

4th International Conference on Lightweight Materials & Engineering Structures **LIMAS 2025**



Call for Papers

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About the Conference

The modern trend in selection of materials and structural forms for high strength-weight ratio is governed by the growing need for low-cost, high performance structures. The amount of material has a direct bearing on cost. Therefore, the first step towards the cheapest structure is to minimize the weight without disproportionately affecting the strength, stiffness or fabrication cost. Composite materials are a matrix of two or more materials that give then combined superior properties of each constituent materials while keeping the weight low. They saw extensive use in the aerospace and marine sectors along with aluminium. With increasing research efforts, more lightweight materials and structural forms are coming into the industrial arena. Carbon fibre in aircrafts and biomedicine, GFRP reinforced concrete for bridges, aluminium and GFRP in boat hulls and offshore structures. As light-weight applications entail the use of strong but low-density materials, aluminium alloys are generally used. Light-weight steel-aluminium alloys has its share in the automotive and civil industry. However, new approaches in fabrication techniques are leading to the increased use of fibre reinforced plastics. The adoption of strong but light-weight members helps to achieve reduction in the overall stress levels together with handling, manipulation and pay-load costs. These factors are important in such applications as ships, high speed vessels and offshore structures. Friction stir welding is an innovative approach for fabrication in these cases. However, cost dominates the path forward as always. A careful balance of cost, performance and reliability determines the future of material or structural form and decides whether this would tip the scale against conservative structural option. This ever more pushes the need for academia to interact with the industry. LIMAS 2025 provides the perfect opportunity to that end, as it facilitates a platform for leading researchers, technology developers, industrial players and supply chain partners to converge. Bringing the expert and pioneers together the conference promotes the methodologies, exchange of ideas and the way forward to commercialisation.

Conference Themes

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| • Structural design criteria | • Multifunctional Composites | weight sandwich structures and other joining techniques |
| • Safety and reliability | • Adaptive response, control and reconfiguration, smart lightweight structures | • Non destructive testing and health monitoring |
| • Structural Analysis and optimisation | • Nanocomposites for lightweight structures | • Tensegrity Structures |
| • Impact and Dynamic structural analysis | • Multi-Functional lightweight materials, aluminium, magnesium & steel | • Applications: Industry Case Studies |
| • Damage tolerance, fatigue, degradation | • Bioinspiration, biomimetics and self-healing | • Applications: Aerospace, marine, defence, offshore and civil |
| • Processing and manufacturing | • Friction stir welding in lightweight | |
| • Manufacturing upscaling and automation | | |
| • Structural Testing Methods | | |

Registration Fees

Full Registration: £395
Student Registration: £295

Key Dates

Abstract Deadline: 20 March 2025
Final Payment: 2 May 2025
Final Paper: 2 August 2025

Organising Committee

Prof (retd.) Purnendu Das, Director of ASRANet Ltd.
UK Prof Shouxun Ji, Brunel University London, UK
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Dr. Gu Zhong, Chinalco Materials Application Research Institute, China

Keynote Speaker

Professor Shouxun Ji, Brunel University, London, UK



Professor Shouxun Ji is currently a Professor at Brunel University London. He has been focusing on the development of lightweight materials and structures for the automotive industry, aerospace, powered tools, and other sectors.

The main activities include purpose-developed aluminium alloys and magnesium alloys with improved performance at ambient and elevated temperatures, and the hybrid structures using different materials and different joining techniques. He is also working on new materials and structures for special applications, such as materials for explosive cords and

high strength casting materials for aircraft. Several of new materials and structures have been used in several countries in Europe.

Prof. Ji have plenty experiences in high pressure die casting and other shaped-casting processes, extrusion and forging of aluminium alloys. His previous works also included semi-solid metal processing, cast irons, zinc alloys and copper alloys. Prof. Ji has published more than 150 papers in the peer-reviewed scientific Journals and more than 26 international patents. He is the member of three ISO technical committee and one BSI technical committee, and international reviewer of research projects of several countries in Europe and Asia. His research works are nationally and internationally well recognised by the innovation award from CMF UK (2017), the award for 'Person of the Year 2022' from International Magnesium Science and Technology Society, and the '2023 Award of Excellence in the Commercial Cast Product Category' from International Magnesium Association (IMA).

Prof. Ji serves for the Journal of Magnesium and Alloys (Editorial Board Member), Journal of Metallic Materials Research (Co-Editor in Chief), International Journal of Metallic Materials (Associate Editor), Advanced Manufacturing (Associate Editor), Crystals (Editorial Board Member), Materials Science Research India (Editorial Board Member).

Professor Chaitali Ray, Indian Institute of Engineering, Science and Technology, Shibpur India



Professor Chaitali Ray is a Professor in the Department in Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur, India. She is currently the Head of the Department of Civil Engineering. She received Doctoral degree in the Department of Ocean Engineering and Naval Architecture, IIT Kharagpur in 1998. She is involved in teaching and research over 26 years in the fields of Structural Engineering, Dynamics, Computational mechanics, Composite structures and Finite Element Method. Her current research area includes experimental and numerical modelling of laminated composite plates and shells, hybrid composites, biocomposites, hygrothermal analysis,

experimental vibration, failure analysis of composite structures and finite element modelling of FRP Bridge deck. She has undertaken 6 research projects on composite structures. She has published 44 papers in peer reviewed Journals, 42 Conference Papers including 5 Invited Talks and edited Book chapters with Pearson International Edition. She has produced 5 Phds and 1 is ongoing.

She is presently handling a research project funded by ANSYS Inc. in a team of two faculty members and one post-doctoral fellow.

Prof Raj Das, RMIT University, Australia

Prof Raj Das leads the 'Simulation and Modelling' team in the Department of Aerospace Engineering at RMIT University in Australia. He has also an adjunct academic in the University of Auckland (New Zealand) and the University of Quebec (Canada). He is a principal investigator of the 'Sir Lawrence Wackett Aerospace Research Centre' of RMIT University. He is the Chair of the 'National Committee on Applied Mechanics' of Engineers Australia, Vice President of the 'International Congress on Fracture' and past President of the 'International Committee on the Mechanical Behaviour of Materials'.

Prof Raj Das has more than 20 years of experience in design, analysis and optimisation of aerospace materials and structures with a focus on computational simulation, composite structures, failure analysis, and damage tolerance optimisation for civil and defence applications. Prof Das has a PhD from Monash University, Australia in Structural Optimisation and Failure Analysis. Prof Das has previously worked in the University of Auckland, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), and the University of Manchester. Prof Das has published more than 350 papers in international journals and conferences and has been granted several national and international awards and fellowships from Europe, the US and Asia.

Professor. Wenchao Yang, Northwestern Polytechnical University, China

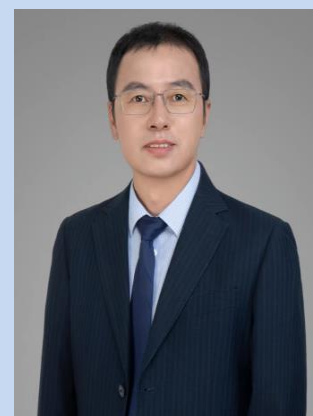
Professor. Wenchao Yang is a professor at Department of Materials Science & Engineering, Northwestern Polytechnical University at Xi'an, China. He received his Ph. D. in Central South University in China in 2011 and was a research fellow of Brunel University London in United Kingdom from 2011 to 2015. And now, He has published more than 100 papers in international journals in metallic materials science and has been serving as a youth editorial board of Materials Research Letters. He is selected by the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars of Shaanxi province in China, and the Young Talents Supporting Program of the China Association for Science and Technology, and he is also a winner of the Excellent Youth Fund of the National Natural Science Foundation of China.

Prof. Xia Ming Xu, Ningxia University/ Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China

Professor. Xia Ming Xu is currently the Dean of the School of Materials and New Energy at Ningxia University and the Director of the Advanced Materials and Crystallization Institute at Shanghai Jiao Tong University. He is a council member of the Committee on Solidification Science and Technology and a board member of the Committee for Material Standards, CMR Society. His research focuses on the structural evolution of atomic clusters during solidification using synchrotron radiation, X-ray, and HRTEM analysis methods and performed thermodynamic analysis. He has developed microfocus X-ray in situ analysis equipment and high-temperature alloy intelligent single-crystal casting technology and equipment. He proposed a mechanism for liquid metal solidification path selection and investigated the atomic mechanism controlling the liquid-solid transition from the perspective of nucleation substrate and melt structure. The single crystal blade manufacturing equipment and microfocus in situ analysis microscope he developed have obtained multiple patents, with related products launched on the market. His original in situ analysis technology and equipment earned a First Prize in Technical Invention from the Society for Materials Research in China.

**Professor. Hailin Yang, Central South University (CSU), China**

Professor. Hailin Yang is currently a full professor at Central South University (CSU). He joined the State Key Laboratory of Powder Metallurgy in CSU in 2010. He has worked as a research fellow at Brunel Centre for Advanced Solidification Technology (BCAST) in Brunel University London from 2013 to 2015, focusing on developing Al alloys and structures for the automotive industry, aerospace, powered tools, and other sectors. After rejoining the State Key Laboratory of Powder Metallurgy in CSU in 2015, his main activities include (a) the development of high strength aluminum alloys and high/medium entropy alloy (HEA) in terms of 3D printing; (b) the development of ultra-strong strength powder metallurgy (P/M) based high/medium entropy alloy (HEA) in terms of defect engineering; (c) Refractory metal based biomaterials.



Professor Xixi Dong, Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, China

Professor Xixi Dong is currently a professor at Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, China. He obtained the PhD degree from Tsinghua University, China, in 2015, after that he worked at Brunel University London in collaboration with Professor Shouxun Ji between 2016 and 2023. His research interest includes advanced aluminum and magnesium alloys, advanced casting technology, additive manufacturing and intelligent manufacturing.



Prof. Dong's work on high strength and ductility cast aluminum alloys and their applications won the very prestigious and the only Innovation Award from UK Cast Metal Industry in 2017. His work on high temperature cast magnesium alloys and their applications won the International Magnesium Science & Technology Awards in 2022. His work on high thermal conductivity cast magnesium alloys and their applications won the International Magnesium Association Awards of Excellence in 2023.

Prof. Dong has authored over 50 publications in reputational journals such as Acta Materialia, over 10 plenary and invited talks in international conferences. He has registered 15 patents in WO, EU, UK, US, SE and CN. He is the youth editorial board of 4 scientific journals. He has developed collaborations with well-known scientists and enterprises from UK, EU and China.

Professor Janice Dulieu-Barton, University of Bristol, UK

Professor Janice Dulieu-Barton is a Professor of Experimental Mechanics in the Bristol Composites Institute at the University of Bristol, where she is the Director of the New CDT in Innovation for Sustainable Composites Engineering and the Industrial Doctorate Centre in Composites Manufacture. Janice received her PhD in 1993 from Manchester University researching the topic now known as 'thermoelastic stress analysis'. She has published over 500 papers with 150 in archival journals. Janice's expertise is in imaging for data rich material characterisations and structural integrity assessments, with a focus on creating new measurement methodologies using Infra-Red (IR) imaging. She has won numerous grants that have allowed her to develop novel approaches in experimental mechanics, most recently focusing on integration of flexible photonics into composite structures with colleagues at the University of Southampton.



Professor Aiqin Wang, Henan University of Science and Technology, China



Professor Aiqin Wang is a full professor in Henan University of Science and Technology in China. She received her Ph. D in Zhengzhou University in 2008. Her research interest is in the design, preparation and control of the microstructure and performance of advanced metallic materials, including the silicon carbide reinforced aluminum matrix (SiC/Al) composites, copper-aluminum (Cu/Al) layered composites, and the forming technologies of molybdenum alloys, titanium alloys and aluminum alloy parts. She is the PI of >10 projects funded by the National Natural Science Foundation of China, National Key R&D Program of China, and major special projects of innovation-led industrial clusters in Zhengluo New National Self-

creation Zone. In 2017, she received the second-rank award from the Science and Technology of China Machinery Industry Federation for the contribution in casting large-scale stainless steel components. In 2018, She received the first-rank award from the Science and Technology of the Nonferrous Metals Society of China for the contribution in casting and rolling of copper-aluminum layered composite materials. In 2019, She received the second-rank award from the Henan Science and Technology Progress Board for the contribution in the key manufacturing technology of pure molybdenum. She has published >100 scientific papers in the peer reviewed scientific journals and awarded 14 Chinese invention patents.

Prof. John Summerscales, University of Plymouth, Uk



John Summerscales was awarded PhD by the University of Plymouth (UoP) for a study of hybrid composites before five years with the Ministry of Defence (Navy) on the mechanical and non-destructive characterisation of fibreglass composite materials. In 1987, he joined the Advanced Composites Manufacturing Centre (ACMC at UoP) to promote technology transfer within the composites industry and to promote composites to a wider engineering audience. ACMC hosted >2500 industrial delegates from around the world for continuing professional development, and undertook R&D, consultancy and publishing work.

John leads the “with composites” accredited undergraduate degree pathway for mechanical, marine and aerospace courses. John is currently Professor of Composites Engineering at the University of Plymouth, primarily focussed on teaching composites and long-term research with a sustainability focus. He is a Chartered Engineer (CEng), Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) and Chartered Scientist (CSci). He has edited books on *Non-Destructive Testing of Fibre-Reinforced Plastics Composites* (two volumes, 1987/1990), *Microstructural Characterisation of Fibre-Reinforced Composites* (1998), and co-edited *Marine Applications of Advanced Fibre-reinforced Composites* (2016) and *Marine Composites: Design and Performance* (2019). He was awarded the IOM3 Leslie Holliday Prize in 2023.

Dr. Jiehua Li, University of Leoben, Austria



Priv.-Doz. Dr. Jiehua Li was born in 1979. He graduated and obtained his Ph. D degree from State Key Laboratory of Solidification Processing, Northwestern Polytechnic University in 2010. During his Ph.D study (from 2008-07 to 2009-08), he also worked as a joint Ph.D candidate in Australian Centre for Microscopy and Microanalysis, University of Sydney, Australia.

After his Ph.D in January 2010, he moved to Austria and worked as University Assistant in Chair of Casting Research (Lehrstuhl für Gießereikunde), University of Leoben (Montanuniversität Leoben). In July 2014, he has been promoted to Senior Lecturer in Chair of Casting Research (Lehrstuhl für Gießereikunde), University of Leoben (Montanuniversität Leoben). On May, 2015, he was promoted to Privatdozent.

His research works mainly focus on (i) melting metallurgy, (ii) high performance alloys, (iii) solidification principles, (iv) advanced casting technologies, and (v) advanced scanning / transmission electron microscopy and atom probe tomography.

Currently, he is leading one project supported by Austrian Science Funding (FWF), two projects supported by Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG), and 5 projects supported by industry companies (SAG Austria, Neuman Al Austria, Aeromet UK, BMW Germany, Eckart Germany). On the basis of his research work, 45 first-authored and 70 co-authored, peer-reviewed papers have been published in prestigious journals, including Acta Mater. (12). H-index: 29. Total indexing: 3105 (Google Scholar update on 2024-09-17). He was the reviewer of more than 31 prestigious journals, including Acta Mater, Scripta Mater and Metallurgical and Materials Transactions A. He holds two Chinese patents and one USA patent.

He was the winner of the international prestigious HZG Magnesium Research Award in 2017. In 2018, he was awarded a Humboldt Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers, worked as guest researcher in Max-Planck-Institut für Eisenforschung (Max-Planck-Institute for Steel Research) (now Max-Planck-Institut für Nachhaltige Materialien, Max-Planck-Institute for Sustainable Materials) with a host of Prof Dr Dierk Raabe (four months every year in 2018 (June to September), 2019 (June to September), 2021 (November 2023 to February 2024)). In 2021, he was awarded the best paper of S2P2021 (16th International Conference on Semi Solid Processing of Alloys and Composites). He is the chairman of S2P2021 and the member of the international scientific committee of Semi Solid Processing of Alloys and Composites. In 2022, he was nominated the editor of Metal, Special casting & nonferrous alloys, Foundry and China foundry, the guest editor of special issues (Advances in semi-solid forming, Grain Refinement and Mechanical Properties of Cast Alloys) in Metal. In 2022 and 2023, he was nominated the best reviewer of Journal of Magnesium and alloys.

Luciano Lima, UERJ – State University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



Professor Luciano Lima (PhD) teaches at both undergraduate and graduate levels at the College of Engineering. He is deeply engaged in research on steel and composite structures. In the last 20 years, he has been working on activities related to laboratory testing, numerical modelling, advanced analyses, and structural design.

He has been awarded the *Anísio Teixeira* Prize as the Best Professor elected by the students from UERJ Science and Technology Centre (2013 and 2015). His mentored students (undergraduate, MSc and PhD) received many Awards from the Rio de Janeiro Engineering Council (CREA-RJ) for their developed works in steel and composite structures, mainly regarding stainless steel structures.

Professor Lima is the co-author of three books about steel structures. Furthermore, he was chair of three international conferences held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: [SDSS](#) (2010), [ISTS15](#) (2015) and [10th ICSAS](#) (2024).

He has been working as an Associate Editor in Structures Elsevier journal. In addition, he coordinates many research projects funded by National Brazilian Agencies such as FAPERJ, CNPq and CAPES.

Jian-Fei Chen, Southern University of Science, China



Jian-Fei Chen is a Chair Professor and founder of Ocean Engineering at Southern University of Science and Technology (SUSTech). Prior to joining SUSTech in 2019, he was Professor of Structural and Civil Engineering at Queen's University Belfast from 2013 to 2019 and Reader at the University of Edinburgh from 2006 to 2013. He was the President of the International Institute for FRP in Construction (IIFC) from 2014 to 2018. Professor Chen co-authored the book "FRP-strengthened RC Structures",

which has been translated into Chinese, Korean, and Persian. He has authored or co-authored about 400 publications. His work has been widely cited and adopted by many international standards and design guidelines. He is one of the founders of the theory of FRP-strengthened concrete structures. His contributions have earned him prestigious awards, including the Howard Medal from the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) and the IIFC Medal. According to Elsevier research in 2016, he was one of the 150 Most Cited Researchers worldwide in Civil Engineering. He has also been named among the World's Top 2% Scientists by Stanford University from 2020 to 2024.

Dr. Koko, at Lloyd's Register Applied Technology Group (ATG), Canada



Dr. Koko is Team Leader of the Structures and Risk Group at Lloyd's Register Applied Technology Group (ATG), Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. He has over 34 years' experience in a wide range of engineering disciplines, including structural reliability and risk analysis methodologies; analysis, design and life cycle management of marine and energy assets; and advanced finite element methods. In his current role, Dr. Koko has undertaken a technical lead role in structural integrity and reliability of marine structures including lightweight structures, risk assessment/ management of marine systems and operations, including LNG/ LPG vessel operations; ship-to-ship oil and gas transfer operations, alternative fuels for ship systems, and transport of dangerous goods on passenger ships. His recent activities on lightweight structures have focused on analysis methodologies for optimizing composite propellers for noise reduction and energy saving devices. Dr. Koko also serves as an adjunct professor in the Civil Engineering Department at Dalhousie University in Halifax, NS. He has co-authored over 70 journal and conference papers and over 200 technical reports. Dr. Koko is a registered professional engineer in the province of Nova Scotia.

Professor Hailiang Yu , Central South University, China



Professor Hailiang Yu is a distinguished professor of the Shenghua Scholars Program at Central South University. He has published more than 250 papers in journals such as Engineering and Int. J. Plast. And he has published three academic works with Springer and Science Press. In the past five years, he has won the First Prize of the Science and Technology Progress Award of the China Nonferrous Metals Industry (ranked first), the Second Prize of the Science and Technology Progress Award of the China Nonferrous Metals Industry (ranked first), the First Prize of the Fourth NFSOC Higher Education Teaching Achievement Award (ranked first, for

postgraduate education), the First Prize of the First NFSOC Higher Education Teaching Achievement Award (ranked second, for undergraduate education). His academic part-time positions include: Member of the Director of the Chinese Nonferrous Metals Society; Member of the Composite Materials Professional Committee of the Chinese Nonferrous Metals Society; Member of the Metal Matrix Composite Materials Professional Committee of the Mainland General Association of SAMPLE; Member of the Plasticity Engineering Branch of the Chinese Mechanical Engineering Society; Member of the Metallurgical Equipment Branch of the Chinese Society for Metals; Member of the CAE Simulation Professional Committee of the Chinese Association for System Simulation; Key reader of Metall. Mater. Trans. A; young Correspondent Expert of Engineering; and Editorial Board Member of China Mechanical Engineering, Journal of Plasticity Engineering, Acta Metallurgica Sinica (English Edition), Journal of Central South University and Scientific Reports.

Dr James Underwood, BMT Limited, UK



As Senior Principal Naval Architect, James Underwood holds the role of Structures & Materials Capability Lead at BMT Limited. James also holds the role of Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Southampton, where he is co-Chair of the Maritime Engineering Industrial Advisory Board.

James specialises in the use of finite element analysis for ultimate strength and residual strength assessment of ship structures, ship design and complex integration projects.

At BMT, James is responsible for the technical leadership and assurance of structural design projects, spanning from new build surface ship design to in-service equipment change and refit projects for ships and submarines. Design work is complemented by novel research work surrounding the ultimate strength of ship structures.

From 2018 - 2023 James held the role of Whole Ship Structures Lead for the UK Royal Navy Type 31 frigate design, additionally leading the fabrication block lifting team in the final year or his involvement in the project. Subsequently he has led the workflow across engineering consultancy projects, as well as being responsible for the team management and capability development of structural design and analysis skills for BMT across the

UK.

As a longstanding member of the International Ship and Offshore Structures Congress, James is currently Chair of ISSC Committee V.7 Structural Assessment During Operations.

Dr. Ying Chen, Xiamen University of Technology, China



Dr. Ying Chen is currently an Associate Professor at Xiamen University of Technology in China. She obtained her bachelor's degree from Central South University, China, in 2010 and earned her PhD from the University of Southampton, UK, in 2014. She joined Xiamen University of Technology in May 2015 and was promoted to Associate Professor in October 2020.

Dr. Chen has been actively engaged in research for 15 years on the strengthening and toughening of aviation aluminum alloys, with a particular focus on severe plastic deformation. She has led several significant research projects, including those funded by the National Natural Science Foundation of China and the Natural Science Foundation of Fujian Province, China.

Dr. Chen maintains long-term collaborations with renowned research teams both domestically and internationally, including institutions in the UK and Malaysia. Her academic contributions include over 30 papers published in high-impact journals such as *Acta Materialia*, as well as over 10 keynote and invited talks at prestigious international conferences, including CMC, ICAA, NanoSPD7, the 7th CNS2023, and THERMEC.

LIMAS 2025

About Sutton Town

Sutton is the principal town in the London Borough of Sutton in South London, England. It lies on the lower slopes of the North Downs, and is the administrative headquarters of the Outer London borough. It is 10 miles (16 km) south- south west of Charing Cross, and is one of the thirteen metropolitan centers in the London Plan.

Sutton has the largest library in the borough, several works of public art and four conservation areas. It is home to several large international companies and the sixth most important shopping area in London, centered on Sutton High Street. Sutton railway station is the borough's largest, with frequent services to central London and other destinations, including Hammersmith. It is home to the Royal Marsden Hospital and the Institute of Cancer Research, where there are plans to create the world's second biggest cancer research campus. Sutton borough is among the highest performing education authorities in the country. In 2011 it was the top performing borough for GCSE results in England.

About Venue

The Holiday Inn, London Sutton is situated in the Sutton town center. It is 5 minutes walking distance from the Sutton rail station. It is well connected with London Heathrow and Gatwick airport and 45 minutes drive from both the airports. It takes about 30 minutes from London Victoria and London bridge station to Sutton rail station. Lots of interesting places near holiday inn such as:

- ◇ Chessington World of Adventure
- ◇ Wimbledon All England Tennis Club
- ◇ Epsom Race course
- ◇ Hampton Court Palace
- ◇ Buckingham Palace
- ◇ Houses of Parliament
- ◇ London Eye

NETWORKING SESSION—WINE AND SNACKS 2 July 2025, 18:00-19:30

**Holiday Inn London Sutton,
Gibson Street, Sutton, SM1 2RF**



Photo of the Hotel - HOLIDAY Inn London, Sutton

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