunt of students and hen dos. However, a few bars retain a genuine LGBT+ clientele, particularly The Yard and **The Bank** (both Scotswood Rd).

If you're into craft beer, then Newcastle has some to offer. Here's a list of some additional tap rooms of local breweries, some slightly closer, some a bit further from the city centre:

- **The Delta Lounge** of Alpha Delta Brewery is right behind the Central Station at Arch 11, Forth Street.
- **Wylam Brewery** has perhaps the most stunning grounds in The Palace of Arts in Exhibition Park - last surviving building from the 1929 North East Coast Exhibition in Newcastle.

- **Two by Two Brewing** has the newest tap room in town on Albion Row, just at the edge of Ouseburn.
- **Old Coal Yard**, also located at the edge of Ouseburn, it is the home to Northern Alchemy Brewery and place for evening parties.
- **Tyne Bank Brewery Tap Room** at 375 Walker Rd, Byker, is not far from Ouseburn either.
- **Full Circle Brew Co** at Hoult's Yard, NE6 2HL, is also a short walk from Ouseburn and offers wood-fire pizzas.
- Further afield, **Almasty** and **Anarchy** breweries have tap rooms in the Benfield Business Park, NE6 4NQ.

Late night (this section is in courtesy of our colleagues, BISA 2022 organisers)

After pubs close, one place that will stay open late is the **Head of Steam** opposite the train station, which has a bar upstairs and music downstairs. Turning to the east from there looks down Collingwood Street and Mosley Street – **Newcastle's Diamond Strip**. If you are looking to dance along to more classic pop, the Diamond Strip offers Flares, or you can visit Newcastle's famous **Bigg Market** for unforgettable evenings dancing on the tables at **Stein Bier Keller** and singing your heart out at **Popworld**. For any who want to keep going when these all shut, head to the south west of the city to the Pink Quarter, where you'll find **EazyStreet**, a small bar with a DJ and Tiki Terrace open until 3am every day, and **Rusty's**, **Digital**, **The Pink Room**, and **Powerhouse**, which will keep playing pop and dance music until 5am at the weekends.

And something healthy

City Baths is a historic bath house, with a great pool, right in the city centre. You can hire bikes very reasonably at the **Cycle Hub** on the Quayside. If you're into slightly longer rides, cycling by Tyne to **Tyne Pedestrian and Cyclist Tunnel** in Jarrow is worth the exercise. Furthermore, the city is made for **runners**, whether you love or hate hills. Maarja will take those keen to run for a running panel on Friday morning at 8:30am (the exact route is still in the making but will start at the Bigg Market, follow the river Tyne, crossing at least two of the many bridges, and distance and hilliness can be negotiated /

voted). **Jesmond Dene**, and the adjoining **Armstrong** and **Heaton parks**, are another spectacular place for running, as is the **Town Moor** – home to the city cows!

