

UK Design Forum

UKDF 2026

6-7 May 2026

Pendulum Hotel and Manchester
Conference Centre, M1 3BB

The Programme

Wednesday, 6 May – Momentum room

Evening chair: Simon Moore

18:15 *Dinner*

19:30 After-dinner Talk : Matt Venn, *Tiny Tapeouts*.

20:15 *Adjourn to the bar*

Thursday, 7 May – Pioneer Room

Morning chair: Piotr Dudek

09:00 Welcome and Introduction

09:10 George Constantinides (Imperial)

Learning Networks of Boolean Lookup Tables

09:40 Xinming Shi (Belfast)

Memristive Dynamical Spiking Neural Networks with Spatiotemporal Heterogeneity

10:05 Chun Zhao (York)

What if sensors have memory - from memristors to in-sensor computing

10:30 *Tea & Coffee*

11:00 Andrew Brown (Southampton)

Cool things to do with a gazillion processors that don't involve neurons (there will be Hard Sums)

11:25 Shidur Rahman (Southampton)

Scaling Development from Laptop to Cloud with Event-Triggered Computing

11:50 John Goodacre (Manchester)

Innovation management in the age of LLMs

12:15 News Flash

12:30 *Lunch (in The Hub Restaurant)*

Afternoon chair: Martin Trefzer

13:30 Ekin Can Erkus (Newcastle)

AI and Explainability in Embedded Systems

13:55 Graeme Bragg (Southampton)

AI in Education: A Threat to Electronics Skills

14:20 John Darlington (Southampton)

Improving the Supply of UK Design Talent

14:45 *Tea & Coffee*

15:15 Patrick Degenaar (Newcastle)

Project Vampire

15:40 Md Moqueet Ahmad (York)

TCAD-Driven SiC Process & Device Modelling

16:05 Simon Moore (Cambridge)

Technology Transition at the CHERI Research Centre

16:30 *Close*

WiFi

Choose network: **Pendulum Hotel Guest**

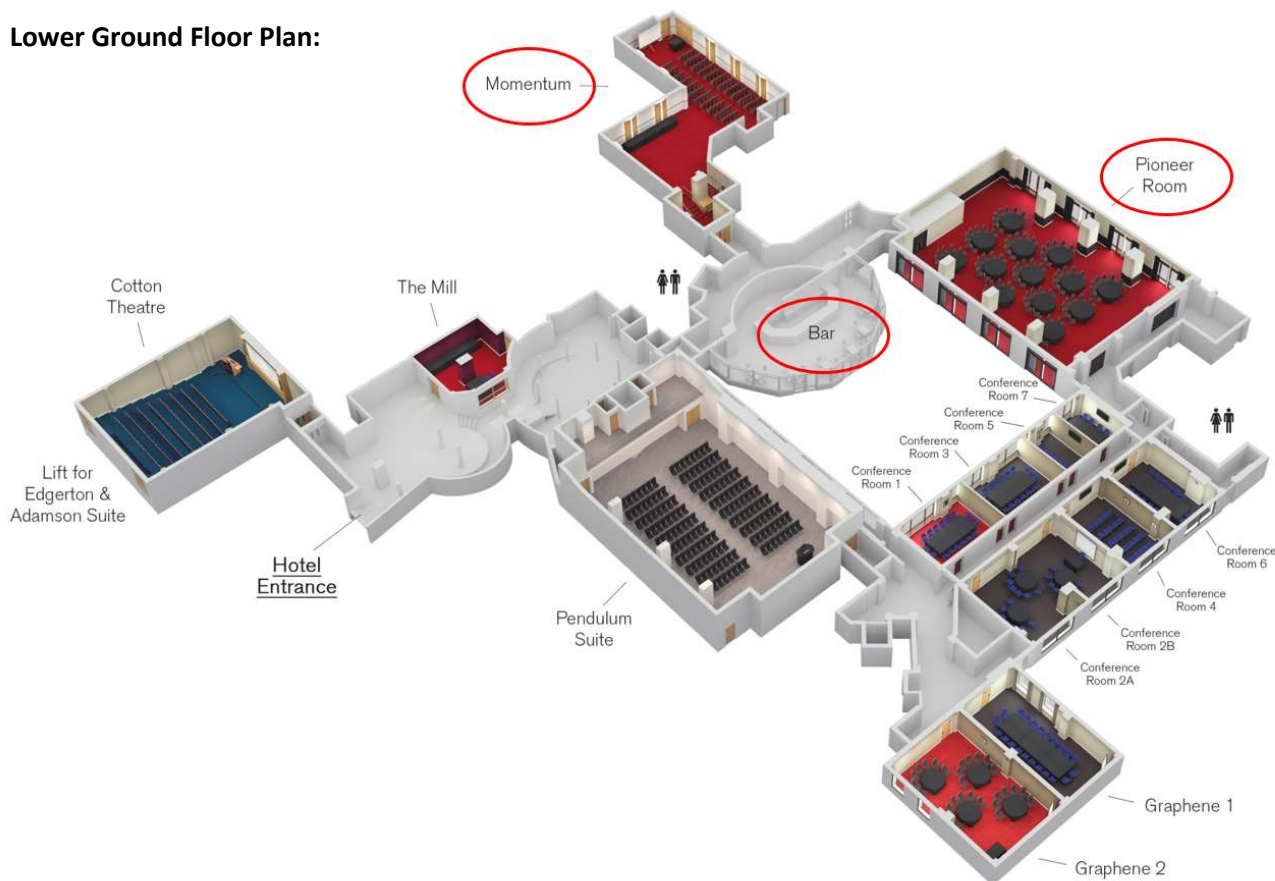
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Pendulum – Floor Plan

Wednesday: Pre-dinner drinks – **Bar**, Dinner – **Momentum**

Thursday: Talks – **Pioneer Room**, Lunch – **The Hub** (not on the plan, it is on the “Ground Floor”, above the bar)

Lower Ground Floor Plan:



UKDF 2026 Participants

Ross Addinall (Silicon Catalyst UK)
Shady Agwa (University of Edinburgh)
Md Moqueet Ahmad (University of York)
Christopher Anderson (University of Manchester)
Graeme Bragg (University of Southampton)
Andrew Brown (University of Southampton)
Oktay Cetinkaya (Newcastle University)
Peter Cheung (Imperial College London)
George Constantinides (Imperial College)
John Darlington (Southampton)
Patrick Degenaar (Newcastle University)
Anastasios Dimitriou (Univ. of Southampton/SoC Labs)
Piotr Dudek (The University of Manchester)
Ekin Can Erkus (Newcastle University)
David Flynn (University of Southampton)
Steve Furber (The University of Manchester)
John Goodacre (University of Manchester)
Anatoliy Gorbenko (Leeds Beckett University)
Jim Harkin (Ulster University)
Clive Holmes (STFC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory)
Paul Kelly (Imperial College London)

Victor Khomenko (Renasas)
David Mapstone (University of Southampton/SoC Labs)
Simon Moore (University of Cambridge)
Asim Mumtaz (University of York)
Daniel Newbrook (University of Southampton)
Derrick Nirmalan (Industry)
Laura O'Keefe (CHIMES IKC - University of Sheffield)
Shidur Rahman (University of Southampton)
Shiva Shankar Reddy Sangati (Univ. Southampton/SoC Labs)
Xinming Shi (Queen's University Belfast)
Danil Sokolov (Renasas)
Raja Toqeer (CHIMES IKC - University of Sheffield)
Martin Trefzer (University of York)
Josh Upton (STFC)
Matthew Venn (Tiny Tapeout)
Mark Willoughby (STFC)
Haihang Xia (University of Sheffield)
Shouyu Xie (The University of Manchester)
Alex Yakovlev (Newcastle University and Literal Labs)
Chun Zhao (University of York)
Mark Zwolinski (University of Southampton)

Organisers: Piotr Dudek, Simon Moore, Graeme Bragg, Martin Trefzer.

<https://ukdesignforum.org.uk/>