Veterinary Deer Society
Congress 2019 – Information Pack

29th – 30th November 2019, Moredun Research Institute
Introduction

The Veterinary Deer Society’s 2019 conference will take place on the 29th and 30th November 2019. The purpose of the conference is to further Veterinary knowledge and understanding of cervids, with the UK’s deer population in mind. While the congress is aimed for the veterinary community, non-veterinarians are encouraged to attend, should topics of interest be covered.

The conference itself is a stand-alone event, therefore any veterinarian or scientifically-minded individual who has an interested in either farmed, park or deer kept in zoological institutions is encouraged to attend. Whilst membership of the Veterinary Deer Society is not mandatory, it is hopeful that attendance of the conference will display the benefits of VDS membership. If a particular subject area is of interest, attendance of a single day is an option.
Congress Programme

Friday 29th November 2019

0900: Registration
0930: Conference Opening (Mark Dagleish, Moredun Research Institute, VDS Chairman)
0945: Lecture 1 – Introduction to reindeer in the UK (Tilly Smith, Cairngorm Reindeer Company)
1015: Lecture 2 – Reindeer 1 – Natural needs and Animal Welfare (Morten Tryland, Arctic University of Tromsø)
1045: Lecture 3 – Reindeer 2 – Infectious Diseases (Morten Tryland, Arctic University of Tromsø)
1115: Coffee
1145: Lecture 4 – Reindeer 3 – Chronic Wasting Disease (Morten Tryland, Arctic University of Tromsø)
1215: Lecture 5 – Review of diseases of UK reindeer (Aiden Foster, University of Bristol)
1245: Lecture 6 – Reindeer 4 – Climate change and its Impact on Reindeer (Morten Tryland, Arctic University of Tromsø)
1315: Lunch
1415: Discussion Group 1 – UK Reindeer Health + Welfare discussion group (Panel – JF, AF, TS)
1515: Coffee
1545: Lecture 7 – Genetic Improvement of Deer – experiences from NZ and opportunities for the UK (Tim Byrne, AbacusBio)
1615: Lecture 8 – Darting, sedation and anaesthesia – a UK perspective (Kit Heawood, Tyndale Vets)
1645: Delegate Dispersal
1700: VDS AGM
1900: Evening meal – La Garrigue (31 Jeffrey Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1DH)

Saturday 30th November 2019

0900: Lecture 9 – Introduction to Deer Reproduction and AI (José Antonio Ortiz, Medianilla Red Deer Genetics)
0930: Lecture 10 – Scanning Overview (Gareth Boyes, Ark Vets)
1000: Lecture 11 – Embryo Transfer in Deer (José Antonio Ortiz, Medianilla Red Deer Genetics)
1030: Coffee
1100: Lecture 12 – TB research, Progressions and Update (Shelley Rhodes, APHA)
1130: Lecture 13 – Update on TB in UK deer Parks (Peter Green)
1200: Lecture 14 – Current State of TB in Farmed and Park Deer and an Overview on APHA policy (Irene Cristofaro, APHA SVI)
1230: Lunch
1330: Discussion Group 2 – Progression of TB in the UK (Panel – JF, SR, PG, BdY, IC)
1430: Close (Mark Dagleish, Moredun Research Institute, VDS Chairman)
1500: Delegate Dispersal
Speakers

**Dr Aiden Foster** DipACVD, PhD, MRCVS University of Bristol
Aiden Foster qualified from Bristol and worked in mixed general practice for several years before completing a PhD for studies on allergic skin diseases in cats. He subsequently undertook a residency in veterinary dermatology in the USA. He has been the senior editor of the journal Veterinary Dermatology since 2006. He spent 10 years with APHA and developed an interest in exotic farmed species including camelids and deer. He is currently a senior lecturer at Bristol Veterinary School, University of Bristol, covering deer, dermatology, farm animal pathology and parasitology.

**Gareth Boyes** BVMS DBR MRCVS, Ark Veterinary Centre
Gareth joined the practice as a graduate from Glasgow in 1998. A partner at Ark Veterinary Centre, his specialisms are in farm animal medicine and surgery in particular bovine reproduction and all aspects of deer work. Gareth obtained his Diploma in Bovine Reproduction in 2009. He enjoys his deer farm, country pursuits and spending time with his family.

**Dr Tim Byrne** PhD, AbacusBio
Tim is an experienced and solution-focus applied scientist. Over the last 15 years, he has developed, delivered, and reviewed agri-technology programs in Australasia, Europe, North and South America, sub-Saharan Africa, and China. His strengths are in the economic evaluation of technologies in the red meat and dairy supply chains, especially in data/ information programmes and genetic improvement technologies in farmed livestock. A broad and in-depth knowledge of agriculture and food production supply chains globally is underpinned by practical farming experience and a PhD in statistical genetics; this enables Tim to see investment and technology opportunities and integrate them to increase returns and add capital value to businesses.

**Irene Cristofaro** DVM MRCVS, APHA
Irene graduated in Veterinary Medicine in 2007 at the University Federico II, Naples (Italy). After that, she undertook a master degree in “physiopathology of reproduction of domestic mammals”. Irene’s main interest was Equine reproduction, therefore she specialised in Artificial insemination and Embryo transfer of horses. She worked as an Equine stud vet for 10 years in some of the most important equine breeding centres in UK and Europe. She joined the Animal and Plant Health Agency in 2017 as a Senior Veterinary Inspector. Since then she has been heavily involved in the management of TB outbreaks in cattle herds and in other species, including camelids and deer. She is a member of the APHA NEEG (National Emergency Epidemiology Group) and she also sits at TBEAG (TB eradication action group) meetings with stakeholders.
Dr Mark Dagleish BVM&S, PhD, MRCVS, FRCPath, Moredun
Mark Dagleish graduated from the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies in Edinburgh in 1990 and spent over 4 years in practice before returning to the ‘Dick’ to undertake a PhD on the characterisation of aspects of the proteinase: antiproteinase balance in the horse with reference to lung disease. In 1998 he was awarded a lectureship in animal science at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth. In 2002 he returned to Scotland to take up the position of veterinary pathologist at Moredun, in 2010 became a Special Lecturer in Veterinary Pathology at the School of Veterinary Medicine and Science University of Nottingham.

Peter Green BVSc, Cert EO, MRCVS
Peter Green has maintained an interest in deer throughout his professional life. After 25 years in predominantly equine veterinary practice, he established a full-time veterinary consultancy in deer health, welfare and management in 2007. The majority of his clients are deer parks or farms. He also provides consultancy services in respect of deer and other wildlife to Government agencies. He is the honorary veterinary surgeon of the British Deer Society and veterinary surgeon to the deer of the Royal Parks of London and the deer parks of the National Trust. He lives on the edge of Exmoor.

Kit Heawood BVMedSci, BVM, BVS, MRCVS, Tyndale Vets
Kit Heawood is a large animal veterinarian currently practicing in Gloucestershire. Kit has a particular interest in deer, camelids, large exotics and wildlife species. Since graduating from Nottingham, he has worked in Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Morocco and Mongolia with a wide variety of game and wildlife species, however deer is his primary focus.

José Antonio Ortiz Moya, Veterinary Deer Specialist (Genetics, health & reproduction)
Antonio has been the manager of a red deer farm in south Spain for more than 20 years, producing world class red deer genetics for antler quality and venison. He is highly experienced in running costs control to make the red deer farm profitable and sustainable. Antonio has performed AI and ET programs in all over the world in New Zealand, Europe, Canada, US, Mexico and China in red, fallow, elk, sika, mule and white tailed deer. He has performed more than 15000 AI and 10000 ET with high success rate (over 70% and 80% respectively) with hundreds of semen collections and cryopreservation annually. He has published over 34 papers about deer research in peer reviewed scientific journals in fields such as sperm sex sorting, Q feber, Tuberculosis diagnosis and vaccination, oxidative stress in red deer semen, IVF, etc. He is involved in a huge deer R&D program with a total of 6 projects in 10 years supported by the EU with the SaBio Group (Castilla la Mancha University).
Dr Shelley Rhodes MSc, PhD, TB Research Group APHA
An immunologist with twenty years research experience in bovine TB Research at APHA Weybridge and also the test consultant for the interferon-gamma and antibody diagnostic blood tests in cattle, camels and other ad hoc non-bovines. In 2014 I worked with the owner of a large deer herd under TB restriction to show that using skin and serology tests it is possible to regain OTF status. In 2018 the TB Strategy Review highlighted a research requirement for diagnostic tests in both deer and pigs and this has allowed for the current project to evaluate serology tests, with the aim of incorporating antibody testing into future TB exit strategies. I have collaborative links with Edinburgh University (TB diagnostics in cats and dogs), a PhD in Parasite Immunology (Imperial College, London), an MSc in Applied Parasitology & Medical Entomology (Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine), and research experience in BVDV, tumour immunology and clinical asthma.

Tilly Smith BSc (hons), Cairngorm Reindeer Herd
The Cairngorm Reindeer were introduced into the Cairngorm Mountains in 1952 by Swedish Sami Mikel Utsi and his academic wife Dr E J Lindgren. The herd has been owned and managed by Alan and Tilly Smith since 1989. Between us we have nearly 80 years of reindeer husbandry experience in the mountain environment and our own grown up children are both in the reindeer herding business. Tilly Smith and son Alex are council members of the World Reindeer Herders Association, representing Scotland as a full member of this international organisation.

Prof. Morten Tryland DVM, PhD, Arctic University of Tromsø
Morten Tryland is a professor in veterinary medicine – infection biology. He works in the Arctic Infection Biology research group at UiT – The Arctic University of Norway, and also holds a researcher-II position at the Norwegian Polar Institute (NPI); both located in Tromsø, northern Norway. Dr. Tryland has spent most of his research career investigating infectious diseases and zoonoses in arctic wildlife and semi-domesticated reindeer, in projects in Alaska, Canada, Iceland and Fennoscandia, including Svalbard. His research is focused on infection biology and how pathogens impact human and wildlife of the vulnerable and changing northern ecosystems.
Accommodation

Unfortunately no accommodation is available on-site for the conference. Delegates are free to organise their own accommodation should they wish to stay in Edinburgh for the duration. Whilst the conference is being held at the Moredun, the recommended accommodation is the Edinburgh Central Travelodge:

Address: 33 St. Mary's Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1TA
Phone Number: 08719 846137

Note: Numbers dependant, transport may be organised from the hotel to the Moredun on both days of the conference.
Conference Dinner

For those who wish to attend, there will be a conference meal for speakers and delegates on the evening of Friday 29th November 2019. This will be at 1900 at “La Garrigue” (31 Jeffrey Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1DH). Attendance of the meal is not mandatory, however is encouraged and dependant on numbers will be booked on a first-come-first-served basis. Dress for the meal will be casual.

If you wish to attend the meal, please indicate your preferences on your booking form. The price on the booking form includes a three course meal and the first drink.

Travel

The main event will be held at:

Moredun,
Pentland Science Park
Bush Loan
Penicuik
Midlothian
EH26 0PZ

Parking is available on-site for those who wish to self-drive.

Train

Edinburgh Waverly is the closest major station to Moredun. The journey from the station to Moredun is approximately 4 miles and taxis are available from the station. There is also a regular (every 7 minutes) bus service from the station to Moredun Park Road, just outside the institute. The correct bus is either the 3 or 29.
Flying

Edinburgh Airport is 13 miles from Moredun and is easily accessible via the Edinburgh Bypass. The journey should take approximately 25 minutes by taxi.
Prices

The prices for the congress are as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Per Day</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>£100</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-member</td>
<td>£120</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unwaged (e.g. Student, retired)</td>
<td>£50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference dinner</td>
<td></td>
<td>£60</td>
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VAT not charged

The cost for annual membership of the Veterinary Deer Society is £10 and the membership form can be downloaded from: [http://www.vetdeersociety.com/](http://www.vetdeersociety.com/) or can be found in annex A to this document.

Booking

In order to book onto the Veterinary Deer Society Congress 2019, please visit the following link:

[https://parallelassociates.wufoo.com/forms/z11v8wcb0cuie4/](https://parallelassociates.wufoo.com/forms/z11v8wcb0cuie4/)
Annex A – Veterinary Deer Society Membership Form

VETERINARY DEER SOCIETY

PROPOSAL FOR MEMBERSHIP

Full name .................................................................................................................................
Title ........................................................................................................................................
Qualifications ...........................................................................................................................
Place of employment and address:
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Telephone number ...................................................................................................................
Work E mail address ..................................................................................................................
Home address ...........................................................................................................................
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Telephone number ...................................................................................................................
Home E-mail address .................................................................................................................

Are you a member of the BVA? Yes*/No*

Where should correspondence be sent? Home*/Business*

Add Home/Business e-mail address to E-mail Discussion Group? Yes*/No*

If Yes–Home*/Business*

Please describe briefly your interests in deer:
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Signed:.........................................................Date:..........................................................

Please return to:

Dr. P. Goddard
The James Hutton Institute
Craigiebuckler
Aberdeen
AB15 8QH
Scotland
UK

If possible, we would prefer to collect subscriptions by standing order (form available to
download) to keep paperwork to a minimum. If this is unsuitable please enclose a cheque
for£10.00 – payable to "Veterinary Deer Society"