

A warm conference welcome

from AVSPNI President Seamus O'Kane



I would like welcome you to our Annual Autumn Conference held this year in the splendid Slieve Donard Hotel in Newcastle. The magnificent Mountains of Mourne, which provide the backdrop to the hotel, were the inspiration for one of Percy French's most loved and often repeated songs and we are confident that the combination of the venue and the quality of the lectures will inspire you also.

James Husband, Colin Mason and David Tisdall will deliver the majority of the L/A lectures, Sam Strain will speak on BVD, Brian Faulkner on practice management topics and Paul Crawford on Anaesthesia plus lots more. As usual, we are running a series of lectures on S/A topics. These will mainly be delivered by Brendan Corcoran on the theme of Respiratory Tract Disease.

"All work and no play can make Jack a dull boy" so we have put in place a comprehensive social programme to keep all family members happy. After the Gala Dinner on Saturday night we will be entertained by "The Bard of Armagh" followed by a Casino night and a Jazz singer to help us while away the rest of the evening and perhaps into the next morning. For the children, we have Lego and Clay workshops, Archery and Kayaking, swimming and Louie the entertainer crèche for the under 4s.

I would like to thank all the members of the team who put this conference together. They work tirelessly in the background to ensure that it will be an enjoyable and successful conference and deserve our heartfelt thanks.

Spectacular setting, magnificent venue, excellent CPD, superb entertainment, what's not to like? I look forward to seeing you there.

Our conference venue

The Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle is a venue that exceeds all others with fabulous rooms, delicious food, a first class spa and stunning views of the Mournes!



There's so much for everyone to do! With a packed children's activities programme and crèche for smaller children arranged for the Saturday, the Slieve Donard is the perfect place to chill out - for once, someone else will prepare the food (and wash up!) leaving you free to relax and enjoy the hotel's excellent facilities and beautiful seaside location.

Accommodation must be booked directly with the hotel

Contact: Nora on 028 4372 1010 or Laura on 028 4372 1011

Rooms including breakfast are held at conference rates up until September 4th

Double Rooms £155.00; Single £112.50; children 4 - 14 sharing parents room; children under 3 sharing parents bedroom - free

You must mention AVSPNI conference to secure these rates



Conference Speakers



Brendan Corcoran

Professor Corcoran graduated from the Veterinary College of Ireland in 1981 and after a period in practice, joined the University of Edinburgh as a lecturer. He was awarded a Personal Chair in Veterinary Cardiopulmonary Medicine in 2006 & is currently Dean International for North America for the University of Edinburgh. His clinical and research interests are in respiratory medicine and cardiology, with particular emphasis on the pathobiology of canine myxomatous mitral valve disease and clinical diagnosis of canine idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.



Paul Crawford

After graduating from the Royal Veterinary College Paul completed his RCVS Anaesthesia Certificate. He has worked in University Teaching Hospitals in the UK, Ireland and Canada. Currently Paul is based in Northern Ireland where he provides an anaesthesia consultancy service as well as undertaking some surgical work in first opinion practice.



Brian Faulkner

Brian graduated from the Royal (Dick) Vet College, Edinburgh and worked in mixed practice before studying again at Nottingham Business School. Brian set up, developed and exited a cluster of vet practices in Suffolk in seven years and in this time completed a masters in Applied Positive Psychology as well as General Practice Certificates in Business & Professional Studies and Small Animal Medicine. He is SPVS President, works three days a week in his own vet practice and regularly speaks on how to blend the science, art and business of veterinary practice



Catherine Forsythe

Catherine qualified from the RVC in 2006 and spent seven years in mixed practice before joining AFBI in 2013 as a veterinary pathologist. Her caseload involves all species from the smallest birds to the largest sea mammals and everything in between, often in the same day. Her main interest is in farm animal pathology, but with a large local poultry industry she is also enjoying developing her expertise in this area.



Edmond Harty

Edmond Harty is the CEO and technical director of Dairymaster, a leading Irish milking equipment manufacturer competing in the worldwide dairy technology market. Edmond is a mechanical engineer by profession. He joined Dairymaster in 1998, while studying for a PhD where he focused on milking performance. He has pioneered a number of new products and has over 40 patents filed to date.



James Husband

James graduated from Cambridge in 1993 and spent 11 years in dairy practice in South West England including an internship at Bristol University. He spent the last 12 years doing dairy consultancy work mainly focusing on nutrition. His main research interest is milk fever prevention. James is also a Special Lecturer at the University of Nottingham.



Colin Mason

Colin works for SAC Veterinary Services based in Dumfries. As well as working as part of the team at the Dumfries Disease Surveillance Centre carrying out disease investigation and surveillance activities he is also involved with dairy research and herd health work at the Dairy Research and Innovation Centre based at Crichton Royal Farm in Dumfries. His main interests are young stock health and lameness in dairy cows.



Craig Reilly

Craig qualified with distinction from the Royal (Dick) Vet College, Edinburgh in 1987. In 2002, he was the first vet in NI to successfully complete the RCVS Certificate in Small Animal Medicine, a qualification that has facilitated a very high standard of diagnosis and therapy at his practice, Cedarmount, in Bangor. Craig is an accomplished veterinary speaker and an RCVS Advanced Practitioner who sees referral cases in all aspects of internal medicine.



Sam Strain

Sam, a vet, is Chief Executive of Animal Health & Welfare Northern Ireland He is also Programme Manager for Johne's Disease for AHWNI and acts as consultant to the Animal Health Ireland Johne's Control Programme. He has a PhD in veterinary immunology and is currently participating in a large multidisciplinary research consortium assessing novel Johne's Disease diagnostics, the economics of the disease, herd level risk factors and approaches to herdowner engagement in control programmes.



David Tisdall

David is Senior Teaching Fellow in Production Animal Medicine at the University Of Surrey School of Vet Medicine. He graduated from Bristol and has 10-years' experience of farm animal practice. As clinical lead of Langford Farm Animal Practice and Teaching Fellow in Farm Animal Science at Bristol, he led transformational change towards more responsible antimicrobial use on farms, achieving more than a 90% reduction in the use of critically important antimicrobials alongside improving herd health. His other interests include the management and prevention of production diseases in dairy cattle.

Lecture programme, Kids programme & Creche

Day	Time		Vet Lectures		Time	Key		
Friday	1300 - 1700	DAERA TB Training in the Annesley Room Under the contract, all vets involved in the TB testing programme must complete a half day DAERA training annually in order to retain their "Approved" status. This session is one of four available dates for this training, each delivering an identical programme. Any questions on this AVS training should be directed to TB.CM@daera-ni.gov.uk			1300 - 1700	Business/Practice Management Companion Animal Lectures Food Animal Lectures Closing Keynote Lecture		
	1700 - 1800				1700 - 1800	Children's Programme		
	1800 - 1900	Free time – why not check in and take the kids for a swim?			1800 - 1900	Children's Tea For little ones that can't wait until 8pm to dine with parents		
	1900 – 1930	Free Time			1900 - 1930	Free Time		
	1930 – 2000	Presidents Welcome, Drinks Reception & Formal Opening of Trade Exhibition Access to drinks reception included with purchase of dinner.						
	2000 - late	Dinner - Informal, buffet style, inclusive of wine. in the Grand Ballroom. Children welcome to dine with parents. Entertainment for all in the bar afterwards			2000 - late	Children's Film Club in the John Toner Lounge with supervision for under 4s only		
	0700 – 1000	Breakfast for residents in the Od	ak Restaurant					
	0815 onwards	Registration Desk Open			0815 onwards			
	Location	L/A Refresher Room 1 – Chandelier Room	L/A Improver Room 2 – Annesley Room	S/A & Business Room 3 – Brunel Lounge	Location	Centenary 2	Centenary 4	
ng	0915 – 1000	Milk Fever James Husband	Mycoplasma bovis infections in cattle herds Colin Mason	Five reasons why practices fail to retain vets For practice owners/principals only Brian Faulkner	0915 – 1000	Crèche for under 4s Age	Lego & Clay workshop	
aturday morning	1000 – 1045	Understanding Medicine Use This topic is developed further in David's lecture at 1630 David Tisdall	Milk Fever James Husband	Approach to the coughing dog and cat Brendan Corcoran	1000 – 1045	appropriate toys and activities provided		
rd	1045 – 1130	Coffee Break with Shortbread in the Grand Ballroom			1045 – 1130			
Satu	1130– 1215	BVD Diagnostic methods, use of the database and programme update	Field post mortem workshop for practitioners Colin Mason	Approach to the dyspnoeic dog and cat Brendan Corcoran	1130–1215			
	1215 – 1300	Sam Strain		The eosinophil in respiratory Medicine: hypersensitivity, parasites and asthma Brendan Corcoran	1215 – 1300			

Lecture programme, Kids programme & Creche

Day	Time	Vet Lectures			Time	Key	
Saturday afternoon	1300 – 1415	Lunch in the Grand Ballroom			1300 – 1415	Children's Lunch with parents	
	1415 - 1500	AVSPNI Business Meeting for AVSPNI full members only		Liver disease Including keyhole biopsies Craig Reilly	^{1415 - 1500} exotic	Interactive Archery & Kayaking at the Outdoor	
	1500 - 1545	Adult cow pneumonia problems Colin Mason	What can SPVS surveys do to help us manage our practice? Brian Faulkner	Diseases of the upper airway: are they medical or surgical problems? Brendan Corcoran	1500 - 1545	encounters with Eco Mantella Centre, Castlewellan Aged 8 upwards	
	1545 - 1630	Coffee Break with Cookies in	the Grand Ballroom		1545 - 1630	921	
	1630 – 1715	Transforming Medicine Use David Tisdall	BVD Herd investigation The "Veterinary Herd Investigation Protocol	Diseases of the lung parenchyma: (p)neumonia to neoplasia. Brendan Corcoran	1630 – 1715		
	1715 - 1800	Taking steps towards a proactive approach to managing bovine lameness at herd level David Tisdall	following positive test results for BVD virus" and some case studies Sam Strain	Respiratory therapeutics; limited choices, so what to use? Brendan Corcoran	1715 - 1800	Crèche also available for under 4s	
	1800 - 1900	Free time			1800 - 1900	Children's Tea for all ages	
	1900 - 1930				1900 - 1930	Free time	
	1930 – 2000	Drinks Reception Access to drinks reception included with purchase of dinner ticket			1930 – 2000	Children's Film Club in the John Toner Lounge with supervision for under 4s only	
	2000 - late	Gala Dinner & Entertainment 5 course dinner with wine The Bard of Armagh Casino night A little jazz A perfect evening!			2000 - late		

Lecture programme, Kids programme & Creche

Tir	me Vet Lectures			Time	Children's Programme	
0700 - 1	1000	Breakfast for residents in the Oak Restaurant				
0845 - 1	1000	Registration Desk Open				
0845 - 0	0930	Veterinary Christian Fellowship in the Annesley Room A time of quiet reflection and prayer for all denominations		0845 - 0930		
Loca	ation	L/A Refresher Room 1 – Chandelier Room	L/A Improver Room 2 – Annesley Room	Location	Brunel Lounge	
0930 - 1	1015	Value Added Products - which ones work and when to use them James Husband	Pathology in Practice A selection of interesting and unusual post mortem cases Catherine Forsythe	0930 - 1015	Louie the Entertainer No creche or supervision	
1015 – 1	1100	Taking steps towards a proactive approach to managing bovine lameness at individual animal level David Tisdall	Getting a handle on the economics of feeding cows James Husband	1015 – 1100	provided Parental supervision required	
1100 - 1	1130	Coffee with scones in the Grand Ballroom				
1130 - 1	1215	'Pinchpoints' in cow feeding - why cows don't milk well James Husband	Farm animal anaesthesia tips Paul Crawford	1130 - 1215	Swim time No creche provided – children MUST be accompanied by a parent	
1215 - 1	1300	Increasing the bottom line with technology on dairy farms Edmond Harty				
1330 - 1	1430	Sunday Lunch in the Grand Ballroom				

How to find our Conference Venue

Slieve Donard Resort and Spa Downs Road Newcastle Co. Down BT33 0AH

Tel: 00 44 (0) 28 4372 1066 Email: res@sdh.hastingshotels.com Web: www.hastingshotels.com

Residents parking available within the Resort.





