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BUILDING BRIDGES

Integrating professional practice and lived experience
in paediatric neuropsychological rehabilitation

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We are delighted that Jason Fox 'Foxy' former UK Special Forces soldier,
Royal Marine Commando and TV personality best known for CH4 SAS:
Who Dares Wins, will be talking about resilience and fortitude.



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Session 1

Welcome & introduction from the conference Chair

Laura Middleton-Guerard, Partner, Irwin Mitchell

Session 2

Introduction to the day

Dr Katie Byard, Dr Howard Fine, Dr Jonathan Reed
Consultant Clinical Psychologists, Co Founders & Directors, Recolo UK Ltd

Session 3

Reflections on building respectful relationships with experts by experience: what we've learnt

A short presentation to introduce the co-production theme across the day and to introduce and signpost to what has been produced – our reasons for doing it, some of the process, outcomes and next steps – what we're learning.

Dr Sophie Gosling, Consultant Clinical Psychologist & Psychology Lead, Recolo UK Ltd

Session 4

The power of movement, sport and participation

Brendan Tonks speaks passionately about sport and physical activity, offering insight into his experiences as the CEO of CP Sport, and as the parent of a teenage daughter who has CP. Brendan has a background in both sport and children's social care, and is a strong advocate for sport and physical being included in care planning for everyone. Brendan would like to explore the impact of sport and physical activity on people with brain injury, focussing on the strengths-based approach to supporting people with CP opportunities to participate, enjoy and thrive.

Brendan Tonks, CEO, CP Sport

Session 5

Rio Boothe, CP Sport Ambassador & Aspiring Paralympian

Session 6

Supporting the Lifelong Journey of Cerebral Palsy: New Insights for Improved Support

Through her perspective of her own lived experience and her work as CEO of a UP- The Adult Cerebral Palsy Movement, Emma's presentation will focus on the evolving understanding and care of Cerebral Palsy (CP) throughout a person's lifespan. She will explore how recent research and knowledge can improve support for both children and adults with CP.

New Knowledge for CP Management:

The session will delve into recent advancements in CP research, highlighting the lifelong nature of the condition and the importance of addressing co-morbidities and risk factors for non-communicable diseases. It will also acknowledge the prevalence of mental health concerns in adults with CP.

Preparing Children for Adulthood:

The presentation will bridge the gap between childhood and adult care. Emma will discuss how child practitioners can equip children with CP with the tools and knowledge they need for adulthood.

Emma Livingstone, CEO & Co-founder, UP - The Adult Cerebral Palsy Movement

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Session 7

Enabling young people to tell their own life stories

How can we achieve effective information transfer at times of transition whilst also being person centred in our practice? This presentation will show you how we can support young people to understand their brain injury, how it fits into their identity and how they can tell people in their new setting what they need to know. Case examples will be offered to demonstrate how video, written information and verbal presentations can be used to enable the young person to tell their own story to those who need to know. Respectful, empowering, collaborative work can be done with all clients, from nonverbal children to articulate young adults, and this presentation will give a flavour of a range of ways to do it.

Dr Rebecca Ashton, Educational Neuropsychology Lead, Recolo UK Ltd

Session 8

Adjustment in identity after brain injury - how do I understand myself in the context of a different landscape?

The presentation will reflect on our current understanding of the journey experienced by children and young people as they adjust to their brain injury. It will explore how young people perceive changes in themselves and their relationships with friends and family members as well as provide clinical insights and guidance into approaches to employ when supporting the process of adjustment and improve clinical outcomes.

Dr Andrea Pickering, Consultant Clinical Psychologist and Researcher, Recolo UK Ltd & Canterbury Christchurch University

Session 9

The Quest for More

Join Anna on an uplifting and lively journey as she shares stories and lessons from her adventures across the globe. With raw honesty, humour and passion, she advocates a willingness to keep an open mind about what's truly possible, and view each obstacle as an opportunity to learn and to grow.

Anna McNuff, Adventurer, Speaker & Restless Mumma

Session 10

Paediatric TBI: when neuroimaging and neuropsychology tell the same story

Having a TBI in childhood is associated with a range of psychological, cognitive and behavioural difficulties. We also know that a number of children recover remarkably well from TBIs whilst for others, good physical recovery can mask ongoing difficulties. Too often following a head injury, young people and their families are left confused by the difference in their experience of their recovery, and what the brain scans show. This can lead to confusion in the systems that support children (i.e. education), and families and children feeling disempowered. Célia will present findings from the U.K.'s first large research study to combine advanced neuroimaging and clinical neuropsychology. Her talk will help us to understand how combining neuroimaging and clinical neuropsychology can help children and families develop a coherent narrative of their brain injury, and feel more empowered when planning for neurorehabilitation and the future.

Dr Célia Demarchi, Clinical Psychologist in Paediatric Neuropsychology, Evelina London Children's Hospital Honorary Clinical Research Fellow, Imperial College London

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Session 11

In Conversation with Foxy

Jason Fox, 'Foxy', is a former Royal Marine Commando and Sergeant in the elite Special Boat Service, with over 20 years serving his country, an author, adventurer and well known as one of lead directing staff of Channel 4's SAS: Who Dares Wins. In this revealing interview with Dr Howard Fine, Foxy will reflect on his personal journey and will discuss the importance that resilience and fortitude has played in overcoming adversity.

Jason Fox & Dr Howard Fine, Co Founder & Director, Recolo UK Ltd

Session 12

Listening to what children with brain injury and their families want: implications for paediatric neuropsychological rehabilitation

There is little provision of community neurorehabilitation for children, young people (CYP) and their families in the UK. The Cambridge Centre for Paediatric Neuropsychological Rehabilitation (the CCPNR) was established in 2009 and is the first regional interdisciplinary community service in the NHS. Dr Watson will present the research from the CCPNR to date, along with the co-production work with CYP and families that continues to shape the development of services in the East of England. Dr Watson will reflect on the wider implications on clinical delivery of paediatric neuropsychological rehabilitation.

Dr Suzanna Watson, Consultant Clinical Psychologist, Lead for Paediatric Neuropsychological Services, Cambridge and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust

Session 13

Individualised and goal-oriented rehabilitation after paediatric acquired brain injury: the Child in Context Intervention

Paediatric brain injury is a chronic condition and symptoms may change over time, as children get older and expectations increase. However, there is no systematic long-term multidisciplinary rehabilitation for these children and their families. Moreover, the heterogeneity of outcomes after acquired brain injury (pABI), requires an individualized approach to rehabilitation. There is no one size fits all. The Child in Context Intervention (CICI) focuses on each child and family's everyday life in the chronic phase of injury and provides goal-oriented rehabilitation, while also educating schools about pABI and including schools in the child's rehabilitation. Results, challenges and clinical implications will be presented. Sunnaas Rehabilitation Hospital, situated on a peninsula in the Oslo Fjord, is Norway's largest hospital for specialized rehabilitation and physical medicine and offers multidisciplinary rehabilitation to people with complex functional impairments following illness or injury.

Dr Nina Marit Rohrer-Baumgartner, Neuropsychologist at Sunnaas Rehabilitation Hospital, Norway

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**Dr Sophie Gosling****Consultant Clinical Psychologist and Recolo Psychology Lead**

Dr Sophie Gosling is a Consultant Clinical Psychologist and is the Psychology Lead at Recolo, joining the organisation in 2011. She has over 30 years of clinical and academic experience, working across a range of sectors, and in the last 15 years, she has specialised in working with children with an ABI and their families.

**Brendan Tonks****CEO, CP Sport**

Brendan has always been hugely passionate about sports, and his work in the youth sector soon evolved into child protection social work.

Brendan spent nearly ten years working for CAFCASS as a Children's Guardian, advocating on behalf of children in the family court. In recent years he moved into the sports sector, working within the governance team at England Golf, before being appointed as a Senior Consultant at the Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU) at the NSPCC.

Brendan supports National Governing Bodies, regional Active Partnership networks, and other sport and physical activity organisations with their safeguarding, governance, and compliance. Outside of the work environment, Brendan enjoyed being a board member at an inclusive sports charity, he chairs a local county sports association, and he also volunteers on a further education college strategic safeguarding group.

Brendan enjoys learning and thrives in high pressure environments.

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Rio Boothe

My name is Rio Boothe I was born extremely premature, at just 24 weeks. I have Cerebral Palsy right sided hemiplegia.

My Sport journey began in lockdown 2021, when I joined Manchester Harriers AC. At Manchester Harriers, I found acceptance, and I came to realise that my disability was something to embrace. Throughout my school life, sport was something that I had always felt excluded from. I'd suffered at the hands of bullies due to my disability, and despite working extra hard to keep up with my peers, I really thought that my Cerebral Palsy Right-Sided Hemiplegia was something that would hold me back.

I have recently graduated from Liverpool John Moore's University (LJMU) studying Sport Business BA (Hons), I will be continuing my studies in September where I will be doing a Master's in Digital Marketing (MSc). Throughout my time at LJMU, I have been supported by the Sport Performance Scholarship Programme, in which I get exclusive access to Strength and Conditioning, Nutrition, Sports Psychology and Financial Support. Being on the Sport Scholarship programme has allowed me to balance my studies and sport at both national and international level. I now compete in 100m, Long Jump and Para Laser Run.

My sporting highlights:

Para Laser Run World Champion/World Record 2023

Para Laser Run European Silver Medallist 2024

Multiple BUCS (British Universities College Sport) Medals

Athlete of the Year 2023 (Manchester Harriers AC)

I am extremely passionate about increasing sport participation for those with disabilities, more specifically those with CP. I want to be the role model for others that I was missed out on growing up, and I want to empower people to go "beyond the label" and to unlock their true potential. Cerebral Palsy Sport have really allowed me the opportunity embrace my CP through the Annual Athletics National Championships and other various sporting events.

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**Emma Livingstone****CEO & Founder, UP-The Adult Cerebral Palsy Movement**

Emma qualified as a Speech and Language Therapist at Birmingham University in 1998 and has worked predominantly with children, running services for both pre-school and school-age children across London. More recently she has worked at City University supporting student speech and language therapists and also practices as a life coach. Emma is married and mum to 3 young and active children.

Emma was born with Cerebral Palsy and has seen a significant decline in her mobility in recent years leading to several surgeries and having to give up work. It was her frustration at the lack of knowledge and understanding of Cerebral Palsy as a disability affecting adults that spurred her on to begin campaigning. In 2018 she founded the charity Adult Cerebral Palsy Hub, now renamed Up – The Adult Cerebral Palsy Movement, to campaign for better support and services and give voice to the adult Cerebral Palsy community.

**Dr Rebecca Ashton****Educational Neuropsychology Lead, Recolo UK Ltd**

Rebecca is an educational psychologist with over 20 years' experience in Local Authorities, NHS and private work. She is currently Educational Neuropsychology Lead for Recolo UK Ltd (a company offering psychological rehabilitation to children with brain injuries) and a freelance psychologist working for schools and Local Authorities.

As well as her qualifications in educational psychology, Rebecca holds a PGDip in Clinical Paediatric Neuropsychology, is on the British Psychological Society's Register of Applied Psychology Practice Supervisors and is an advanced practitioner in Video Interaction Guidance.

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**Dr Andrea Pickering**

Consultant Clinical Psychologist and Researcher, Recolo and Canterbury Christchurch University

Andrea has been working within paediatric neurorehabilitation for over 20 years, specialising in supporting children and their families when adjusting to the challenges of life changing experiences. She is both a clinician and researcher, seeking to further our understanding of the lived experience of families as well as promoting service development to better meet clinical need. She is a supporter of Anchorpoint, a charity advocating for research and clinical endeavours to support families after brain injury. Andrea and colleagues at ATtherapy won the Mike Barnes Award for Innovation in 2021 for the development of MyAbility, a clinical resource to support children and young people in understanding and adjusting to their brain injury.

**Anna McNuff**

Adventurer, Author & Restless Mumma

Anna McNuff is an adventurer, bestselling author and restless mumma of three small humans. Named by the Guardian as one of the top female adventurers of our time, Condé Nast Traveller included her in a list of the 50 most influential travellers in the world. She is the co-founder of Adventure Queens – a women's adventure network with over 10,000 members and an ambassador for Girlguiding. She is passionate about all adventures – big and small – and has run, swum and cycled over 20,000 miles across the globe.

**Dr Célia Demarchi**

Clinical Psychologist in Paediatric Neuropsychology, Evelina London Children's Hospital Honorary Clinical Research Fellow, Imperial College London

Célia works clinically at the Evelina London Children's Hospital where she is the Clinical Psychologist for Paediatric Neurorehabilitation. She is passionate about the importance of neuropsychologically informed psychological support for children and families on their journey adjusting to life with newly acquired brain injuries, and strongly believes in early multidisciplinary rehabilitation as being crucial to helping children reach their full potential. She also holds an honorary Clinical Research Fellowship in Imperial College London's Division of Brain Sciences, where she has been leading the laboratory's first paediatric study researching head injuries in adolescents since 2016. This research, in collaboration with Great Ormond Street Hospital, uses advanced neuroimaging and clinical neuropsychology to learn more about outcomes following a paediatric traumatic brain injury and its work has been published in leading academic journals.

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**Dr Suzanna Watson**

Consultant Clinical Psychologist Lead for Paediatric Neuropsychology, Cambridge and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust and Cambridge University Hospitals

Dr Watson is a Consultant Clinical Psychologist who leads Paediatric Neuropsychological services at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge. This includes acute provision of rehabilitation at Addenbrookes Hospital as well as at the Cambridge Centre for Paediatric Neuropsychological Rehabilitation (the CCPNR), an interdisciplinary community neurorehabilitation service for children and young people with acquired brain injuries (ABI) in the East of England.

**Dr Nina Rohrer-Baumgartner**

PhD, Neuropsychologist at Sunnaas Rehabilitation Hospital, Norway

Dr Nina Marit is a specialist in clinical neuropsychology and has extensive experience within the fields of developmental psychology, neuropsychology, and rehabilitation psychology. Together with colleagues at Sunnaas Rehabilitation Hospital (Norway), she developed the Child in Context Intervention (CICI) study, a randomized controlled trial that tests the effects of an individualized, goal-oriented intervention for children and adolescents (6-16 years) in the chronic phase of acquired brain injury (ABI). The intervention focuses on the everyday challenges of the children and families and the therapists work closely with the children and adolescents, their families, and schools. From 2025, the CICI team will also focus on implementation research. The long-term goal is to provide evidence-based, holistic, yet individualized rehabilitation to children in the chronic phase of ABI who have unmet health-care needs.

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It's not only the child that lives with a brain injury.




That's why we tailor our interventions not just for each individual, but also their family, school and wider support network.

Our team's expert knowledge and professional support ensures that progress is measured and adapted, resulting in meaningful outcomes that put families at the heart.

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A photograph of a woman with blonde hair, wearing a blue and white striped shirt, hugging a young boy from behind. The boy is wearing a yellow t-shirt and grey pants, and is laughing. They are in a garden with green grass and a wooden fence in the background.

Zach,
our client

Imagine what's possible

We're proud to support the Recolo Building Bridges Conference

Our legal and financial experts are committed to helping our clients access the care, rehabilitation and compensation they need. We help them to **imagine** what's possible, so nothing feels impossible.

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