

14<sup>th</sup> August 2025

Dear PVS Members,

It is with great pleasure that I invite you to our Autumn 2025 meeting, which will be held at Nottingham Belfry Hotel on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> October. As always this presents an excellent opportunity to meet up with professional colleagues and members of the allied industries, and to catch up on recent updates and topical updates. There is always so much to discuss!

Our meeting has been sponsored by MSD and I am extremely grateful for their generosity. I am equally grateful to Toby Allcock, Nick Butler, and Eduardo Velazquez for developing such a topical and stimulating programme, and also to Rachel Bradley at MYT for her expert planning and logistical expertise. Special thanks also to Liz Van Hee for her current role as webmaster. These combined efforts promise a truly enjoyable, smooth and worthwhile conference for our members.

In terms of programme highlights....The morning session of day 1, 'Threats, challenges and the future', will bring industry updates on topics including ASF (Katie Jarvis, NPA, and Lauren Turner, AHDB) and vaccine authorisation (MSD) while looking also on the brighter side with a glimpse at what's in store from genetic improvement (Craig Lewis, Genus PIC). After lunch we will then turn to, 'Current disease challenges', focusing on mycotoxins (Alan Murphy, APHA, and Swamy Haladi, Selko) and their management before an update on avian influenza (Ashley Banyard, APHA).

The later afternoon session on day 1 will focus on PRRS with an update on control programmes in Scotland (Dave Strachan, Scottish Pigs Ltd) and in Denmark (Bjørn Lorenzen, Danish Agriculture & Food Council) before a deeper dive into the UGhent Biocheck biosecurity audit system (Nele Caekebeke, UGhent).

We will wrap up day 1's presentations with an update from PVS on piglet euthanasia – a topic of much recent discussion. From this we run straight into the OGM – please do join to learn how the Executive Committee has been working on your behalf and to have your say. 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. This is an enjoyable opportunity for practitioners to present new, unusual or challenging cases. Look out for requests for contributions from Andrew Prince and Peter Siviter. This will be followed by a topical presentation in the sponsor's slot (with thanks again to MSD).

The meeting will draw to a close with our final session dedicated to, 'Modern approaches to old problems'. Here we will learn about the importance of balancing animal welfare with self-care (Stephanie Fitzgerald, Soyo Ltd), before closing out the meeting with a final re-focus on ASF, specifically on contingency planning (Miranda Paulson, AHDB, and Julian Sparrey, Livetec Systems Ltd), before a closing update on DEFRA's Animal Health and Welfare Pathway.

Finally, a couple of quick reminders regarding registration and our meeting formats. All

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registrations are via the PVS website, <https://www.pigvetsoc.org.uk/meetings/pvs-autumn-2025-meeting>. If you experience any problems, please contact PVS Webmaster: [webmaster@pigvetsoc.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@pigvetsoc.org.uk).

Please note Early Bird Registration closes 16<sup>th</sup> September 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 generally members only, closed events. However, requests for registration by non-members will always be given careful consideration – please send these to [president@pigvetsoc.org.uk](mailto:president@pigvetsoc.org.uk). Finally, sharing of presented material on social or other media should not be done without express, advanced permission of the presenter and the meeting organisers.

We look forward to giving you a warm welcome in Nottingham in October!



**Dan Tucker MA VetMB DipECPHM PhD FRCVS**  
**PVS President 2025-26**

*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.*

