

January 2025

Dear PVS Members,

It is with great pleasure that I can invite you to our Spring 2025 meeting, which will be held at Radisson Blu Hotel, Durham, on 19th and 20th March.

This meeting has been kindly sponsored by Elanco and I am extremely grateful for their generosity. The meeting provides an excellent opportunity for vets and allied industry members to come together to receive scientific updates and discuss topical issues within the pig industry.

I would like to thank Liz Van Hee, Toby Allcock and Eduardo Velazquez for working hard to bring together a fantastic programme, as well as MYT and Jemma Stephenson, the PVS webmaster, for the organisation of what is set to be another excellent meeting.

The meeting kicks off with a session on Diagnostics and Surveillance provided by 3 experienced society members that have presented on many occasions. Susanna Williamson from the APHA will present on the diagnosis of nervous disease. Jill Thomson from SRUC will discuss the complexities and challenges with *Brachyspira* isolation and identification. Claire Scott, also from APHA, will then wrap up the first session by providing us with a UK surveillance update.

After a break for lunch, we move onto our second session focusing on insects and other proteins. We have Maghan Barrett from Indiana University and Andrew Crump from RVC who will explore the use of insects in feed and the ethics surrounding this. Katie McDermott from Leeds University will then wrap up the second session with an update on improving the sustainability of pig diets.

During the third and final session of the day we will learn about the role of vets in civil emergencies with Jim Green from the British Animal Rescue and Trauma Care Association.

From there we go straight into our AGM and I hope to see as many of you there as possible. Day 1 will finish with the conference dinner, a great opportunity to discuss the contents of the day with many of the speakers, catch up with society members and enjoy the social occasion.

Day 2 begins with the clinical club. The clinical club provides an opportunity for practitioners to come together and discuss new and unusual cases. This will be followed by our sponsors slot from Elanco with Prof. Frederic Vangroenweghe on improving intestinal integrity in post-weaned piglets.

The meeting will draw to a close with our final session dedicated to One Health, where we will receive a number of topical updates. With the ever-increasing threat of exotic notifiable diseases, we have an update from Beverley Edmondson from DPHA and an update on emerging Swine Influenza in Europe from Ken Lemon, AFBI. Mandy Nevel from AHDB will

President: Michael Putt BVSc MRCVS

Email: president@pigvetsoc.org.uk

www.pigvetsoc.org.uk

discuss updates to the Significant Diseases charter and lastly Georgina McDowell will provide a Red Tractor update.

Finally, a couple of quick reminders regarding registration and our meeting formats. All registrations are via the PVS website, <https://www.pigvetsoc.org.uk/meetings/pvs-spring-2025-meeting>. If you experience any problems, please contact PVS Webmaster: webmaster@pigvetsoc.org.uk.

Please note Early Bird Registration closes 2 weeks before the meeting and if you wish to benefit from the substantially cheaper registration (and help our meetings organisers immeasurably) it is wise to get registered before this time.

Our meetings are a great platform through which members can come together to receive scientific updates and discuss them openly. For this reason, our meetings are members only, closed events. Sharing of presented material on social or other media should not be done without express, advanced permission of the presenter and the meeting organisers. Non-members are welcome to attend by prior agreement – requests should be made to president@pigvetsoc.org.uk.

I look forward to seeing you all at our Spring 2025 meeting.

Yours sincerely,



Michael Putt BVSc MRCVS
PVS President 2024-25

The Pig Veterinary Society (PVS) is a specialist division of the British Veterinary Association. The membership of PVS includes veterinary surgeons and scientists who work in the pig sector, and the Society aims to assist its members in their professional lives by ensuring they have access to the latest information with regards pig health and production. PVS also represents the membership at a national level, making sure that pig welfare is a priority considering the latest research with regards health and management on farm.