



For further information call/email VetNI Conference Organiser
(028) 25 898543 or **info@vetni.co.uk**

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 AVSPNI does not imply endorsement of specific products or brands of products through its choice of speakers.

AVSPNI Autumn Conference

12th -14th October 2018



Slieve Donard Hotel
 Newcastle, County Down

A warm conference welcome

from AVSPNI President Phil Walsh



Welcome to our Annual Autumn Conference at the magnificent Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle. The stunning Mourne Mountains, the excellent venue, the brilliant speakers and packed social programme are sure to make for a fantastic weekend.

As usual AVSPNI has made a huge effort to engage top quality speakers across the programme. I am delighted that Prof. Hans Coetzee of Kansas State University will be presenting on a range of LA topics. Hans spent his 'formative' veterinary years at Riada in Ballymoney and at Norbrook and in addition to his many other achievements, in 2017 he gained Animal Welfare Awards from both the American Veterinary Medical Association and the World Veterinary Association. Jon Statham and Owen Atkinson are excellent and thought provoking speakers on all things bovine. Joe Angell will follow up his great AVSPNI Spring Meeting earlier in the year with further sheep topics. Eoin Ryan from UCD will speak on a range of farm animal surgical topics and Steven Morrison of AFBI will speak on calf rearing for lifetime performance. With the increasing importance of quality assurance schemes especially in the dairy sector Neville Graham will present on Milksure and Red Tractor. Carl Padgett of the VDS will help us avoid farm animal disasters from the VDS Casebook in a convivial 'Liquid Learning' environment. Jim Carter of South Devon Referrals will speak on a range of ophthalmology issues in Small Animals and we have Bairbre O'Malley from UCD to speak on exotics. Our keynote speaker on Sunday is Justin McCarthy, CEO of the Irish Farmer's Journal. Justin is involved in the family beef farming enterprise in Co Down and has a brother and sister in the veterinary profession and will provide an interesting lecture on the Factors Shaping the Future of Agriculture in Ireland and Britain.

I have been fortunate to have heard most of the speakers in the past and feel sure they will provide the informative and entertaining high quality CPD we have come to expect from AVSPNI events.

The Kids Club provision is one of the hallmarks of our family oriented weekend and with the excellent facilities at the hotel everyone should have a great time. The social program will allow all delegates and their families to relax and mingle with the informal dinner on Friday Night and the Gala Dinner, Casino and other entertainment on Saturday night.

I hope you can join us; book early for the best rates and I look forward to seeing you at the Slieve Donard!

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.

How to find our Conference Venue

Slieve Donard Resort and Spa



Downs Road
Newcastle
County 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.



Accommodation



Accommodation must be booked directly with the hotel

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

Room rates include a fabulous full breakfast served in the Oak Restaurant.

Conference room rates are held for us until September 15th

Double Rooms £155.00

Single £115.00

Children 4 - 14 sharing parents room - £20 per night

Children under 3 sharing parents bedroom - free

You must mention AVSPNI conference to secure these rates.



Conference Speakers



Joe Angell

Joe graduated from Liverpool in 2008 before entering mixed practice in North Wales. Whilst in practice he carried out research into drunken lamb syndrome and after 3 years he returned to Liverpool to do a PhD in the epidemiology of CODD whilst concurrently doing an MSc in Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and continuing to locum in practice. After completing his PhD and MSc he spent a further period in full time academia before returning to clinical practice. He holds an Honorary Fellowship at the University of Liverpool and continues to carry out research on a variety of topics and provide consultancy services.



Owen Atkinson

Owen has experience of the dairy industry worldwide, having worked, lectured or studied in UK, NZ, USA, Europe, Iran, India and Africa. His enthusiasm and depth of knowledge of the dairy cow, coupled with his talent for communicating allows him to communicate complex subjects in an accessible way. His qualifications and awards include: RCVS Recognised Specialist in Cattle Health and Production; RCVS Diploma in Cattle Health and Production; plus Nuffield Global Travel Scholarship and a BCVA clinical research grant studying the prevalence of and clinical indicators for sub-acute ruminal acidosis (SARA) in UK dairy herds.



Jim Carter

Jim graduated from the RVC in 1996, then spent 3+ years in mixed practice before gaining the RCVS Certificate in Veterinary Ophthalmology. In 2000 he started a clinical training scholarship in Vet Ophthalmology at the University of Bristol under the tutorage of Prof. Sheila Crispin and Dr David Gould. He was awarded the RCVS Diploma in Vet. Ophthalmology in 2003. Having taught at Bristol for a further 5 years Jim then set up a referral practice in Devon and gained the ECVO diploma in Vet. Ophthalmology in 2013. He lectures and is an examiner for the BSAVA Certificate in Ophthalmology.



Hans Coetzee

Hans is a Professor and Head of Dept. of Anatomy & Physiology at Kansas State University. He qualified as a vet from the University of Pretoria then worked in mixed practice in Northern Ireland followed by pharmaceutical research at Norbrook Labs. He has an RCVS Certificate in Cattle Health & Production and a PhD in Veterinary Microbiology from Iowa State University and holds dual board certification in the American College of Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology and American College of Animal Welfare. He is a European Specialist in Animal Welfare Science, Ethics and Law and has published 130 peer-reviewed scientific papers on subjects including the development of pain assessment techniques and practical analgesic drug regimens for use in food animals.

Conference Speakers continued



Neville Graham

Neville qualified in 1991 with BAgr (Hons) from Queens University Belfast and followed that with a diploma in Business Advice from University of Ulster. He lectured in dairy production and farm business management from 1991 to 1997 at both Loughry and Greenmount College, then took various roles including Dairy Development Adviser (Antrim), Senior Livestock Adviser (Armagh & Down), Senior Business Technologist (CAFRE) and CAFRE Farm Director from 2013 to 2017. In September 2017 he was appointed Head of Farmer Services with Dale Farm. He grew up on a small mixed livestock farm outside Carryduff and continues to farm part-time running a commercial sheep enterprise.



Justin McCarthy

Justin became CEO of the Irish Farmers Journal in January 2014, having previously been Editor, and prior to that, Livestock Editor. He graduated with a Hons Degree in Agricultural Science in 2000 and worked with Anglo Beef Processors (ABP) learning all aspects of the red meat processing sector. In 2004 he was awarded a Nuffield Farming Scholarship and travelled throughout Europe & New Zealand researching Profitable Beef Production from the Suckler herd before taking a role as Beef Specialist with Teagasc. Justin's reports on Brazilian beef production have been well documented both in Ireland and across the EU political arena, claiming both national and international awards. Justin still plays an active role in the management of the family suckler beef farm in County Down.



Steven Morrison

Steven is Programme Leader of Sustainable Livestock Production research at AFBI and is responsible for sheep, beef and dairy young stock research. He grew up working on the family beef/sheep farm before moving into agriculture research. After obtaining his PhD in 2005 in the area of dairy cow nutrition, he began work investigating the effect of different bedding substrates on beef cattle performance, then, at AFBI examining a wide range of nutritional and management strategies to improve the efficiency of rearing dairy young stock. Steven is recognised locally and internationally as a young stock specialist, has spoken at numerous conferences/seminars around the world, is author of many peer-reviewed publications and has produced more than 80 extension articles. His current areas of dairy young stock research include calf housing design, milk replacer feeding regimes, weaning protocols, the role of forage, calf starter formulations, calf health management and grazing systems.



Bairbre O'Malley

Bairbre has over 25 years' experience as a vet and has worked throughout Australia, UK and Ireland. She spent 10 years working in London's busiest casualty veterinary hospital then a year lecturing in the RVC on exotics medicine & surgery. In 2002 she opened her vet hospital in Bray treating not only cats, dogs and rabbits but specialising in birds, reptiles and small mammals. She is one of Ireland's leading authorities on exotic pets and lectures in the Vet College, UCD to veterinary surgeons, students and vet nurses. She has been a guest speaker at WSAVA and her textbook on exotics 'Clinical Anatomy and Physiology of Exotic Species' sells worldwide.



Carl Padgett

Carl (Padge) a 1989 Glasgow vet graduate, spent over 20 years in mixed practice in Worcestershire, Gloucestershire & Lancashire, primarily with farm animal responsibilities. He is a Past-President of the BVA and BCVA, acted as Chairman of Trustees for the Animal Welfare Foundation and has been a member of several Defra stakeholder committees, most notably TB Eradication Advisory Group for England and the FMD/BTV/Schmallenberg Core Groups. Carl was recently a final year external examiner at Glasgow, now undertaking a similar role at Bristol, and each year he contributes to undergraduate and recent-graduate events at the vet schools, including the summertime Lancaster final year symposium. Carl joined VDS in 2013 as a full-time Claims Consultant; most of his work is farm animal based.



Eoin Ryan

Eoin graduated in 2001 from UCD, worked in mixed, mainly large animal practice, then returned to UCD as intern in Large Animal Clinical Studies followed by a 3 year term as Large Animal Clinical Scholar in the University Veterinary Hospital. After another stint in l/a practice he was appointed Resident in Bovine Health Management in UCD. He completed a Masters in Veterinary Medicine (MVM) degree through research into leptospirosis in Irish beef suckler herds in June 2012. Eoin was awarded the Diploma of the European College of Bovine Health Management and maintains a keen interest in farm animal surgery, internal medicine and herd health.



Jonathan Statham


Jonathan graduated from Cambridge Vet School in 1996. He is a cattle vet & partner in Bishopton Vet Group, a director and Chief Executive of RAFT Solutions Ltd and a Past-President of BCVA. He is an external examiner for the University of Liverpool and his main veterinary interests include reproductive technologies, nutrition, mastitis control and progressive herd health and production management. He has published a wide range of papers, etc. and is a co-author of the textbook 'Dairy Herd Health'. He holds the RCVS Diploma in Cattle Health & Production and is a RCVS Specialist in Cattle Health & Production.

Lecture programme, Kids programme & Creche

Friday 12th October




Friday	1100 onwards	SPVS President's Peaks SPVS President Peter Brown would welcome company as he scales Slieve Donard – the last peak in a year of climbs to raise money for <u>Vetlife</u> & our local peer support service, Vet Support NI. Contact info@vetni.co.uk if you can join him. Visit www.justgiving.com/fundraising/peter-brown69 to support VetLife or www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/vetsupportni to donate to VSNI	Key Programme may be subject to minor change	
			Food animal lectures	
			Companion animal lectures	
	Time	Programme	Children's Programme	
	Afternoon	Check in to your room from 3pm then Free time to enjoy the beautiful Slieve Donard Resort. How about a round of golf, a pint, a swim or a visit the Spa?	1800 - 1930	Children's Tea For little ones that can't wait until 8pm to dine with parents
	1930 – 2000	Presidents Welcome, Drinks Reception & Formal Opening of Trade Exhibition <i>in the Grand Ballroom</i>		
2000 - late	Dinner - Informal, buffet style, inclusive of wine <i>in Grand Ballroom, followed by a bit of music and craic in Chaplin's Bar.</i>	2000 - midnight	Film Club (supervised) <i>in the John Toner Lounge</i>	
Children welcome to dine with parents.				

Saturday 13th October

Saturday morning	Time	Vet Lectures			Time	Children's Programme
	0700 – 1000	Breakfast for residents <i>in the Oak Restaurant</i>			0700 – 1000	Breakfast for residents
	0830	Registration Desk Open			0815 onwards	
	Location	Room 1 – Chandelier Room L/A Stream 1	Room 2 – Annesley Room L/A Stream 2	Room 3 – Brunel Lounge S/A Lectures	Location	Centenary 2
	0915 – 1015	Pain Assessment in livestock: Can we really measure pain in livestock? Hans will cover the use of state-of-the-art technologies such as infrared thermography, mechanical nociceptive threshold and gait analysis to validate on farm pain assessment tools in cattle and pigs. <i>Hans Coetzee</i>	Progressive Herd Health Part 1: Sustainable use of hormones & reproductive management in practice Understand the fertility visit structure and the role of the vet in sustainable use of reproductive hormones; appreciate the wider herd health factors affecting reproductive management <i>Jonathan Statham</i>	Extraocular neoplasia A detailed look at clinical evaluation, treatment and prognosis in cases of extraocular neoplasia including eyelid and third eyelid tumours, conjunctival tumours, limbal melanoma, mast cell tumours, squamous cell carcinoma and orbital neoplasia. <i>Jim Carter</i>	0915 – 1015	Cupcake Decorating <i>4+ years *</i> <i>* Children under 4 years may attend with a parent</i> 





Lecture programme, Kids programme & Creche

Saturday 13th October

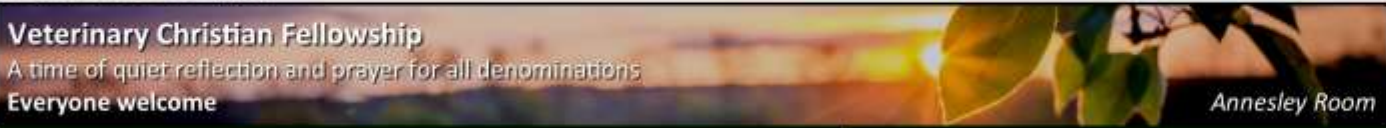

Saturday	Time	Vet Lectures			Time	Children's Programme
	Location	Room 1 – Chandelier Room L/A Stream 1	Room 2 – Annesley Room L/A Stream 2	Room 3 – Brunel Lounge S/A Lectures	Location	Centenary 2
	1015 – 1100	Coffee Break with Shortbread in the Grand Ballroom			1015 – 1100	Supervised break – juice & snacks
	1100 – 1200	A Bug's Life - achieving good rumen health for dairy cows The importance of good rumen health in dairy cows, some key principles for vets to be aware of and how to assess rumen function in dairy herds. <i>Owen Atkinson</i>	Pain management in Livestock: What are our options and do they work? Practical analgesic drug options for acute & chronic pain in cattle including local anaesthetics, topical analgesics & novel approaches to chemical restraint. <i>Hans Coetzee</i>	Ocular trauma in s/a patients The cases that present in first opinion practice associated with globe and orbital trauma; the presenting clinical signs, treatment options and prognosis with a comparison in both cats and dogs. <i>Jim Carter</i>	1100 – 1200	Slime Making 4+ years * 
	1200 – 1300	Lameness in sheep - Part 1 'Surely it's just blue spray?' Lameness and footrot. <i>Joe Angell</i>	Progressive Herd Health Part 2: Breeding for Resilience & Efficiency Ovulation prediction, opportunities for improvement; significance of pregnancy loss in reproductive management; the importance of phenotype and management in good breeding decisions <i>Jonathan Statham</i>	Corneal surgery in cats and dogs This lecture is aimed at first opinion practice to show correct usage of surgical instruments and suture materials and will include evaluation of corneal disease and surgical techniques that may be applicable in first opinion and referral practice for corneal repair <i>Jim Carter</i>	1200 – 1300	Bath Bomb Making 4+ years * 
	1300 – 1415	Lunch in the Grand Ballroom			1300 – 1415	Lunch with parents
	1415 – 1515	A brief introduction to Milksure and changes to the Red Tractor Assurance Scheme Medicine records, annual review of antibiotics, documented colostrum policy and more <i>Neville Graham</i>	Dystocia in the ewe - a predictable matter of life and death <i>Joe Angell</i>	Glaucoma in canine patients Glaucoma is a blinding painful disease in our canine patients & tricky to diagnose and treat in first opinion practice. Jim will look at the aetiopathogenesis, clinical signs, treatment and prognosis, also what equipment should we have in practice to make diagnosis easier. <i>Jim Carter</i>	1415 – 1515	Super Sports! Football, Dodge Ball, Hockey and more Facilitated by PlaysportNI 4+ years  Bus for outdoor activities at Life Adventure leaves at 2pm SHARPI! Mountain Biking and Open Canoeing 8 – 16 years

Lecture programme, Kids programme & Creche

Saturday 13th October

Saturday	Time	Vet Lectures			Time	Children's Programme	
	Location	Room 1 – Chandelier Room L/A Stream 1	Room 2 – Annesley Room L/A Stream 2	Room 3 – Brunel Lounge S/A Lectures	Location	Centenary 2	
	1515 - 1615	Lameness in sheep - Part 2 'Surely it's just blue spray?' Codd and overall control of infectious foot diseases on farm with case studies <i>Joe Angell</i>	Antimicrobial therapy of bovine respiratory disease: How can we tell which drug is the best? BRD is one of the most economically significant diseases. Hans will explore the use of mixed treatment comparison meta-analysis to rank BRD antimicrobials and discuss the impact of re-treatment and drug selection on calf performance and the emergence of AMR <i>Hans Coetzee</i>	The approach to the anorexic dragon ... and other commonly encountered problems with exotics. Feathers, scales or even prickles, Bairbre can help you develop confidence in diagnosis and treatment. <i>Bairbre O'Malley</i>	1515 - 1615	 Parents must collect children from Super Sports at 16.15	 Mountain Biking and Open Canoeing 8–16 years return approx. 6pm
	1615 - 1700	Coffee Break with Cookies in the Grand Ballroom and AVSPNI Business meeting in the Chandelier Room			1615 - 1700	 Children who attended Super Sports finishing at 16.15 have unsupervised free-time now	
	Location	Chandelier Room		Feline uveitis - trials and tribulations! The presenting clinical signs and most common diseases causing this painful, blinding feline disease. Uveitis is commonly presented and often under diagnosed in this species as examination can be difficult and clinical signs often very subtle. What are we missing? <i>Jim Carter</i>			
	1700 - 1745	Liquid Learning The top 10 farm vet disasters and how to avoid them! Discussion forum looking at disasters from VDS case-book, lubricated with a beer for all attendees and led by . . . <i>Carl Padgett</i>	1700 - 1800				
	1745 - 1930	Free time				Children's Tea	
	1930 – 2000	 Drinks Reception followed by Gala Dinner & Entertainment 4 course dinner with wine, casino, table magician & a little jazz <i>in the Grand Ballroom</i> <i>Lounge suits/cocktail dresses</i>			1800 - 1930	Free time	
	2000 - late				1930 - midnight	Film Club (supervised) in the John Toner Lounge	

Sunday 14th October

Sunday	Time	Vet Lectures		Time	Children's Programme
	0700 - 1000	Breakfast for residents <i>in the Oak Restaurant</i>		0700 - 1000	Breakfast
	0845	Registration Desk Open		0845	Free time with mum/dad
	0845 - 0930	Veterinary Christian Fellowship A time of quiet reflection and prayer for all denominations Everyone welcome  <i>Annesley Room</i>		0845 - 0930	
	<i>Location</i>	<i>Room 1 – Chandelier Room L/A Stream 1</i>	<i>Room 2 – Annesley Room L/A Stream 2</i>	<i>Location</i>	
	0930 - 1030	An aspirin a day keeps the doctor away; can NSAID therapy improve the health & performance of dairy & beef cattle? Could it be that dairy cows given a single dose of an NSAID after calving will produce 1,000 lbs. more milk per lactation? Is it possible that calves given an NSAID at castration are healthier? Hans will explore potential economic benefits to using NSAIDs routinely after livestock production practices. Hans Coetzee	Farm Animal Orthopaedic Cases and their Management Eoin Ryan	0930 - 1030	Children's Entertainment Parental supervision required
	1030 - 1130	Calf rearing for lifetime performance Nutrition, health management, environmental management, best Practice for hygiene protocols, pen-side tests and more . . . Steven Morrison	Challenging Bovine Surgical Cases Eoin Ryan	1030 - 1130	
	1130 - 1215	Coffee & scones <i>in the Grand Ballroom</i>		1130 - 1215	Refreshments <i>in the Grand Ballroom</i>
	<i>Location</i>	<i>Chandelier Room</i>		<i>Location</i>	
	1215 - 1300	<i>Keynote Lecture</i> Factors shaping the future of agriculture in Ireland and Britain <i>Justin McCarthy of the Irish Farmers Journal</i>  Spouses, trade colleagues etc. all welcome		1215 - 1300	Free time with mum/dad
	1300	Sunday Lunch		1300	Lunch with parents