

## FEBRUARY 2017 NEWSLETTER

Dear Members and subscribers,

Congratulations are due to Professor Martin Jones, who has been awarded a medal by the Aohan Government for his work on millets. You can read what Martin said when I spoke to him about his research, on our [Researcher of the Month page](#).

Professor John Ingram will be in Cambridge on 7<sup>th</sup> March to give this year's Ralph Melville Memorial Lecture on 'Interdisciplinary Food Systems Training'. There are a few spaces left so please [sign up](#) if you'd like to come – the talk will be followed by a wine reception and an opportunity for networking.

We're also now preparing for this year's [Cambridge Science Festival](#), which runs from 13-26 March 2017. The Initiative will hold two public talks: [Our daily bread](#) (14 March); [Inglorious fruit and veg](#) (16 March) in collaboration with CambPlants and the Cambridge Forum for Sustainability & the Environment; and we'll have a stall in the [Plant and Life Sciences Marquee](#) (18 March) in collaboration with the Cambridge Food Security Forum. We hope you'll be able to come along and learn more about the foods you eat.

Best wishes, Jacqueline Garget

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## EVENTS

**20 Feb 2017: [Café Synthetique: Biology as Technology](#).** Café Synthetique is the monthly meetup for the Cambridge synthetic biology community with informal talks, discussion and pub snacks. This month's theme will focus on how biology is used as technology, with a particular focus on how we have and will continue to shape plant crop species.

**22 Feb 2017: [How can researchers better engage with national and global policymaking?](#)** Organised by Cambridge's Faculty of Education and Public Policy SRI. 4-6pm, Homerton College, Cambridge.

**22 Feb 2017: [Nutritious and Delicious: innovations for value-added crops](#),** Norwich.

**24 Feb 2017: [Meeting of Minds for Infectious Diseases](#):** Cambridge Infectious Diseases SRI annual event.

**25 Feb: [1<sup>st</sup> AXEMA-EurAgEng Conference](#) on Intensive and environmentally friendly agriculture: an opportunity for innovation in machinery and systems,** Villepinte, France.

**28 Feb – 1 March 2017: [Fruit and Vegetable Waste Valorisation Funding Workshop](#),** Birmingham. **Register by 9 Jan.**

**1 March 2017: [UK Stakeholders for Sustainable Development Annual Conference](#),** London.

**2-4 March 2017: [16<sup>th</sup> Euro Global Summit on Food and Beverages](#),** Amsterdam.

**7 March 2017: [Interdisciplinary Food Systems Training to Address Global Food Challenges](#)** 6-8pm, Sainsbury Laboratory, Cambridge. Talk by Professor John Ingram, IFSTAL and the University of Oxford. This Ralph Melville Memorial Lecture 2017 is co-organised by the [TAA](#). Book your free place [here](#).

**7 March 2017: Food & Health Forum: [Technology & Innovations in Food and Health](#),** Royal Society of Medicine, London. [Email](#) to register your interest.

**14 March 2017: [Our Daily Bread: what are we eating?](#)** 5:30pm, Dept. Plant Sciences, Cambridge.

**16 March 2017: [Inglorious Fruit and Veg](#)** 6:30pm, Dept. Plant Sciences, Cambridge.

**17-18 March 2017: [VPHA: Controlling Tapeworms: Established & Emerging](#),** Churchill College, Cambridge.

**20-22 March 2017: [3<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Hidden Hunger](#),** Stuttgart, Germany.

**21 March 2017: [Big Data SIG – 'Bring Out Your Data'](#),** Rothamsted Research.

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**23-24 March 2017: [The Sustainability Summit 2017](#)**, London.

**30 March 2017: [Future Proteins Summit 2017](#)**, The Crystal, London.

**30 March 2017: [The Future of UK Agriculture Policy, London](#)**. A Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum Keynote Seminar.

**4 April 2017: The [African Diaspora Biotech Summit 2017](#)**, Sainsbury Lab, Cambridge. **Application deadline 28 Feb.**

**6 April 2017: [NERC Community Consultation Event](#)**, Manchester, to inform NERC's Public Engagement Strategy. **Application deadline 15 March.**

**19 April 2017: [Obesity: Tipping Back the Scales of the Nation](#)**, Manchester.

**27 April 2017: [Next Steps for Sugar Reduction](#)**, London. A Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum Keynote Seminar.

**10-12 May 2017: [InfoAgro 2017](#)**, Almeira, Spain. UK Science & Innovation Network looking for R&D organisations to join the UK delegation.

**16 May 2017: [Transfer of Crop Research Knowledge to Small Farmers](#)** NIAB, Histon. [Tropical Agriculture Association](#) seminar in collaboration with NIAB, CambPlants Hub, and Cambridge Global Food Security Initiative. [Register here.](#)

**6 June 2017: [Research Tackling Emerging Antimicrobial Resistance: Biological & Social Dimensions](#)**. Clare College, Cambridge. Call for papers will open April 2017 – sign up to be notified.

**16-20 July 2017: [11<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Precision Agriculture](#)**. Edinburgh. Abstract deadline 12 Oct 2016.

**30 Oct – 2 Nov 2017: [Total Food 2017, Norwich](#)**. Focused on exploitation of agri-food chain wastes.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

*\*[Contact me](#) if you are an Initiative Member and would like support in promoting your new publication.\**

Vet School's **Andrew Grant** and colleagues: [Identification and initial characterisation of a protein involved in Campylobacter jejuni cell shape](#). *Microb Pathog*, Jan 2017.

Dept. Plant Science's **Uta Paszkowski** and colleagues: [Phosphorus acquisition efficiency in arbuscular mycorrhizal maize is correlated with the abundance of root-external hyphae and the accumulations of transcripts encoding PHT1 phosphate transporters](#). *New Phytol*, Jan 2017.

Inst. Public Health's **Theresa Marteau** and colleagues: [What do we know about the effects of exposure to 'low alcohol' and equivalent product labelling on the amounts of alcohol, food and tobacco people select and consume? A systematic review](#). *BMC Public Health*, Jan 2017.

CEDAR's **Jean Adams, Martin White** and colleagues: [A description of interventions promoting healthier ready-to-eat meals sold by specific food outlets in England: a systematic mapping and evidence synthesis](#). *BMC Public Health*, Jan 2017.

Dept. Archaeology & Anthropology's **Cameron Petrie** and colleagues: [Adaptation to Variable Environments, Resilience to Climate Change: Investigating Land, Water and Settlement in Indus Northwest India](#). *Current Anthropology*, Feb 2017.

**Nature news: [Deadly new wheat disease threatens Europe's crops](#)** refers to work done by **Marcel Meyer** and led by **Chris Gilligan** to model the likely spread of a new strain of wheat stem rust in Sicily.

**ALSO** [BBSRC's Global Food Security Programme](#) has launched its new report on [Environmental tipping points](#) in food systems – can we predict them, and if so, how should we respond?

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## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

*\*If you are a Cambridge researcher interested in putting together an application and would like assistance in finding suitable collaborators/coordinating a group meeting, please [contact me](#).\**

**Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in the Real World:** Arts & Humanities Research Council invites applications for interdisciplinary research examining ways to meet the threat of AMR in the indoor & built environment. **Deadline 28 Feb 2017.**

**Africa Travel Fund for University of Cambridge graduate students.** Financial support towards travel to Africa (Nigeria) for research or study in 2017. **Deadline 10 March 2017.**

**Sustainable Urbanisation Global Initiative (SUGI)/ Food-Water-Energy Nexus.** Total budget €28.5million, for projects to develop more resilient and applied urban solutions to the Food-Water-Energy nexus challenge. **Pre-proposal deadline 15 March 2017.** \*Cambridge applicants may contact [Andrea Salter](#) (*School Research Facilitator for Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences*) for support.

**NIHR PHR researcher-led outline proposals:** Supports research that evaluates public health interventions, specifically to provide new knowledge on the benefits, costs, acceptability and wider impacts of non-NHS interventions intended to improve the health of the public and reduce inequalities in health. **Deadline 4 April 2017.**

**Food and business global challenges programme:** Up to €250,000 for research and innovation projects that contribute to long-term access to affordable, safe & nutritious food for populations in LMICs. Proposals from consortia including a senior researcher at a Dutch research Institute. **Closing date 18 Apr 2017 (LOI by 28 Mar 2017).**

**Healthy diet in early years:** NIHR Public Health Research Programme. **Deadline 25 April 2017.**

**Understanding the challenge of resistance in agriculture.** BBSRC Open Call to encourage research into resistance to chemicals used in crop protection or veterinary practice. **Deadline 27 April 2017 (Intention to Submit: 29 March 2017).**

**The Africa Food Prize (Yara International):** USD 100,000 prize to recognise an individual/ institution whose contributions to African agriculture are forging a new era of sustainable food security. **Deadline 24 June 2017.**

## WORKSHOPS and COMPETITIONS

**27 Feb 2017, 1-5pm: Evaluating your Public Engagement Activity.** Open to Cambridge Graduate School of Life Sciences post-docs and PhD students. Booking required.

**GROW 2017:** UK's Agri-Tech Business Plan Competition, aimed at encouraging innovative commercial concepts that have the potential to become new businesses. **Register interest by 10 March 2017** and receive support from an experienced mentor to develop a business plan.

**Royal Society of Chemistry Emerging Technologies Competition 2017.** Aims to accelerate the commercialisation of innovative technologies in areas including Food and Drink. Receive support and win up to £10k to develop ideas. **Deadline 13 March 2017.**

**Longitude Prize – Discovery Awards:** £10 million prize fund to reward a diagnostic test that helps solve the problem of global antibiotic resistance. **Deadline 21 April 2017.**

**Vice-Chancellor's Awards 2017:** All University of Cambridge researchers are eligible to apply for awards in the areas of Impact and Public Engagement with Research. **Deadline 21 April 2017.**