

## JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

Dear Members and subscribers,

Congratulations are due to Dr Tina Barsby, who was awarded an OBE in the 2018 New Year Honours list. Tina is CEO of the Cambridge-based crop science organisation NIAB, and a member of the Cambridge Global Food Security Steering Committee. Her OBE was awarded for services to agricultural science and biotechnology. [Read more here.](#)

Please contact me with any relevant information you'd like to be included in future newsletters. Cambridge members are also welcome to get in touch for help in promoting new publications, finding collaborators across disciplines, or to discuss any ideas for 2018 activities [relevant to the IRC's focus.](#)

With best wishes for 2018, Jacqueline Garget

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## EVENTS IN CAMBRIDGE

The University of Cambridge Conservation Research Institute (UCCRI) [Early Career Researcher Programme](#) is open to all Cambridge PhD students and postdocs whose research is related to conservation and environmental issues, or who would like to meet researchers in this area. **Sign up for specific events now.** Events include:

**26 Jan: Science-Policy Workshop** from the Parliamentary Office for Sciences and Technology, and talk by Ivan Collister, CSaP Policy Fellow and former civil servant at Number 10. **12-2pm, David Attenborough Building.**

**2 Feb: Publishing for a non-academic audience.** Will de Freitas, The Conversation.

**9 Feb: Community and Social Diversity.** Vanessa Evans, Fauna & Flora International.

**7 Feb: [The Cambridge Sustainable Food Hub](#)** talk by *Duncan Catchpole*, meeting Rooms 1&2, Institute of Metabolic Science, Cambridge Biomedical Campus.

**20 Feb: [Smart Farming: the AI'm of Machine Learning in Agriculture.](#)** Cambridge, book now – the University of Cambridge is a member of Agri-Tech East.

**27 Feb: [Food for Thought: Innovating in an Innovation-Antipathetic Sector](#),** Judge Business School (part of the *Enterprise Tuesday* series). **Register now.**

**1 May: Cambridge-Africa Day.** 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration – save the date.

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## OTHER EVENTS

23 Jan: [Emerging Imaging Technologies in Agri-Food Workshop](#), Birmingham. *Topics will include satellite imaging of crops, food microstructure imaging, advances in machine learning.*

24 Jan: [Counting the Cost \(and Value\) of Natural Capital in Agriculture](#). Norwich. **Book now** – the University of Cambridge is a member of Agri-Tech East.

7 March: [Food Industry Innovation 2018](#), Manchester. **Register your interest now.**

21-22 March: [Global Food Security Symposium](#), Washington DC.

27 March: [Driving engagement, innovation and impact in plant science](#). Sheffield. **Register now.**

14-18 May: **Call for applicants for a [24-hour 'pressure cooker'](#) at the Understanding Risk Forum, Mexico City.** Young researchers and students will form interdisciplinary teams to develop risk communication solutions to real world challenges. **Deadline 26 Jan.**

28-31 May: [Belfast Summit on Global Food Integrity](#). Themes include 'the threat from pathogens to the food system', and 'delivering the nutritional needs for the 21<sup>st</sup> century global population'. **Register now for early bird rate.**

25-29 July: [5<sup>th</sup> International Synthetic and Systems Biology Summer School](#), Siena, Italy. **Register now for early bird rate.**

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

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

Kor, Y, Prabhu, J, Esposito, M. [How large food retailers can help solve the food waste crisis](#). *Harvard Business Review*, Dec 2017. IRC members **Professor Yasemin Kor** and **Professor Jaideep Prabhu** were involved in developing this four-pronged strategy to help retailers.

Alvarado, M *et al.* [Trends in beverage prices following the introduction of a tax on sugar-sweetened beverages in Barbados](#). *Prev Med*, Dec 2017. IRC members **Dr Jean Adams** and **Dr Nigel Unwin** were involved in this descriptive analysis of initial price changes following implementation of a SSB tax using price data provided by a major supermarket chain in Barbados.

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Saar, KL *et al.* [Enhancing power density of biophotovoltaics by decoupling storage and power delivery](#). *Nature Energy*, Jan 2018. IRC member **Dr Paulo Bombelli** was involved in this work to develop a new algae-powered fuel cell five times more efficient than existing models. The cells could provide electricity to areas like rural Africa where there is no electric grid system. Read: [Harnessing the power of algae: new, greener fuel cells move step closer to reality](#).

Ziv, G *et al.* [The potential impact of Brexit on the energy, water and food nexus in the UK: A fuzzy cognitive mapping approach](#). *Applied Energy*, Jan 2018. IRC members **Dr Liz Watson** and **Dr Andrew Tanentzap** were involved in this work.

Mantzari, E *et al.* [Perceived impact of smaller compared with larger-sized bottles of sugar-sweetened beverages on consumption: a qualitative analysis](#). *Appetite*, Jan 2018. IRC members **Dr Gareth Hollands** and **Professor Theresa Marteau** were involved in this study.

Tayleur, C *et al.* [Where are commodity crops certified, and what does it mean for conservation and poverty alleviation?](#) *Biol Cons*, Jan 2018. IRC member **Professor Andrew Balmford** was involved in developing the first global map of commodity crop certification, synthesizing data from over one million farms.

### **Also of interest:**

IRC member **Professor Bhaskar Vira's** work was in the news over the holidays: his text and Toby Smith's photos from the *Pani, Pahar* exhibition were published in *The Guardian*: [Sacred, life-affirming and fast disappearing: waters of the Himalayas – in pictures](#).

## 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](#).\**

**Agriculture & Horticulture Development Board: [Potato gap analysis](#).** Call for project proposals: identification of crop protection gaps and benchmarking of current strategies for potato crops in field and store. £6,000. **Apply by 26 Jan 2018.**

**[US Agency for International Development \(USAID\): Global Food Security Strategy India – Ag Tech Challenge](#).** Enables participants to collaborate on research and development interventions to address development challenges for food and nutrition security in Asia. Grants of \$1m - \$3m. **Expressions of interest by 31 Jan 2018.**

**Medical Research Foundation: [PhD training programme in antimicrobial resistance](#).** Apply by 31 Jan 2018.

**\*Leverhulme Trust: [Philip Leverhulme Prizes](#).** Recognise the achievement of outstanding researchers whose work has already attracted international recognition and whose future

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career is exceptionally promising. Awards worth £100,000 over 2-3 years, for applicants in subjects including earth sciences, and politics and international relations.

**Cambridge applicants – this is a restricted call. Contact [researchstrategy@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:researchstrategy@admin.cam.ac.uk) Cambridge internal deadline 19 Feb 2018.**

**[The Borysiewicz Biomedical Sciences Fellowship Programme.](#)** To develop outstanding Cambridge postdocs into future leaders, ready to pursue a range of global questions and problems. **Deadline 26 Feb, 5pm.**

**[ERA-Net SusCrop on Sustainable Crop Production:](#)** Transnational call for proposals that contribute to the improvement of sustainability and resilience of crop production within the European Research Area. Total call budget €17.2m. **Deadline 4 April 2018.**

**Horizon 2020 Calls.** Horizon 2020 is the EU's €77 billion research and innovation funding scheme running from 2014 to 2020. **BEIS has further [clarified](#) Horizon 2020 underwrite for UK participants.**

Currently open calls include:

- **[Sustainable Food Security](#)** - Horizon 2020's main contribution to research and innovation in relation to Food and Nutrition Security in Europe and beyond. Topics include Valorising Urban Biowaste, Personalised Nutrition, Microbiome, Integrated Pest Management, Animal Welfare. **Various deadlines from 13 Feb 18.**
- **[Rural Renaissance](#)** - Enhancing the natural, social, cultural and economic potential of rural areas. Topics include Closing Nutrient Cycles, ICT Innovation for Agriculture, Modern Rural Policies, Preparing Farmers for the Digital Age. **Various deadlines from 13 Feb 18.**
- **[Blue Growth](#)** - aims at sustainably harvesting the potential of resources from seas, oceans and inland waters for different uses and across the range of marine and maritime industries. Topics include Aquaculture. **Various deadlines from 13 Feb 18.**
- **[Stimulating the innovation potential of SMEs for sustainable and competitive agriculture, forestry, agri-food and bio-based sectors](#)** - SMEs can play a crucial role in developing resource-efficient and cost-effective solutions to secure sufficient supplies of safe, healthy and high quality food and other bio-based products. Various deadlines.

***\*Restricted Call Information for Cambridge Researchers: The University of Cambridge runs an internal selection process for calls where the number of applications per institution is limited. Contact the IRC Coordinator for more information about applying to these calls.***

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## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

[New Scientist Live 2018](#): Submit your entry for presenting your research in London on 20-23 September 2018 at ‘the world’s most exciting festival of ideas.’

[FameLab 2018](#): scientists, mathematicians and engineers across the globe are invited to take part in this flagship science communication competition. [Register now for the Cambridge heats.](#)

[The Royal Society training, mentoring and partnership schemes 2018](#): a variety of programmes for Research Fellows to improve skills in communication, outreach and engagement.

## OTHER

A new [Pathways to Impact online tool](#) has been created by the University of Cambridge. This provides a step-by-step guide to planning research impact activity, and can be used to help write a Pathways to Impact plan for an RCUK grant or plan for impact more generally.

[What is Wrong with Eating Meat?](#) A BBC World Service radio programme, hosting a panel of experts to discuss whether ‘the pleasures of eating meat are worth the costs.’