



Royal College Day

—*Programme*—

I GREAT GEORGE STREET, WESTMINSTER,
LONDON SW1P 3AA

FRIDAY 7 JULY 2023



11.00

Annual General Meeting

1. Welcome and Opening Address
2. AGM notification statement and approval of 2022 AGM minutes
3. Presentation of the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2022
4. Questions received from members
5. Council elections: new members and retirements
6. Date of next AGM: 5 July 2024

RCVS Council meeting

7. Address by RCVS CEO Lizzie Lockett
8. Meeting to elect President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer

12.00

Lunch

13.00

Honours & Awards Ceremony

9. Welcome back and overview of the Honours & Awards presentations
10. Presentation of the RCVS Knowledge Awards for Quality Improvement
11. Presentation of books to the RCVS Knowledge Library from BSAVA
12. Presentation of the RCVS Student Community Awards
13. Presentation of the RCVS International Award
14. Presentation of the RCVS Impact Awards
15. Presentation of the RCVS Inspiration Awards
16. Presentation of the RCVS Queen's Medal
17. Address from the Chair of VN Council
18. Investiture of the new Chair of VN Council
19. Remarks from the new Chair of VN Council
20. Address from the RCVS President
21. Investiture of the new President and Vice-Presidents
22. Remarks from the new RCVS President
23. Talk from Guest Speaker – Doris-Ann Williams MBE, Chief Executive BIVDA
'Antimicrobial resistance: the hidden pandemic. A one-health perspective'

15.00 – 1600

Afternoon tea

Welcome to Royal College Day 2023

Thank you and welcome to everyone attending this year's Royal College Day, our Annual General Meeting and awards ceremony and, for me, my last event and official duty as RCVS President for 2022/23. While that latter point may seem bittersweet for some, for me it's a reason to celebrate all the things I've done, places I've been and people I've met during a presidential year that can seem simultaneously all-too-short and endlessly long (often depending on what meeting I'm in!)

I started my year saying I wanted to take advantage of things opening up post-pandemic, to get out there and talk – and, more importantly, listen – to as many people as possible from our small, but mighty veterinary professions. I have certainly done so – I've learned a lot and I've imparted a lot of information – and I've even changed a few minds in terms of how people think of the RCVS and what it does.

What this year has really brought home to me, though, is what a big pool of talent, ideas, skill, expertise and knowledge we hold in our professions and how we are never just vets or vet nurses, but also entrepreneurs, inventors, businesspeople, grief counsellors, researchers, careers advisors and mentors, to name but a few of the many hats we have to wear.

We will be celebrating this facet of our professions today with our RCVS Honours & Awards recipients, about whom you can find out more details throughout this programme. Our award winners really do show the depth and breadth of this 'pool' and, when we launch our new round of awards nominations later this year, I do urge you to consider making a nomination as we have awards that cover all manner of experience, career stages and achievements.

I am also delighted that we have Doris-Ann Williams MBE, Chief Executive of the British In Vitro Diagnostics Association (BIVDA) as our guest speaker this afternoon. Having initially met Doris-Ann through our mutual love of Border Terriers, I later discovered her interest in Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). This issue is so important to both animal and human health and welfare, that I felt Doris-Ann, as a scientist and pet owner, had the perfect combination to be able to highlight this crucial topic as our keynote speaker.

Finally, I hope you all have a wonderful day and the opportunity for those all-important conversations with colleagues and peers that are so vital for information exchange, forging networks and the cohesion of our professions.

Dr Melissa Donald BVMS MRCVS
President





Changes to RCVS Council and Veterinary Nurses Council

These pages feature a list of all the retiring and incoming members of both RCVS Council and Veterinary Nurses Council, including details of their committee memberships and any other notable positions within the College.



RCVS Council

RETIRING MEMBERS

Dr Niall Connell FRCVS: elected 2013 to 2023 (ten years' service)

Served as: President 2019/20; Treasurer: 2021 – 2023; Chair of the Finance and Resources Committee; Chair of the Specialist Recognition and Advanced Practitioner Appeals Committee; Vice-Chair of the Veterinary Nurses Council; Advancement of the Professions Committee (latterly as Observer); Audit and Risk Committee (latterly as Observer); Education Committee (latterly as Observer); Nominations Committee; Preliminary Investigation Committee and Disciplinary Committee Liaison Committee; Registration Committee; Standards Committee (Observer); Chair of the Register and Registration Subcommittee; Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Group; Vice-Chair of the Fellowship Board; Brexit Taskforce; Covid-19 Taskforce; Environment and Sustainability Working Party; Estates Strategy Group; Hardwick Street Refurbishment Group; IT Project Board; Operational Board / Officer Team; RCVS Knowledge Board of Trustees (Observer); and Vet Futures Project Board.

Dr Joanna Dyer MRCVS: elected 2015 to 2023 (eight years' service)

Served on: Advancement of the Professions Committee; Education Committee (Observer); Registration Appeals Committee; Standards Committee; Veterinary Nurses Council; Chair of the Primary Qualifications Subcommittee; Chair of the Extra-Mural Studies Co-ordinators Liaison Group; and RCVS Knowledge Board of Trustees.

Professor Christopher Proudman FRCVS: University (Surrey) appointee March – July 2020 (five months) / Veterinary Schools Council appointee 2021 – 2023 (two years)

Served on: Education Committee; Registration Committee; Certification and Advanced Veterinary Practice Subcommittee; and Recognised Veterinary Practice Subcommittee.

RETURNING ELECTED MEMBERS

Linda Belton MRCVS

NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS

Dr Alice McLeish MRCVS

Tim Hutchinson MRCVS

Veterinary Nurses Council

RETIRING MEMBERS

Dominic Dyer: appointed lay member from 2013 to 2023 (10 years' service)

Claire Roberts RVN: elected member from 2020 to 2023 (three years' service)

Served on: Standards Committee and CPD Policy and Compliance Subcommittee

RETURNING MEMBERS

Matthew Rendle RVN

NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS

Simon Williams RVN



RCVS Honours & Awards

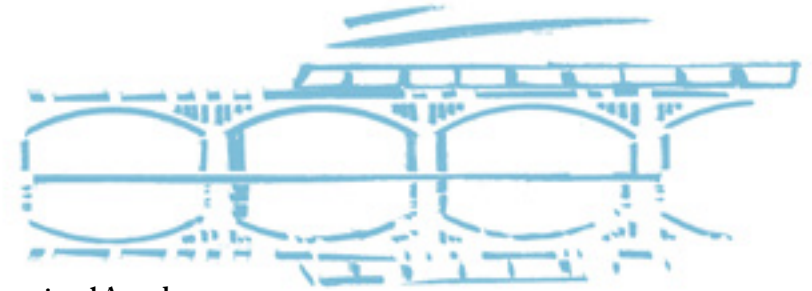
Veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses are expected to meet high standards in order to safeguard animal health and welfare. However, some individuals far exceed expectations, and we feel this should be recognised and celebrated through the RCVS Honours and Awards. We also like to recognise the achievements of those who have contributed to the health and welfare of animals by working in fields related to the veterinary professions.

You can read a description of all our awards here, and more about our winners on the following pages.



The RCVS Queen's Medal

The RCVS Queen's Medal is our most prestigious honour for veterinary surgeons and was launched with the kind permission of Her Majesty the Queen. It recognises a veterinary surgeon who has achieved a highly distinguished career, with sustained and outstanding achievements. Nominations may be made by any member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (MRCVS) or registered veterinary nurse (RVN), excluding current RCVS Council members.



The RCVS International Award

The International Award recognises veterinary surgeons, veterinary nurses and lay people who have worked internationally from within or outside of the UK. This could involve, for example, raising veterinary standards, veterinary education, improving animal health and welfare, developing leadership, and/or promoting mental health and welfare.



The RCVS Inspiration Award

This award is bestowed upon a veterinary surgeon or veterinary nurse who has recently demonstrated the ability to inspire and enthuse others consistently throughout his or her career. It is open to those who have inspired and motivated individuals, groups or who have worked at a profession-wide level. The award recognises those who have gone 'above and beyond' what may normally be expected from a professional colleague.

The RCVS Impact Award

This award is bestowed upon a veterinary surgeon or veterinary nurse who has recently made a considerable impact that has affected the profession at large, animal health or welfare, or public health. Such impact could have been made through any field of veterinary endeavour, including clinical practice, research, education or veterinary politics.





The RCVS Compassion Award

The Compassion Award is bestowed upon a veterinary surgeon or veterinary nurse who has demonstrated compassion towards fellow professionals and/or members of the animal-owning public, either as part of a one-off initiative or sustained over a longer period of time. The individual needs to have made a significant impact and shown genuine compassion above and beyond what might have been expected of them as part of their day-to-day work.



Once again this year, we are delighted to feature the work of Illustrator Jane Spencer in our Honours and Awards.

Jane's illustrations depict a key element from each Award's criteria and are also laser engraved into the awards themselves.

The RCVS Student Community Award

This award recognises a veterinary or veterinary nursing undergraduate or postgraduate student who has made a significant effort to support their fellow students and the wider veterinary/veterinary nursing school community, or contributed to their wider local community. This could include, for example, a specific initiative that the student has developed, personal support they have given over a sustained period or an outreach programme to the local community.

Presentation of the RCVS Queen's Medal

Dr Bruce Fogle MBE MRCVS

The recipient of this year's Queen's Medal, Bruce Fogle, has been recognised for a long and distinguished career in which he has made a significant contribution to clinical practice and charity work.

In 1970, Bruce gained a travel fellowship to London where his surgery professor, Jim Archibald, was on sabbatical. Dr Archibald introduced him to Brian Singleton, the 1970 President of the RCVS for whom Bruce worked until 1973 when he set up his own clinic. He learned from Brian how important the relationships people have with their pets are. With three colleagues, he established the UK's first dedicated out-of-hours clinic and, in 1980, he organised for the BSAVA the Human Companion Animal Bond symposium. In 2010, recognising his contributions to the profession, the BSAVA made Bruce an Honorary Life Member.

He invited vets, psychiatrists, psychologists and cultural anthropologists to the BSAVA meeting including the Dean of Washington State University's vet school, Leo Bustad, who used wit and humour to promote compassion for the animals we care for and the people who accompany them. Dr Bustad encouraged Bruce's greater involvement in people-pet relations and animal welfare. Bruce co-founded the Society for Companion Animal Studies and the journal *Anthrozoös*. From 2010 to 2020 he was President of Humane Society International. Today, Bruce is President of RSPCA Sussex West.

Through Dean Bustad, Bruce met Lady Beatrice Wright and, in 1982, they co-founded the charity Hearing Dogs for Deaf People of which Bruce remains Vice-Chair. In 2003, he was appointed MBE by Queen Elizabeth II, for services to disabled people.

Bruce's interest in both people and animal behaviour developed from his experiences in clinical practice. After editing the textbook *Interrelations Between People and Pets* he has written over 50 books mostly about the health, welfare and behaviour of dogs and cats. His books are translated into 35 languages, published in over 45 countries and have sold over 12 million copies. He has given talks at veterinary schools and symposia in 24 countries. He continues to work at the London Vet Clinic with the team of vets and vet nurses who nominated him for this award.

His nominator Tina Leake RVN, who works at the London Vet Clinic, said: "As an employer, Bruce is an inspirational role model whose expertise and enthusiasm is unparalleled. A true ambassador for the profession, he is always on hand to help mentor his staff to encourage and support them to follow their own veterinary pathway. Some employees have been with him for over 40 years, a true testament to his fair and guiding leadership."





Presentation of the RCVS Student Community Award

Legend Thurman

Legend Thurman receives the Student Community Award for her work in representing fellow American students studying veterinary medicine in the UK via her presidency of the Student American Veterinary Medical Association. This has included encouraging career development opportunities for students, increasing scholarship opportunities for veterinary medicine courses, and raising mental health awareness.

An international best-selling author and a native of Washington, Pennsylvania and Washington DC, Legend is a current, final-year, veterinary student at the Royal Veterinary College (RVC), aspiring to be a government veterinarian and advocating giving a voice to those who cannot speak for themselves.

She is currently the RVC Students' Union President and Immediate Past President of the RVC Student American Veterinary Medical Association (SAVMA) Chapter. Her previous education includes a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and a double minor in chemistry and theology/religious studies from the Catholic University of America. Additionally, since beginning veterinary school, she also holds a plethora of certifications in fear-free techniques, disaster business continuity, as well as suicide and burnout prevention.

Her portfolio includes analysing mandatory reporting for animal-abuse cases at the state level for the Animal Welfare Institute, creating and leading discussions surrounding entrepreneurship within the veterinary industry and writing the briefing on the Glue Traps Bill (now Act) for the Veterinary Policy Research Foundation in London headed by The Lord Trees.

Given her strong faith, Legend is also a firm believer in overcoming some of the struggles humanity faces in terms of acceptance, self-image, vulnerability, and imposter syndrome among veterinary professionals and society as a whole.

Her nominator is Dr Sara Ketchum MRCVS, a recent RVC graduate who studied alongside Legend. She said: "Considering her graduation from the Veterinary Entrepreneurship Academy, her most recent talk series addressed worries of many new graduates such as how to navigate contracts and approach becoming a practice owner. Further, she has empowered women leaders in a recent book publication and continues to advocate for body positivity and equality in the workplace."



Presentation of the RCVS Student Community Award

Sophie Oliver

Sophie receives the Student Community Award for her part in organising the inaugural British Small Animal Veterinary Association (BSAVA) Student Congress in 2022, the first that covered students at all UK vet schools rather than being localised to a particular school.

Sophie recently finished her final year at Nottingham and will be starting at Park Vet Group in September as a small animal vet. During her fourth year of studies, she was Nottingham's BSAVA Senior Student Representative and organised the inaugural BSAVA Student Congress with the help of her team.

The national level two-day online event was open to all students and new grads with over 450 sign ups and over 200 live attendees. The webinars ranged from topical subjects like sustainability in the veterinary industry, to charity medicine, research, and a wide range of specialisms including dentistry, cardiology and internal medicine. The congress aimed to inspire students and to give context to the material they are taught in vet school with Specialists discussing cases and common presentations and giving the students a chance to engage and ask questions. Sophie also ran community events within the congress, including lunchtime yoga sessions and a pet photography competition.

Sophie was included in the London Vet Show 2022's '30 under 30' for her leading role in the congress, and has been involved in Pioneer's research and development, sustainability and education focus groups as a result. During her final year, Sophie was part of the organising committee for the Northern Veterinary Student Zoological Symposium which will be held in the next academic year. Sophie has a particular interest in ophthalmology, which she hopes to further develop and explore as her career progresses.

Her nominator was fellow final-year veterinary student William Brookes. He said: "Sophie went out of her way to include a breadth of topics, including clinical talks from European Specialists, current affairs like sustainability, and areas not typically covered in great depth at vet school. She also pushed for each presenter to provide supplementary notes to accompany each session and built in Q&A time to engage with the presenters after every talk."





Presentation of the RCVS International Award

Dr Denis Novak *MRCVS*

Dr Denis Novak receives the International Award for his work on improving standards in veterinary education in Serbia, the Balkans region and other areas of Eastern Europe through his work with the Federation of European Companion Animal Veterinary Associations (FECAVA), where he is now President. He also founded the Eastern European Regional Veterinary Conference (EERVC), which has helped to bring affordable continuing professional development (CPD) and networking opportunities to veterinary professionals from across the region.

Denis graduated with a DVM at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Belgrade and is one of the founders and partners in Veterinary Clinic Novak, Belgrade, with referral and first-opinion service. In 2002, he completed post-graduate training at the University of Cambridge Veterinary School, gaining his MRCVS status.

Denis is the second-term President of the FECAVA and President of the Serbian Association of Small Animal Practitioners (SASAP). He has also served as the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) / Union of European Veterinary Practitioners (UEVP) representative for the Serbian Veterinary Chamber and represents SASAP in the World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA).

In his role as founding board member and chairman of the EERVC, Denis has organised and co-organised more than 180 affordable CPD events across Europe related to small animal veterinary topics, allowing the transfer and sharing of knowledge between colleagues in different parts of the continent.

His nominator was Dr Wolfgang Dohne MRCVS, a UK representative on the board of FECAVA, who served as the organisation's President prior to Dr Novak. He said: "Denis was instrumental in establishing freely-accessible continuing education (CE) events in many of these countries, overcoming in many cases the resistance of established (communist) structures.

"Denis has, in many cases, been supportive and instrumental with the establishment of new small animal associations in these countries and with new CE events in Europe and beyond like the new Middle East and African Veterinary Conference in Dubai. A lot of today's continuing education in Eastern Europe would not have been possible without the help and the support of Denis Novak."



Presentation of the RCVS Impact Award

Dr Mark Little *MRCVS*

Dr Mark Little receives the Impact Award for his actions when jointly President of the British Veterinary Association's (BVA) Northern Ireland branch and the Northern Ireland Veterinary Association (NIVA) in 2021/2022, a crucial time for the country's veterinary sector as the impact of the post-EU Exit arrangements under the Northern Ireland Protocol were being worked out.

Mark works as an RCVS Specialist in Cattle Health and Production with Fane Valley Co-op in Northern Ireland, where he started the new veterinary services division that he now continues to manage. This service helps the farmer shareholders with practical nutrition, management and preventative health solutions.

This passion for preventative animal health is longstanding as, after 10 years in dairy practice and completing a postgraduate certificate in dairy herd health, Mark dedicated three years researching the nutritional influences on immunity in the transition dairy cow. These PhD studies were conducted at Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute, Hillsborough and Queen's University Belfast. While working at an international nutrition company, Mark completed a Nuffield Farming Scholarship in 2019 on the topic 'Nutrition for Health – combating antimicrobial resistance'.

Mark has been on the North of Ireland Veterinary Association Council for 10 years, where he has had many roles including President in 2021. In this role, Mark identified the alarming issue that would have resulted in the loss of over 50% of the supply of veterinary medicines to Northern Ireland. He successfully lobbied a large number of veterinary and agriculture stakeholders in the UK, Ireland and Europe, to speak with a combined voice on this issue, achieving an extension to the grace period for the Northern Ireland Protocol. He continues to lead on this area and is now focused on achieving a long-term permanent solution to the supply of veterinary medicines to Northern Ireland, to safeguard the health and welfare of all animals.

His nominator – Esther Skelly-Smith MRCVS – said: "Mark has worked tirelessly for the two-year project to safeguard the health and welfare of animals in Northern Ireland. He recognised how incredibly important it was to ensure a full complement of veterinary medicines remain available thereby preventing disease and unnecessary suffering. Mark also had the perseverance and insight to pursue this issue due to the important implications for the protection of human health, thereby eliminating the risk of potential zoonotic diseases."





Presentation of the RCVS Impact Award

Dr Collin Willson *MRCVS*

Dr Collin Willson receives the Impact Award for his career in veterinary public health and food safety, including providing expertise and policy input to the British Veterinary Association (BVA) and its divisions and, in particular, for his work with the Halal meat industry, ensuring that the right balance is struck between animal welfare and respect for religious and cultural practices.

Collin qualified from the Royal Veterinary College in 1973 and then joined a rural mixed practice in Abergavenny, South Wales, becoming a partner in 1976. In 2005, he was appointed as Regional Veterinary Advisor for the Meat Hygiene Service in South Wales and, in 2008, was moved on secondment to Food Standards Agency (FSA) Wales where he served as the Veterinary Meat Hygiene Advisor and then Business Manager for South Wales and Borders.

In early 2012, he was appointed as the FSA's project lead for the implementation of the new EU Welfare Regulations where he worked with Defra, and the devolved governments. In January 2013, Collin was appointed as Veterinary Manager for Wales and Borders and then, in 2014, became Field Veterinary Lead within FSA Wales with responsibility for welfare at slaughter.

In 2018, he moved to a solely animal welfare at slaughter role at the FSA within the animal welfare team and, in 2019, chaired, on behalf of the British Veterinary Association, an Animal Welfare at Slaughter Working Group. In this role he has joined BVA officers and the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB) in working with the Halal sector to improve the understanding of the requirements for Halal slaughter and stunning methods.

With the National Farmers Union, AHDB, BVA, Veterinary Public Health Association (VPHA) and others, he was part of a group chaired by The Lord Trees who developed the 'Demonstration of Life' protocol. This is an independent Halal assurance framework which permits participating abattoirs to validate that the small ruminants they handle are alive at the point of slaughter through demonstrating the recoverability of the electrical head-only stun. Collin has also been a member of the VPHA Council since 2021 and was President of BVA's Welsh branch from June 2021 to June 2023.

His nominator was current BVA President Malcolm Morley MRCVS, who said: "As Chair of BVA's Welfare at Slaughter Working Group, Collin led the development of our position on welfare at slaughter and has been instrumental in developing relationships with Halal certification body representatives to further our mutual aims of good welfare from farm to fork."



Presentation of the RCVS Inspiration Award

Dr Katie Ford *MRCVS*

Dr Katie Ford receives the Inspiration Award for her role in helping others develop their careers, confidence, and wellbeing via her coaching and mentoring.

Katie is an experienced small animal veterinary surgeon who has dedicated recent years of her career to supporting the wellbeing of the profession in multiple ways. She graduated from Liverpool University in 2012 and earned her RCVS Certificate in Small Animal Internal Medicine in 2017. Inspired by her own encounters with navigating imposter syndrome and self-doubt, she embarked on initiating more open dialogues on these topics within the veterinary profession. Katie further honed her skills by training as a coach, and providing online encouragement and signposting for those experiencing similar feelings.

With a social media following of over 20,000 as @katiefordvet, Katie has become an influential keynote speaker, sharing insights not only with veterinary peers but also with audiences outside the profession. She launched the "To an amazing vet" gift book series, offering encouragement and kind reminders to colleagues, with donations made to Vetlife. In 2020, she co-founded Vet Empowered with fellow veterinary surgeon and coach Claire Grigson, providing personal development content and group coaching services, specifically tailored to new and recent graduates.

Recognising the significance of financial independence and its impact on well-being, Katie assumed the role of co-director at VetYou in 2021. Here, she actively works to break down financial barriers and ensure timely access to expert advice within the veterinary community.

Katie has created and collaborated on many other projects and initiatives to support the profession. From running VETstagram in Manchester 2023, a veterinary-based social media event to empower others to use social media in positive ways, to using her digital skillset to help take a number of veterinary conferences online during the pandemic. She has been honoured to be nominated and shortlisted for a number of awards outside of the veterinary profession, including Business Woman of the Year, Manchester Entrepreneur of The Year, and CPD Event of The Year.

Her nominator, fellow Vet Empowered co-founder Claire Grigson MRCVS, said: "One of the key ways in which Katie has impacted the profession is through her dedication to supporting veterinary professionals."





Presentation of the RCVS Inspiration Award

Dr Laura Higham MRCVS

Dr Laura Higham receives the Inspiration Award for her dedication to promoting sustainability and environmental policies and good practice within the veterinary industry.

Laura graduated from the University of Edinburgh's Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies in 2008. She worked in mixed practice in the UK and New Zealand before joining the animal welfare charity SPANA to manage working equid and livestock projects in disaster preparedness and response across Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia.

Her projects included developing a community animal healthcare project with pastoralists in Darfur with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), organising and delivering veterinary training in Ethiopia, and managing disaster preparedness and response with herders in Mongolia. To focus on food systems and sustainability, Laura joined the Food Animal Initiative (FAI) in 2014, providing veterinary services to the FAI mixed farm in Oxford, and consultancy and research services to UK and global food businesses with a particular focus on farm animal welfare and antimicrobial stewardship.

In addition to her consultancy work, Laura is currently conducting research into veterinary roles in sustainability and reconciling multiple sustainability objectives in food animal production, in contribution to her PhD at The Global Academy for Agriculture and Food Systems (University of Edinburgh).

In 2019, alongside a team of co-directors, Laura founded Vet Sustain, a leadership and advocacy network aiming to inspire and enable veterinary professionals to drive sustainability in their work. Vet Sustain has since grown to provide tools, training and partnership opportunities to drive progress with environmental, social and animal welfare goals.

Her nominator is Anna Judson MRCVS, a Vet Sustain supporter and current Junior Vice-President of the British Veterinary Association. She said: "Vet Sustain was set up in response to the pressing societal issues of climate change, biodiversity loss, public health threats and persistent animal welfare challenges. Recognising the unique 'One Health' skillset and trusted position held by vets, vet nurses and members of the vet-led team, Vet Sustain has laid out its strategy for supporting the professions to create meaningful change through their work, all under the leadership of Laura."



Presentation of RCVS Knowledge Awards

RCVS Knowledge Awards for Quality Improvement

The RCVS Knowledge Awards for Quality Improvement showcase the implementation of Quality Improvement (QI) techniques which drive improvement within the profession. Winners are assessed on their passion for QI, and for encouraging and championing the use of recognised QI techniques to monitor changes and make improvements.

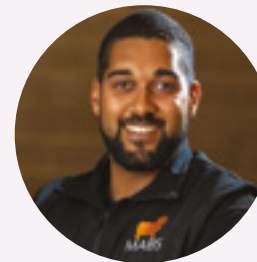
Quality Improvement Champion - Education

The School of Veterinary Nursing at the Royal Veterinary College incorporated QI in their post-registration qualifications. This included activities on how to write a Knowledge Summary, plan a Clinical Audit proposal, how to conduct and reflect on the results of an audit, and group discussion and knowledge sharing sessions.



Quality Improvement Champion

David Charles' ovine lambings and caesarean sections Clinical Audit successfully reduced prophylactic antibiotic use, with improved use of local anaesthetics and the provision of analgesia. David collected baseline data, introduced training and how-to guides, and used SMART goals, bringing benefit to animal welfare, generating better quality evidence in an under-investigated area, and enabling evidence-based development of improved patient care guidelines.



About RCVS Knowledge

We are RCVS Knowledge, an independent charity sitting at the heart of the veterinary professions, to help advance the quality of care for the benefit of animals, the public and society. We meet our goals, by working with you. We support and collaborate with veterinary teams on the ground and in practice, influence policy, and engage educators and other organisations. To do this, we translate and disseminate the latest research from across the globe. We foster approaches to shared learning with training and tools. All underpinned by our veterinary archive that logs and tracks our evolving profession.



RCVS Knowledge Awards for Antimicrobial Stewardship

The inaugural RCVS Knowledge Awards for Antimicrobial Stewardship showcases practical examples where individuals and teams are improving responsible antimicrobial prescribing. The awards are open to anyone who works within the veterinary industry, including those from a practice setting, and educators and students from under and postgraduate education.

Antimicrobial Stewardship Champion

White Lodge Veterinary Surgery carried out a prospective audit to review the use of antibiotics, with a focus of antibiotic use in cat bite abscesses. With the introduction of checklists and in-house CPD they were able to treat 86% of their patients successfully without antibiotics and without compromising welfare.



VetTeamAMR – a new initiative to tackle AMR

RCVS Knowledge is taking action against antimicrobial resistance (AMR) through VetTeamAMR, a new initiative to empower veterinary teams with knowledge and tools to make positive change.

VetTeamAMR is a collection of free evidence-based tools and resources to support farm, companion and equine teams to use antimicrobials responsibly.

The charity has developed a free audit tool to provide veterinary teams with data to make the right, evidence-based decisions for patients. Their free online CPD will equip veterinary teams with increased knowledge about antimicrobial stewardship.

Part funded by the Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD), VetTeamAMR aims to unite and implement material changes to tackle AMR on a national scale. Working alongside expert veterinary professionals from companion, equine and farm backgrounds, VetTeamAMR has truly been created by veterinary professionals, for veterinary professionals.

We all have a responsibility to fight antimicrobial resistance. You and your team can join the VetTeamAMR community today and make responsible antimicrobial use common practice.

By using antimicrobials responsibly, we can ensure they will work when patients really need them.

Visit rcvsknowledge.org/VetTeamAMR to learn more and get involved.



Guest Speaker

Doris-Ann Williams

MBE

Doris-Ann Williams has been Chief Executive of the British In Vitro Diagnostics Association (BIVDA) since October 2001. She has over 40 years' experience in the IVD sector. She has held a variety of roles; initially in Research and Development and subsequently in commercial roles including international responsibilities. She has been involved in a number of Government steering groups and boards including the Pathology Quality Oversight Group over the past 20 years and is a Trustee for the UK National External Quality Assessment Service.

Doris-Ann was awarded an MBE in January 2011, was recognised as a Friend of the Royal College of Pathologists in November 2012 and as a Friend of the Association for Clinical Biochemistry in July 2015. She was made a Vice-President of the Parliamentary & Scientific Committee in 2015 and is Chair of the organising committee for the annual STEM for Britain competition, as well as being on the Employability Board for the School of Life Sciences at the University of Westminster.

Doris-Ann has particular interest in the role of diagnostic testing in the community and how diagnostics can help with mitigation of antimicrobial resistance (AMR). Her interest in AMR has taken her to the World Health Organisation meeting in New York in 2016, she is a Prize Panel Board member for the Longitude Prize and is on the NHS AMR Diagnostics Board.





#RoyalCollegeDay