

From the President of the Pig Veterinary Society

Dear Members,

Invitation to the PVS Spring Meeting at the Raddison Hotel York on the 20th and 21st March 2024

It is with great pleasure that I invite you to join the PVS Spring Meeting. This meeting has been kindly sponsored by AHDB and I am extremely grateful for their support. This provides an excellent opportunity for vets and allied industry members to come together to discuss and debate the important issues and topics affecting the pig industry currently.

The scientific programme has been organised by Eduardo Velazquez and Max Wood and I am grateful to them as well as to MYT and Jemma Stephenson, the PVS webmaster, for the organisation of what I hope is going to be another excellent meeting.

The meeting will kick off with a session focussing on Influenza: what is seen in the field as well as how it is evolving over time and what threats are there on the horizon. After lunch we will have 3 speakers discussing pig behaviour; what is natural behaviour, what does chronic boredom do to pigs and how can behaviours be influenced by diets? The third and final session of day one will focus on Government affairs. What does it take to get our pork products sold in other countries? What are current perceptions from producers on food safety and what knowledge gaps are there? And finally, we will have an update on the Animal Health and Welfare Pathway.

This will lead straight into our AGM. I will do my best to have all the papers on the website at the latest 2 weeks before the meeting so everybody will have time to read them and prepare any questions. This is also the time where we will elect our new executive members so if you are interested, please send your nomination to Mandy Nevel (secretary), full details can be found in the PVS constitution. This will be followed by the conference dinner which will allow a great opportunity to network and make new contacts as well as enjoying the social occasion.

Day two begins with the clinical club and will be filled with new, challenging, or interesting cases from and for vets. This will be followed by the AHDB Sponsors Slot. The final session of the spring meeting will cover zoonotic diseases including Erysipelas and hepatitis E.

Finally, a couple of quick reminders regarding registration and our meeting formats. Registrations are done via the PVS website (PVS Spring 2024 Meeting | Pig Veterinary Society (pigvetsoc.org.uk). If you experience any problems, please contact PVS Webmaster: webmaster@pigvetsoc.org.uk and Jemma will be happy to help you. Early bird registration will close on the 1st of March. Anybody that has not yet renewed their membership, now is the time to do so!



Our meetings are members-only, closed events. We wish the current format to be maintained whereby all members can benefit from both the science, and opinion, discussed at our meetings, and indeed feel free to contribute openly. Sharing of presented material on social or other media should not be done without express, advanced permission of the presenter and meeting organisers. Non-members are welcome to attend by prior agreement – requests should be made to me via president@pigvetsoc.org.uk.

I look forward to seeing you all.

Your sincerely

Lysan Eppink

PVS President 2023-24

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.