



Biotechnology and
Biological Sciences
Research Council



Engineering and
Physical Sciences
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Photo from EBNet Bioelectrochemistry for Environmental Systems Workshop - 23/24 November 2023, Newcastle University

EBNet Newsletter - December 2023

New

[EBNet Webinar: Organic Solid Waste Bio-treatment in China and UK: Research and Practice](#)

10-11:00, Monday, 18 December 2023, online

Chaired by Dr Jane Gilbert, Carbon Clarity, we are joined by Dr Li Xie, College of Environmental Science and Engineering, Tongji University & Yingying He, Tongji University to explore the problem of organic wastes. Register [here](#).

Congratulations to the winners of the EBNet-sponsored [Green Stories](#) competition. With over 160 entries from 37 countries these stories covered all genres, technologies and perspectives. Our thanks to the judges and entrants alike for their efforts. Find the winners [here](#) and our report [here](#).



Now Open

EBNet funding opportunities for academia and industry are highlighted below.

[EBNet Placement Call](#) - Always open

These are worth up to £1,500 for UK-based placements and £3,000 for overseas placements.

[ECR Conference Travel Bursary](#) - Always open

Looking to present your work at a major conference and lack funding? Given the increased cost of international flights we have raised our support to **£2,000** (max.) for full oral presentations to our listed conferences in 2023/24. Send in your application as soon as you are notified - we have a number set aside for each conference!

[EBNet: Share With A Peer \(SWAP\) Travel Bursary](#)

Always open. Available to Early Career Researchers

Proud of the work going on in your lab? Fancy a visit to another lab tackling similar topics? We have just the thing for you, We can offer **up to £250*** towards accommodation, meals, and travel per person - just make a short video clip &/or pictures suitable for our website. [Flyer](#).

Spotlight On...

Do you have any good news to share with other members? Email us details if you want a shout-out in the next newsletter.



[ISWA Reports](#)

There is a new International Solid Waste Association report out - *A Practitioner's Guide to Preventing and Managing Contaminants in Organic Waste Recycling*. Find out more about the different types of contaminants that can enter organic waste streams intended for recycling, their impacts and how they can be prevented or removed [here](#).

[UKWIR Reports](#)

There is a new UK Water Industry Research report out - *Quantifying and reducing direct greenhouse gas emissions from wastewater treatment processes - Phase 2*. Find out more about process emission of nitrous oxide and fugitive emissions of methane [here](#).

[IWA Special Issues](#)

Last chance to submit your papers to IWA: Water Science & Technology for these special issues: *Advanced Nanomaterials for Treatment of Wastewater*. Deadline: 31 December 2023 (see [here](#)); and *Carbon Neutrality of Sewage Treatment Plants*. Deadline: 29 December 2023 (see [here](#)).

[Congratulations](#)

It is always nice to see the sector recognised. Congratulations to Bangor University, a winner in the [15th Round of The Queen's Anniversary Prizes](#) for their work on Wastewater-based monitoring; and to Prof. Karen Johnson, winner of the [Royal Society Rosalind Franklin Award](#) for her achievements in environmental engineering.

Congratulation also go to Prof. Sebastian Farnaud and his team for their [Innovate KTP award](#) working with N2S on bioleaching for precious metal recovery.

[Professional Societies and Associations](#)

Did you know you can join many professional associations for free? The [Royal Society of Chemistry](#), [CIWM](#) and [CIWEM](#) all have free student memberships available, and many others - [The Biochemical Society](#), [The Microbiology Society](#), [SoBRA](#), [IWA](#) - offer much reduced rates.

[Are you getting the latest information from us?](#)

More people are turning to EBNet for speedy access to events, reports, jobs, PhD/Postdoc positions etc.

Join us on [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#).



Forthcoming Events

Find selected upcoming events below.

For more, go to: [Events Roundup](#)

[The 29th Molecular Microbial Ecology Group meeting](#) - 18-19 December 2023, Queen Mary University of London, London

[KTN: Industrial Gases to Chemicals \(IG2C\) - Defossilising the chemicals sector](#) - 11 January 2024

[Carbogenics: Anaerobic digestion: Principles and practice](#) - 15 January 2024, Lincoln

[Cloud-SPAN: Genomics workshop](#) - 15-24 January 2024 (Scholarship deadline: 18 December 2023)

[KTN: Mission Innovation: Integrated Biorefineries programme](#) - 22 January 2024

[Innovate UK Circular Economy Innovation Network: Redefining Sustainable Innovations: the Circular Economy Exchange](#) - 8 February 2024

[KTN: Net Zero Innovations Unveiled in Norfolk's Agri-food Industry](#) - 21 February 2024

[IBiolC: 10th anniversary conference](#) - 13-14 March 2024, Technology and Innovation Centre, Glasgow

[The Letters in Applied Microbiology Early Career Scientist Research Symposium](#) - 15 May 2024, The University of the West of England, Bristol

[RSC: Biocatalysis Faraday Discussion](#) - 22-24 May 2024, London

[11th International Conference on Sustainable Solid Waste Management](#) - 19-22 June 2024, Rhodes Island, Greece. (Abstracts by: 31 December 2023)

[19th IWA Leading Edge Conference on Water and Wastewater Technologies](#) - 24-28

June, Essen, Germany (Abstracts by:15 December 2023)

[World Biogas Expo 2024](#) - 10/11 July 2024, NEC, Birmingham

[IWA: Nutrient Removal and Recovery Conference 2024](#) - 17-21 November 2024

[FEMS2025: the 11th Congress of European Microbiologists](#) - 13-16 July 2025, Milan, Italy

Funding

Funding opportunities for academia and industry are highlighted below.

For more, go to: [Funding Roundup](#)



[Innovate UK: Analysis for Innovators \(A4I\)](#) - 3 January 2024

[British Council: Early Career Fellowships scheme](#) - 8 January 2024

[Innovate UK: Innovation loans future economy.](#) - 10 January 2024

[BBSRC: Bioscience Big Ideas Pipeline](#) - 12 January 2024

[BBSRC: Standard research grant](#) - 17 January 2024

[BBSRC: Innovation to Commercialisation of University Research \(ICUR\) Discover](#) -

30 January 2024

[BBSRC: Future-proofing plants to a changing climate](#) - 6 February 2024

[Innovate UK: Farming innovation programme: research starter round 4](#) - 14 February

2024

[NERC: Large grant outlines](#) - 7 March 2024

[Innovate UK: Eureka collaborative R&D: Eurostars 3 Call 6](#) - 14 March 2024

[EPSRC: Place Based Impact Acceleration Account: Round 2](#) - 21 March 2024

[EPSRC: Network grant](#) - open

[EPSRC: New investigator award](#) - open

[EPSRC overseas travel grant](#) - open

[Pre-announcement: Future Leaders Fellowships: round 9](#)

- tbc



Jobs, Training, Awards & PhDs

Did you know we have funds available to help members access placements in industry or academia?

Jobs (also see [FindAPostDoc](#) & [Jobs.ac.uk](#))

[Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology](#) - 17 December 2023,

Newcastle University

[Postdoctoral Research Associate/Fellow](#) - 19 December 2023, University of Exeter

[Research Technician](#) - 2 January 2024, Newcastle University

[Assistant or Associate Professor in Ecology and Evolution](#) - 3 January 2024, University of

Warwick

[Senior Research Technician](#) - 4 January 2024, University of Exeter

[DEFRA: Research and Development Fellowships](#) - 8 January 2024

[Open Rank Senior Lecturer to Professor in Living Systems](#) - 29 February 2024, University

of Exeter

Training

[Rhodes 2024 Summer School \(6th PhD Summer School\): Executive Training on](#)

[waste management & circular economy](#) - 17/18 June 2024. Rhodes, Greece

Awards and Competitions

[Royal Society: Rosalind Franklin Award and Lecture](#) - nominations open

[RAEng: The MacRobert Award](#) - nominations open until: 31 January, 2024

PhDs (see [FindaPhD](#))

[Characterising hydrocarbon degradation pathways for post oil spill monitoring](#)

[using bacterial hydrocarbon biodegradation genes](#) - 10 January 2024, University of Essex

[BEST N2: Managing the Nitrogen Cycle and Tackling Fixed Nitrogen Pollution Using](#)

[BEST ANAMMOX for Enhanced N2 Production](#) - 10 January 2024, Loughborough University

[Close the Loop: Biotechnology-based Recycling Methods for Synthetic Textiles](#) - 12

Publications

[New Frontiers in Anaerobic Digestion \(AD\) Processes](#)

By: Sonia Heaven, Sigrid Kusch-Brandt and Charles Banks (Eds). Published: June 2023. ISBN 978-3-0365-7999-3 (hardback); ISBN 978-3-0365-7998-6 (PDF).

This book is a reprint of the Special Issue New Frontiers in Anaerobic Digestion (AD) Processes, published in Processes.

[Does pre-enrichment of anodes with acetate to select for *Geobacter* spp. enhance performance of microbial fuel cells when switched to more complex substrates?](#)

By: Beate Christgen *et al.* In: Front. Microbiol. Sec. Microbiological Chemistry and Geomicrobiology. Volume 14 - 2023.

[An integrated approach for water quality assessment in African catchments based on physico-chemical and biological indicators](#)

By: Bitew K. Dessie *et al.* In: Science of The Total Environment. Volume 908, 15 January 2024, 168326

[Sustainability Assessment of Dihydroxyacetone \(DHA\) Production from Glycerol: A Comparative Study between Biological and Catalytic Oxidation Routes](#)

By: Piyawan Thanahiranya *et al.* In: ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng. 2023, 11, 49, 17425–17439

Still here?

Naughty or nice?

As Xmas approaches, the idea of positive reinforcement comes to mind, exemplified by Santa; why risk coal in your stocking when it could be presents? The idea is rooted in the work of B. F. Skinner, a behaviourist psychologist working in the 1930s & 1940s.

Embedding desirable sustainable practices takes work, so why not practice your skills with a few *in situ* experiments this year on:

Excess presents - reward deliveries with the provision of mince pies and carrots (a positive reinforcement)

Over consumption - remove discomfort with indigestion tablets (negative reinforcement)

Avoid food waste - commit to making strange soup from any left-overs (a positive punishment)

Remember the bin! - a service taken for granted, until an unsightly mess lingers after a missed collection (a negative punishment)