

18<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Dear PVS Members,

We are moving swiftly towards conference season again and it's with real pleasure that I invite you to our Spring 2026 meeting, which will be held at the Delta Hotels Marriott Edinburgh, April 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>. This meeting will be sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim and I am very grateful indeed for their generous support.

I am equally grateful to Nick Butler, Michelle Jackson 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. Their careful planning, together with webmaster Jemma Stephenson technical support, all promises a very rewarding and stimulating meeting. Aside from being an excellent CPD opportunity, the meeting offers the warm promise of seeing old and new friends and catching on all the news – definitely something to look forward to on this cold February evening!

In terms of programme highlights....The morning session of day 1, 'Challenges facing the veterinary profession today', will bring industry updates on the ever present challenges of biosecurity implementation and tracking (Alison Burrell, Animal Health Ireland; Carlos Piñeiro, Animal Data Analytics) and an overview of the outcome of PVS's rapid evidence assessment for on-farm euthanasia of piglets (David Pritchard).

The early afternoon session on day 1 will focus on the pig industry's utilisation of data and technology with perspectives from the poultry sector (Jon Sargent, EC Drummond) and from the world's largest pig production company (Muyuan Foods, China). The session will conclude with a view on the future of vision technologies in pig production from Matt Dobbs (AgSenze).

After re-boosting their blood glucose levels with tea and cakes, members can look forward to a later afternoon session focussed on vaccine and diagnostics developments with insights on vaccine development processes (David Petrie-Dolphin, Drayton Animal Health), diagnostics developments in *Streptococcus suis* (Marius Beumer, Anicon) and also a delve into the world of histopathology (Toby Floyd, APHA).

We will then progress straight into the AGM. I urge all members to come along and join us to hear how the Executive Committee has been working on your behalf and to have your say on a range of topical matters from surveillance, medicines, and welfare, through education, and our representation at many different levels within the sector. Day 1 concludes with the conference dinner - a great opportunity to relax and enjoy the good company of society members, guests and sponsors.

Day 2 begins with the Clinical Club. This is an enjoyable and collegiate opportunity for practitioners to present and discuss 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 Boehringer Ingelheim).

The meeting will then move to our final session which will include updates around on-farm safety (John Tulloch, University of Liverpool), progress with the Scottish PRRS Control and Elimination of Swine Diseases project (Cara Cruickshank).

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We'll close the meeting by welcoming our new President for the coming year.

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-2026-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 Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 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 opportunity for members to 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, as always, 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 Edinburgh in April!



**Dan Tucker**  
**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.*