



October 30th, 12:00h

Joanne Durgan

Senior Postdoc and Chair of Green Labs,
Babraham Institute, Cambridge UK

“The Climate Crisis and its Solutions - what role can scientists play?”

Scientific research is vital for society, driving medical and technological advances and increasing our understanding of the world. However, lab work is also a hugely energy and resource heavy endeavor. Scientists are well placed to understand climate change and its implications, but may not appreciate how heavily their daily work is contributing to emissions and pollution. I'll present a talk focused on the climate crisis, its solutions and the role of scientists, both as individuals and in the workplace. I'll touch on successful sustainability initiatives at major research centres and outline the significant reductions that can be made in emissions and pollution, without disrupting research activities, and the surprisingly large savings these changes can make, which can then be invested back into research.

I did my PhD with Peter Parker at CR-UK and a post-doc with Alan Hall at MSKCC, NYC. In 2014, I moved to the Babraham Institute as a Marie Curie and L'Oreal For Women in Science Fellow, where I study autophagy and cell cannibalism in health and disease. I have a parallel interest in climate change and trained with Al Gore's Climate Reality Project in 2017. Since then, I have been leading 'Green Labs' sustainability work at BI.

