

THE WORLD CAME TO LONDON IN JUNE 2025

After much travel during the first half of 2025, I was 'grounded' in London for the month of June, and London did not disappoint. I am sharing this blog to share the many great events took place all across London, with many tech and innovation leaders coming to London to participate.

During the first week of June, SXSW arrived in London. SXSW has been a music/entertainment/tech and innovation festival from Austin, Texas which has been operating since 1987. This year, SXSW London kicked off on 2nd June, and I am delighted to be on the Advisory Council. For its first year in London, SXSW surpassed expectations, with a highlight hearing from Björn from ABBA discussing how he is using AI to write music. I was also honoured to meet His Majesty the King who visited one of the SXSW London venues and met with several leaders across East London.

Right after SXSW London, London Tech Week 2025 kicked off for its 12th year. From humble beginnings back in 2014 (Tech London Advocates was an original co-founder), this year took another big step. Over 30,000 attendees from 125 countries attended the main stages and exhibition hall at Olympia in Hammersmith. A key highlight was having Prime Minister Keir Starmer open the week and conduct a fireside chat with Jensen Huang, CEO of NVIDIA.

Global Tech Advocates was the Strategic Partner for the week, and many TLA and GTA groups held fringe events all across London. A highlight for me was the GTA Leaders Breakfast hosted by GTA partner Lloyds Banking Group. We had so many leaders from around the world come and join London Tech Week.



I was also delighted to see many TLA and GTA sponsors get involved during the week including Penningtons Manches Cooper, KPMG, Spencer Stuart, Google Cloud (as well as Lloyds Banking Group). A big shout out to TLA partner Vorboss who opened their office space for the entire week to host fringe events and provide free work space for LTW attendees.

We had a great media and social media coverage during the week. I started the week (very early) on the opening day joining Sally Bundock on BBC Business News. Each day we published a blog in City AM newspaper sharing insights and experiences during the week and capitalising on the #WheresRuss hashtag from the 25 events I attended.

The first two weeks were massive for London, but the pace continued. The London Kick Off for Cambridge Tech Week took place on 17th June (CamTechWeek starts in September). Muslim Tech Fest took place on 21st June. Many congratulations to Arfah Farooq who is a Co-Founder of the week. I joined the event, which was fantastic in scale and speakers. The event did a great job making the Muslim Tech ecosystem accessible to many Londoners.

The last full week of June was all about London Climate Action Week, with the main events taking place at ExCel in East London. The official opening kicked off on 23rd June. That evening I attended the Super Climate gathering with GTA partner Future Energy Ventures to meet with other investors focusing on climate tech and energy transition.

London was clearly the place to be in June, and I hope many of you mark your calendars to spend plenty of time in London in June 2026 as these events will continue next year (and probably more will be organised as well).

