

January 2018, Edition 1.0

Dear BTS Member,

Welcome to the first edition of the BTS Newsfeed in 2018! We hope all our members had a restful break over the holiday season and we wish you all a fulfilling 2018.

We encourage member participation for newsfeed items, so please get in touch if you have a contribution. Our contact details are on the bottom of the page.

Please view the following news items, which may be of interest to you:

- **Registration for the BTS Annual Congress 2018** (16th – 18th April 2018) in Newcastle is open <http://www.thebts.org/bts-annual-congress-2018/>. The early bird discount runs until the 20th of February while the deadline for abstract submissions is the 1st of February 2018.
- **A BTS travel grant was awarded to Professor Tim Gant to support his travel to speak at the Malaysian Society of Toxicology 3rd Annual Congress.** Tim's talk was entitled '*Epigenetics and Toxicology – the challenges ahead and promise for the future*'. And you can read his report on his trip <here>
- **Landmark ban on microbeads.** The government's ban on microbeads in cosmetics and personal care products has come into effect.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leading-microbeads-ban-takes-effect>
- **Brexit science and innovation Summit inquiry.** The Science and Technology Committee intends to host a Brexit and science summit in February 2018, to identify actions needed now to mitigate risks and exploit opportunities for UK science, research and innovation after Brexit.
<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/science-and-technology-committee/inquiries/parliament-2017/brexit-and-science-summit-17-19/>
- **Academics questioned on E-cigarettes.** A report from Public Health England states that E-cigarettes are 95% less harmful compared to conventional cigarettes and NHS England's recent "stop-tober" campaign highlights e-cigarettes as a smoking cessation tool. The Science and Technology Committee hears from two panels of academics on their assessment of the current research into e-cigarettes and their effect on human health.
<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/science-and-technology-committee/news-parliament-2017/e-cigarettes-evidence1-17-19/>
- The second instalment of the **Concordat on Openness on Animal** research newsletter is now available to download at www.ConcordatOpenness.org. Signatories have been busy publishing annual reports, taking part in social media campaigns, updating their websites, and press releasing their animal statistics.
- **The Toxicokinetic Discussion Group (TKDG)** is holding its next meeting on 31 January 2017 in Tewkesbury. All toxicologists and toxicokineticists alike are welcome: <https://tkdg18.eventbrite.com>
- **The Royal Society of Biology January Newsletter** is now available online: <https://www.rsb.org.uk/policy/policy-resources/policy-newsletter>
- **Do not forget to check out the BTS website** for the latest BTS events and courses.

If you would like to submit any news items, and in particular details of any courses/meetings that you feel may be of interest to members, for future News Feed alerts, please email them in the format above to editor@thebts.org. From your BTS Newsfeed team; Rani Ghosh, Guy Healing, David Jones, David Woolley.

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