

AVSPNI



CONFERENCE

Roe Park Resort, Limavady

30th September - 2nd October



For further information call/email Conference Facilitators
VetNI on 028 25 898543 or info@vetni.co.uk

Conference Programme may be subject to minor change.

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

Words of welcome from AVSPNI President Colin McCrea



At last, a return to the family-friendly format for our Autumn Conference! This event has a strong reputation for high quality CPD tailored to a Northern Irish audience's needs but let's not forget the importance of the social side too. Its been far too long since we could gather together with spouses, partners and families and I for one, am looking forward to it.

For farm vets, we have Owen Atkinson, James Husband, Fiona Lovatt, Paul Crawford and representatives from Vet Support and Rural Support. Topics are chosen for their practical application and will therefore be useful to you on your first day back in practice after conference. For companion animal vets we have an in-depth look at the cytology of lumps, bumps and fluids. At the end of the weekend you will be best friends with your microscope! CPR for humans and the leadership and practice management session will be relevant to all vets and both are also open to practice managers and/or other key team members.

The kids will be entertained which makes this a relaxing and enjoyable weekend for the whole family. The learning opportunities within the lecture programme are obvious but lots can also be learned chatting with colleagues at meals, breaks and in the bar. We have almost all we need for the perfect weekend so make it complete by joining us at the beautiful Roe Park Resort!



Our conference venue

Its been a while since we were there but the 4 star Roe Park Resort was always a favourite for this event. With its amazing location, excellent food, welcoming staff and huge family bedrooms it ticks all the boxes for our family friendly weekend conference.

Accommodation must be booked directly with the hotel

E-mail karen.mcneely@roeparkresort.com and quote VETS-AVSPNI to access de-luxe rooms including breakfast held at a specially negotiated conference rate. These rates are only available up until **September 9th**.

Friday 30th September	Single - £99	Double - £114
Saturday 1st October	Single - £129	Double - £154
Children 4 and under free of charge		
Children 5 – 12 sharing parents room	£15 per child/night B&B	
Children 13 - 15 sharing parents room	£40 per child/night B&B	



Friday 30th September



From 1030	Golf Enjoy a round! Tee reserved for AVSPNI from 10.30. Prior booking via info@vetni.co.uk is essential. Golf is free of charge to conference delegates registered for the whole weekend.			
Time	Vet & Practice Manager Sessions		Time	Kids' Programme
From 1500	Check in to your room from 3pm			
1530 - 1730	Improving your management and leadership skills <i>in Earls Room</i> For practice managers, principals, clinical directors ... anyone in a leadership role in your business. This interactive session aims to discover the challenges of leadership/management in NI and identify potential solutions (learning opportunities, CPD, networking, peer to peer knowledge transfer, formal qualifications) Ryan Davis, SPVS		1500 - 1730	
1730 - 1930	Free time to enjoy the beautiful Roe Park Resort How about a walk in Roe Park, a pint in O'Cahan's Bar, a swim or a Spa visit?		1730 - 1830	Kids' Tea For little ones that can't wait until 8pm to dine
1930 - late	Presidents Welcome, Drinks Reception & Formal Opening of Trade Exhibition <i>in the Trade Exhibition followed by Dinner - Informal, buffet style, inclusive of wine</i> <i>in the Courtyard Restaurant. Children welcome to dine with parents.</i>		2000 - late	Kids' Film Club <i>in Drumceatt Room</i> Supervised by approved creche & child-care providers

Saturday 1st October


0700 – 1000	Breakfast for residents			0700 – 1000	
0815 onwards	Registration Desk Open			0815 onwards	
Time	L/A Lecture Stream 1	L/A Lecture Stream 2	S/A Lectures <i>Earl's Room</i>	Time	Kids' Programme
0930 – 1030	Managing oxidative stress and immune function in the post calving period James Husband	Current thoughts on sheep flock vaccination Category one vaccinations that should be administered in the flock as a default, unless justified as unnecessary by veterinary risk assessment Fiona Lovatt	Sampling, preparation and initial staining for your overview The dos and don'ts for differing approaches to dealing with different sample types. How to assess yield and preservation of sample whether for referral or in-house interpretation. Ronnie Barron	0930 – 1100	
1030 – 1115	Coffee Break with mini pastries <i>in the Trade Exhibition</i>		Coffee Break with mini pastries <i>in the Trade Exhibition</i>	1100 - 1145	Break time with parents
1115 – 1215	Cows' feet - managing complicated claw lesions Owen Atkinson	The NI Sheep Scab Project Paul Crawford	Stains & microscopic Examination For details see next page Ronnie Barron	1145 – 1315	

Saturday 1st October

Vet Lectures & Workshops

Time	L/A Lecture Stream <i>Ross Suite</i>	L/A Lecture Stream <i>Alexander Suite</i>	S/A Lectures <i>Drumceatt Room</i>	Time	Kids' Programme
1215 - 1315	How & why vets should get involved in macro & micro nutrition on sheep farms Empowering vets to take back control from the chap who walks up the farm drive selling expensive potions and panaceas Fiona Lovatt	A listening ear and a helping hand Do you know who Vet Support and Rural Support are and what they do? This joint workshop will help you and help you help others. Let's focus on mental health and wellbeing for everyone. Rural Support & Vet Support	Stains & microscopic Examination continued A "how to" guide with tips for everyday use of the readily available, alternative and special stains. It's now time to befriend your microscope – be familiar with set up, troubleshooting and be able to deal with a microscope left after use by someone less considerate than you! Ronnie Barron	1145 – 1315	Tee Shirt Making <i>in Earls Room or Raised Bar Area</i> 
1315 - 1415	Lunch				
1415 - 1515	BVD - what vets need to know now What can we expect in the future? How can you get reluctant farmers re-enthused? Sharon Verner	Copper toxicity James Husband	Workshop <i>Earls Room</i> Hands-on microscopy session covering the previous lecture topics. Delegates are invited to bring their own smears and microscopes for a "once over" by the speakers. Some demonstration microscopes kindly provided by VSSCo. Ronnie Barron & Hayley Haining	1415 - 1515	Hovercrafting OFFSITE 
1515 - 1600	AVSPNI Business meeting <i>in Ross Suite</i> Topical issues and business of the association – for AVSPNI Full members ONLY		kindly provided by VSSCo. Ronnie Barron & Hayley Haining	1515 - 1600	OR Airbrush tattoos <i>in the hotel main foyer</i>
1600– 1630	Coffee Break with shortbread <i>in the Trade Exhibition</i>			1600– 1630	Break time <i>with parents unless</i>
1630 - 1730	How to get farmers to do what you want them to! Communicating effectively for change Owen Atkinson	Controlling lameness in sheep flocks of either regular or occasional clients There will always be lame sheep but there are many vet opportunities to engage with clients and apply Plan Prevent and Protect measures to control sheep lameness Fiona Lovatt	Blood cells, inflammatory cells and so much more A look at cytological effects on leucocytes as a result of their being in the tissue pool and how to know if the quality of the presented cells is suitable for interpretation. Revision of cytology and case-based images will be used. Hayley Haining	1630 - 1730	Hovercrafting Full details will be e-mailed to parents of children registered for this activity. Each participant will get to do hovercrafting, archery and foot ball. Ages 8 and upwards
1730 - 1930	Free time			1730 - 1830	Kids' Tea <i>in Coachhouse</i>
				1830 - 1930	Free time
1930 – 2000	Drinks Reception			1930 to midnight	Kids' Film Club <i>in Drumceatt Room Supervised</i>
2000 - late	Gala Dinner and Dancing to The COVES Three course dinner, wine included Dress code - Black Tie or Lounge Suits				

Sunday 2nd October

0700 - 1000	Breakfast for residents		0700 - 1000	
0845 - 0930	Veterinary Christian Fellowship or Dawn Chorus Walk in Roe Park		0845 - 0930	
Time	L/A Stream	S/A Lectures	Time	Kids' Programme
0930 - 1030	Farm Vet Champions Motivating your practice team by setting SMART goals <i>Fiona Lovatt</i>	Workshop A look in more detail at cases discussed in previous lectures. Again, delegates can bring their own slides and microscopes or use demonstration microscopes kindly provided by VSSCo. <i>Ronnie Barron and Hayley Haining</i>	0930 - 1030	Make your own Slime in Earls Room 
1030 - 1115	A pain in the backside! Regional anaesthesia of cattle <i>Owen Atkinson</i>		1030 - 1115	
1115 - 1200	Coffee & scones in the Trade Exhibition			
1200 - 1300	The vet's role in decreasing the carbon footprint of dairy and beef herds What to do and how to quantify it based on enteric and feed related emissions <i>James Husband</i>	Topic summary, key considerations and a cell ID quiz All the take home messages in a nutshell plus a chance to win a prize! <i>Hayley Haining</i>	1200 - 1300	
1300	Sunday Carvery Lunch in the Courtyard Restaurant			



Speakers

Owen Atkinson



Owen worked in farm practice for 20 years before establishing Dairy Veterinary Consultancy in 2013, based in Cheshire, but working throughout the UK and overseas. Owen provides advice and training for all types of dairy businesses, including vets, farmers and others in the dairy supply chain.

Owen is a CowSignals® master trainer and Nuffield Scholar. He is involved

in lots of areas of cow health but is particularly known for his enthusiasm for lameness prevention, foot trimming and foot surgery. He is the co-author of the popular text book, Bovine Surgery and Lameness. He has a passion for farmer-vet communications and leading effective change. He enjoys working with farmers to tackle lameness as it is all about improving the lives of cows and the people who care for them.

Ronnie Barron



As laboratory manager of the clinical pathology section of Veterinary Diagnostic Services at the University of Glasgow Veterinary School, Ronnie has gained extensive experience in multi-species veterinary haematology and cytology. This experience has been

built up over many years of research support and interaction with clinicians within the veterinary school, as well as wider first-opinion practice and CPD teaching of veterinary surgeons, nurses and technicians in the UK and abroad. He will share his broad practical knowledge of near-patient testing in veterinary haematology and cytology, the effects of common and not so common pathologies, and the potential pitfalls of which to be aware.

Speakers continued

Paul Crawford



for human medical device development.

Paul, a local vet, is currently undertaking a PhD looking at medicine use in the Northern Irish sheep flock through Harper Adams University. In particular this looks at antimicrobial use, farmer behaviour, prescriber behaviour and sheep scab. Paul is also pursuing a long-term interest in translational studies using large animal models

Hayley Haining



Hayley has worked for the Clinical Pathology Service at Glasgow Vet School since 2003, becoming academic head of the service in 2006. She gained FRCPath in 2010. During her time on the service she has had experience of a range of cases from many different species from the vet school's hospitals and general practices. She has taught CPD to vets, nurses and technicians for many years in large congress scenarios to small CPD evenings. As with this weekend, these have often been in partnership with her long suffering "work husband" Ronnie Barron, who was the clinical pathology laboratory manager for many years. Cumulatively they have over 60 years experience in clinical pathology.

Hayley has worked for the Clinical Pathology Service at Glasgow Vet School since 2003, becoming academic head of the service in 2006. She gained FRCPath in 2010. During her time on the service she has had experience of a range of cases from many different species from the vet school's hospitals and general practices. She has taught CPD to vets,

James Husband



which is now part of Map of Agriculture. He has been a Special Lecturer at the University of Nottingham since 2006 who provides nutritional advice to some of the best dairy herds in the UK and throughout the EU.

James graduated from Cambridge University in 1993. He spent 10 years in veterinary practice specialising in cattle. He became a Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons recognised specialist in Cattle Health & production in 2003 and a Diplomate of the European College of Bovine Health Management in 2006. James founded EBVC, now Evidence Group, in 2005 with Richard Vecqueray

Ryan Davis



has started a business offering clinical mentorship and peripatetic surgery to general practice. He has been a member of the SPVS board since 2015 and is the current SPVS Junior Vice President.

Ryan has been a small animal vet for the majority of his career. He started in general practice in 2002 in a mixed practice and rapidly became a director of the hospital. After 17 years he changed focus and had a clinical management role for 3 years in a large corporate practice. Recently, he

Fiona Lovatt



sheep farms, particularly enthusing both vets and sheep farmers to interact better through proactive individual flock health planning and Flock Health Clubs. Fiona is also the clinical lead for the RCVS Knowledge-led initiative, Farm Vet Champions as well as the sheep veterinary member of RUMA Target Task Force. She is a European Recognised Specialist in Sheep Health and Production, a clinical associate professor at the University of Nottingham and a past president of the Sheep Veterinary Society.

Fiona runs the sheep veterinary consultancy business, Flock Health Ltd which works collaboratively with veterinary surgeons, farmers, processors, retailers and pharmaceutical companies in both UK and abroad. She is particularly passionate about getting pro-active veterinary involvement on UK

Fiona McFarland



Fiona graduated from Bristol University in 2004 and worked predominantly in farm animal practice in England before returning home to Ireland in 2010 and moving into the small animal sector in 2012. She has worked in first opinion and referral practice and also worked as a full-time locum before moving into industry in late 2021. Fiona is now

Account Manager Ireland North for IMV Imaging. Outside of clinical work Fiona was one of the founders of the Young Vet Network in NI and is currently President of both NIVA and the NI branch of the British Veterinary Association (BVA). She has been a peer supporter since Vet Support was founded in 2017.

Sharon Verner



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Sharon is Programme Manager for the industry-led Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (BVD) Eradication Programme, having joined Animal Health and Welfare NI (AHWNI) in 2016. She holds a degree in veterinary medicine from the University of Cambridge. Previously Sharon has worked in government veterinary service, leading on the technical side of animal health programmes in DAERA including the Brucellosis eradication

scheme which resulted in NI gaining Officially Brucellosis Free status in 2015. Prior to that, she led the BSE-driven Over Thirty Month Rule Change project that ultimately allowed meat from older cattle to enter the food chain. She has also spent several years in the field, managing infectious disease breakdowns and conducting investigations, carrying out on-farm clinical work and as a veterinary adviser for a veterinary pharmaceutical company.