



## EBNet Newsletter - February 2022

### New

#### EBNet Webinars

Our thanks to all the Speakers and Chairs for their insights at the last two EBNet webinars - on "[Microplastics](#)" and "[Bioinformatics](#)". Help us inform the activities of the [Bioinformatics Working Group](#) and fill in our survey [here](#). Find past webinar content in the [Resources](#) area (uploaded as soon as we get permissions). Alternatively, just subscribe to the [EBNet YouTube channel](#) where you can also find our new outreach video: "[What is Environmental Biotechnology](#)".

#### [WBE - what other than Covid-19 have we been monitoring in wastewater?](#)

Thursday, 10th March 2022 at 10.00–11.00 (GMT)

The latest fascinating talk from our [Environmental Sensors and Wastewater Surveillance Working Group](#) is by Professor Kevin Thomas, QAEHS, University of Queensland.

[Register here now](#).

#### [EBNet Webinar: Advances in Anaerobic membrane Bioreactors \(AnMBR\)](#)

Thursday, 21st April 2022 at 12:30–14.00

Keep current with the latest developments from 2 top speakers and participate in the online chat to engage with questions. [Register here now](#).



### Now Open

*EBNet funding opportunities for academia and industry are highlighted below.*

#### [3rd EBNet Proof of Concept Call](#)

Call open: 1 March 2022. Deadline: 16 May 2022 (midnight)

Our 3rd Proof of Concept funding Call is on its way. Funding for projects is available at the £25K, £50K and £100K level. So polish your best ideas and be ready for the launch this spring. New this year, the process will be held "double-blind".

#### [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? We have support worth up to £1,500 - ask for details.

## 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.*



### Can You Spare a Moment for a Quick Survey?

For our **early career researcher** (ECR) members - tell us what you want from EBNet and we'll work to make it happen. Help us to help you [HERE](#).

And a really quick one for all our **industry** members. Ever wanted to throw a query into the ether? We're looking for *questions from industry* to deploy at our next ECR conference.

Puzzle our ECRs and share a question [HERE](#).

More broadly, how can **BBSRC** best support businesses with technology development for the biosciences? All responses are welcome before 21 February 2022 [HERE](#).



## Forthcoming Events

*Find selected upcoming events below.*

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

### [KTN: Approaches to Life Cycle Assessment in the Bioeconomy](#)

24 February 2022

### [KTN: How to apply to the IETF Phase 2 fund](#)

1 March 2022

### [Low Carbon Agriculture 2022](#)

8-9 March 2022, NAEC, Stoneleigh

### [KTN/UK Circular Plastics Network: Global Research & Innovation in Plastics Sustainability \(GRIPS\)](#)

15-17 March 2022

### [E3BNet: 'Top tips for writing better manuscripts'](#)

16 March 2022

### [Circular Economy community engagement workshops](#)

24 March & 29 March 2022

### [Aqua Enviro: Wastewater Based Epidemiology \(WBE\) virtual conference](#)

29 March 2022

### [Biovale: Innovation to unlock growth in the AD industry](#)

29 March 2022

### [Aqua Enviro: Get one up on WINEP](#)

12 May 2022, The Studio, Leeds

### [Climate Change Adaptation in the UK Water Sector](#)

9 June 2022, Birmingham

### [World Biogas Expo, Summit and the AD & Biogas Industry Awards 2022 – postponed](#)

New date 15-16 June 2022

### [Total Food 2022](#)

13-14 July 2022, at Jubilee Conference Centre, University of Nottingham

## Funding

Funding opportunities for academia and industry are highlighted below.

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



### [RAEng: Enterprise Fellowships](#)

Stage 1 deadline: 28 February 2022. Stage 2 deadline: 4 April 2022

### [NBIC: Collaborative Training Partnerships - Project Proposals](#)

2 March 2022

### [IBioC: Spin Out Funding](#)

3 March 2022

### [JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship](#)

9 March 2022

### [NERC: Environmental sciences: global partnerships seedcorn fund 2022](#)

10 March 2022

### [POST: Parliamentary Academic Fellowship Scheme - Directed Call](#)

13 March 2022

### [BBSRC: Follow-on fund and super follow-on fund](#)

16 March 2022

### [Eureka Eurostars 3: call 2](#)

24 March 2022

### [HVBNet Business Interaction Voucher](#)

29 March 2022

### [IBioC: Feasibility Funding](#)

1 April 2022

### [NERC: Improve environmental science research through new equipment](#)

5 April 2022

### [Innovate UK Smart Grants: January 2022](#)

13 April 2022

### [UKRI: UK-Canada Globalink doctoral exchange scheme](#)

26 April 2022

### [RAEng: UK Intelligence Community \(IC\) Postdoctoral Research Fellowships](#)

26 April 2022

### [E3BNet: Proof of Concept – Call 4](#)

4 May 2022



## 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/Reader In Water And Environment** - University of Glasgow, 22 February 2022

**Research Assistant** - WASE, 25 February 2022

[Assistant Professor Treating Micropollutants in Solid Phases](#) - Wageningen, 1 March 2022

## Training

### [IBBK: Biogas Hands On](#)

22 February – 15 March 2022 (online)

### [IChemE: Chemical Engineering for Scientists and Other Engineers](#)

28 February 2022

### [AquaEnviro - various](#)

[Wastewater Treatment](#): 1 March 2022

[Optimising Activated Sludge Plants](#): 3 March 2022

[Optimising Anaerobic Digesters: Sewage Sludge](#): 9 March 2022...

### [EMBL-EBI course: Introduction to metabolomics analysis](#)

24-27 May 2022, Cambridge

### [EMBL-EBI course: Bioinformatics for principal investigators](#)

8-10 June 2022

## Awards and Competitions

[The FEMS-JENSEN Award](#) - 1 March 2022

[The FEMS-Lwoff Award](#) - 10 March 2022

[The Earthshot Prize](#) – nominations by 4 March 2022

## PhDs (see [FindaPhD](#))

**Staying fed when you're in hot water: nutrient acquisition by hyperthermophiles in low-nutrient environments** - Queen's University Belfast, 18 February 2022

**Exploiting viral ecology to combat problem organisms in biological wastewater treatment** - Newcastle University, 18 February 2022

**Improved biorecovery of metals from lithium-ion batteries for sustainable recycling** - Coventry University, 29 April 2022

## Publications

### [Engineering microbial technologies for environmental sustainability: choices to make](#)

Willy Verstraete *et al.* Microbial Biotechnology 15(1)

### [The environmental release and ecosystem risks of illicit drugs during Glastonbury Festival](#)

Dan Aberg *et al.* Environmental Research Volume 204, Part B, March 2022, 112061

## Still here?

Social Science is not often connected with biotechnology in the same sentence, but history tells us that people take to new technologies in different ways. From the introduction of machinery in the Industrial Revolution (and the rise of Luddites), the discovery of electrical Galvanism (and the novel "Frankenstein"), or the revolution in genetics ("Jurassic Park" I, II, III, IV...) - society's concerns and unease will find outlets.

Lately, the concept of "overcoming microphobia" is touched upon in a new paper from SfAM (above). Another place to find concerns raised is the latest publication from NATO: "*Emerging Threats of Synthetic Biology and Biotechnology: Addressing Security and Resilience Issues (NATO Science for Peace and Security Series C: Environmental Security)*". For scary bedtime reading it is [free to download](#) on Kindle at Amazon.

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