

# Annika Schlemm

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Born / Berlin, Germany

Current address / Cambridge, United Kingdom

## EDUCATION

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- **University of Cambridge**, Cambridge, England Oct 2019—Sep 2020  
MPhil in Biological Science  
Thesis: *The effect of microplastic pollution on the health and ecosystem functioning of freshwater mussels*
- **University of Oxford**, Oxford, England Oct 2016—Jun 2019  
BA Biological Sciences, Upper Second Class Honours  
Dissertation: *Ecological determinants of avian malaria prevalence and diversity in eastern Australia*

## RESEARCH

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- **University of Cambridge**, Cambridge, England Sep 2019—Sep 2020  
Environmental research investigating the impact of microplastic pollution on the ecosystem functioning of freshwater mussels (*Unio tumidus*). I will investigate the impact of polyethylene pollution on clearance rate, nutrient cycling, functional response, and mussel health. The findings will be published in due course.
- **Institute for European Environmental Policy**, Brussels, Belgium Jul 2019—Aug 2019  
Investigated policy opportunity links between supporting biodiversity and addressing climate change. Undertook research in EU biodiversity policy and the bio-economy, with a focus on good ecological approaches that support environmental conservation and ecosystem services.
- **University of Oxford**, Oxford, England Jun 2019—Jul 2019  
Environmental metabolomics laboratory work in the McCullagh lab. Studied oyster samples exposed to varying levels of aquatic pollutants and parasite load. Findings will be published in due course.
- **University of Oxford**, Oxford, England Jul 2018—Dec 2018  
Avian malaria research in the Clegg lab. Investigated the ecological determinants of avian malaria prevalence, with particular emphasis on the effects of urbanisation, habitat fragmentation, and climate change. For this I developed a novel urbanisation index. Findings will be published in due course.
- **Research Expedition**, Marquesas Archipelago, French Polynesia Oct 2017—Sep 2018  
Independent six week long expedition to study the threats facing island species by surveying endemic and critically endangered birds. Designed and implemented scientific methodology in order to survey populations and to explore conservation threats. Findings will be published in due course.
- **Regensburg University**, Regensburg, Germany Aug 2017—Sep 2017  
Behavioural research in the Animal Comparative Economic Lab investigating the conflict of private information in the ant *Lasius niger*. I am co-author on a paper in [Animal Cognition](#).
- **Princeton University**, Princeton, United States of America Jun 2017—Aug 2017  
Conservation research in the Wilcove lab. Undertook research evaluating the effectiveness of different conservation strategies, with a particular emphasis on protected areas and the impact on social, economic, and environmental variables. We worked with environmental science news outlet Mongabay to publish an [article](#) on the research and create a [visualisation](#). I am co-author on a paper in [Conservation Science and Practice](#).

## PUBLICATIONS

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- Burivalova, Z., Allnutt T., Rademacher, D., **Schlemm, A.**, Wilcove, D.S., and Butler, R. (2019). What works in tropical forest conservation, and what does not: Effectiveness of four strategies in terms of environmental, social and economic outcomes. [Conservation Science and Practice](#)
- Oberhauser, F.B., **Schlemm, A.**, Wendt, S. et al. (2019). Private information conflict: *Lasius niger* ants prefer olfactory cues to route memory. [Animal Cognition](#)
- In 2020-2021 I will be lead author on three publications and co-author on two.
- Non-academic publications include writing for *The Oxford Scientist* and *BlueSci*, which can be found on my [blog](#), and writing at [Terra Incognita](#) (finalist of the Travel Blogger of the Year writing competition).

## SKILLS

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### *Relationship building, working in a team*

- Built **international collaborations** for research expedition, working with [local NGOs](#) and islanders in French Polynesia, [global conservation NGOs](#), and grant bodies across Europe. Drew on their knowledge and experience to develop conservation initiatives and empower locals to monitor their endangered wildlife.
- Undertook research across five countries and three continents, working in teams with scientists, journalists, policymakers, and government, for example, with journalists at [Mongabay](#).
- **President** of Christ Church Arts Week committee, delegating tasks and leading a team of 25 students and collaborators, such as Oxford University Botanic Gardens and the [Wilderness Archive](#).
- Member of the Department of Zoology, the Aquatic Ecology laboratory, and Queens' College (*University of Cambridge*) **environmental sustainability team**. Work involves developing sustainable food and land use policies and engaging students and staff with local biodiversity.
- On the **access and outreach team** at Christ Church (*University of Oxford*) helping with tours, biology talks, and university interviews.

### *Research and analytical skills*

- Heavily research-based degree disciplines, including self-directed and organised research that looks to encourage **sustainable transformations**, such as seeking out policy work on the biodiversity team at [IEEP](#).
- **Researcher** involved in data collection and analysis on climate science research for *The Sustainability App*.
- Skilled in statistical analysis in **R**, having undertaken many years of data analysis for environmental research, for instance for my 1st class undergraduate dissertation. Analysed data in Excel, GoogleEarth Pro, and QGIS to map abundance data and develop a novel urbanisation index. Presently learning to code in **Python**.
- Well versed in Microsoft office and referencing software, which has been used for data analysis and literature reviews, as evidenced in my [publication](#) on conservation effectiveness.

### *Organisation and time management*

- **Lead researcher** for self-motivated [conservation expedition](#) to one of the most remote islands in the world. Work includes logistical planning, fundraising over £15,000 (\$19,800), designing and implementing scientific methodology, and analysing findings whilst undertaking the final year of my undergraduate degree.
- Raised over £25,000 (\$33,000) of funding to support scientific research and art events. Supporting funding bodies include the **Scientific Exploration Society**, **Heidelberg Zoo**, **Oxford University Exploration Council**, and **Berlin Zoo**. Have received monetary awards for academic achievements.
- **President** and **treasurer** of Christ Church Arts Week, coordinating 28 events, raising and handling a £3,500 budget, and managing a large team. Learnt to balance and prioritise demands whilst undertaking my degree.
- **IB Biology teacher** for Lanterna Education and as private tutor, independently planning lessons, preparing revision resources and activities, and marking work for individual students and classes of up to 15 students.

### *Communication and presentation skills*

- **Panellist speaker** at the Royal Geographical Society's [Explore conference](#), and speaker at *the Oxford University Exploration Club*. Presented biological research to young and seasoned explorers and conservationists.
- **Science writer** at *The Oxford Scientist* and *Blusci* student magazine and writer at [Terra Incognita](#). On the **production** and **editing** team of [ZooCast](#).
- Organised and produced Facebook advertising and events for **Christ Church Arts Week**, using Google Analytics, Adobe Illustrator, and Adobe Photoshop. Have received **media training** from the Media Trust and Cambridge University communication team.
- Able to develop, edit, and manage **website content**, such as for my independent [expedition](#) and my [personal website](#).
- Native speaker level **English** and **German**, working knowledge of French and Spanish.

## REFERENCES

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- Available upon request