

18th August 2026

Dear PVS Members,

I am delighted to be able to invite you to our Autumn 2026 conference, which will be held at the Radisson Blu Hotel, London Stansted Airport on 14th and 15th October. In the current, challenging times for the pig sector I know that I, along with many of you, will appreciate the opportunity to meet with friends, professional colleagues and members of the allied industries. As ever there will be much to discuss from the scientific programme and OGM throughout the meeting and over dinner.

This meeting is sponsored by Huvepharma and I am very grateful for their generosity. I would like to extend my gratitude to Michelle Jackson, Joseph Lunt and Nick Butler for arranging a diverse and topical programme, and to Rachel Bradley and her team at MYT for their expert meeting organisation. Thanks also go to Jemma Stephenson, our webmaster, who ensures that tech requirements throughout registration and during the meeting run smoothly. The collaboration of all the organising team promises to deliver another excellent and expertly delivered meeting.

We always welcome feedback on our meetings and thank you to those who shared their thoughts after our Spring 2026 meeting. The programme for Autumn 2026 has been constructed with members feedback in mind. Here are a few highlights to pique your interest.

Day 1 begins with updates on research relating to current industry challenges from the impacts of zinc oxide removal to tail docking and flexi-farrowing. After lunch we will hear about notifiable disease threats, ASF and PEDv, from those that have had direct experience. We also welcome speakers from DEFRA and The Pirbright Institute who will give updates on notifiable disease legislation and ASF vaccine development respectively. The final session on day 1 takes us from notifiable to endemic disease challenges, namely *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* and *Salmonella*. This session will also include a presentation on advances in rapid diagnostics, in some cases already in use on farm.

Day 1 will conclude with the OGM, giving members an opportunity to hear about the executive committee activities, undertaken on your behalf, and give feedback to the committee. The conference dinner will follow, and I hope the day 1 programme will stimulate plenty of discussion.

Day 2 kicks off with clinical club, chaired by PVS Academy co-chairs Peter Siviter and Hannah Gregory. Watch out for requests from our chairs for case presentations. Our sponsors presentation from Huvepharma will follow to complete the first session.

President: Alex Thomsett BVetMed(Hons) DPM MRCVS

Email: president@pigvetsoc.org.uk

www.pigvetsoc.org.uk

Day 2 rounds off with a session entitled “professional obligations”. How can we balance supporting the needs of producers with legal and professional requirements against the backdrop of pressures including further reduction in antibiotic usage and also legislative change? This promises to be a thought-provoking session to end our autumn meeting.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to reminders regarding registration and our meeting format. All registrations are via the PVS website, https://www.pigvetsoc.org.uk/meetings/pvs-autumn-2026-meeting_2 . If you experience any problems, please contact PVS Webmaster: webmaster@pigvetsoc.org.uk .

Please note that Early Bird Registration closes on 22nd September, if you would like to benefit from this substantially reduced rate please register before this date.

Our meetings are an excellent opportunity for members to come together to learn from the scientific updates and partake in open discussion. For this reason, the meetings are generally for members only and are closed events. That said requests from non-members to attend will be given due consideration. Please send these requests to president@pigvetsoc.org.uk. The closed meeting format means that the sharing of presented material outside of the meeting on social or other media should not be done without the express, advanced permission of the presenter and the meeting organisers.

We look forward to welcoming you to Stansted in October.



Alex Thomsett BVetMed(Hons) DPM MRCVS
PVS President 2026-27

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.