



Irish Equine Veterinary Association Conference 2023

Thursday 23rd to Saturday 25th November

Slieve Russell Hotel, Co. Cavan, Ireland

IEVA Conference 2023 - Speakers:

The speakers presenting at the IEVA conference are a mixture of local and international talent, all highly qualified and experienced in their fields. A variety of topics will be covered with an emphasis being placed on bringing all equine practitioners up to date with current diagnostic and treatment modalities as well as updates on new legislation and changing practice and legal requirements. A separate wetlab will be offered along with student and nursing streams. The conference will also offer an extensive trade exhibition giving practitioners the opportunity to investigate new equipment and tools on offer.

Dr David Beehan MVB MS PhD

A 2006 UCD, Dublin graduate, David started his career as an equine stud veterinarian working alternating breeding seasons for Australian and Irish Equine Practices. In August 2009, David commenced an animal reproduction residency at the Louisiana State University's Vet School in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. During his residency he successfully completed the certifying examination for the American College of Animal Reproduction and was conferred with a Master's in veterinary clinical sciences, before joining the Vet School Faculty as Clinical Instructor with responsibility for equine reproduction field services in 2012. Whilst an instructor he pursued a PhD and was awarded his doctorate in 2016 for his study of the biofilm forming potential of equine reproductive tract *Escherichia coli*. Also, in 2016 he joined Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine as a Veterinary Inspector in the Department's National Disease Control Centre (NDCC) Division, working in exotic disease policy and implementation. After a 3-year spell dealing with all things exotic, and a brief spell in Learning and Development, David joined Virology Division as Senior Research Officer in 2020.



Hugh Dillon, MVB MRCVS

Hugh completed a surgery internship in the Dublin Veterinary College after qualifying from UCD in 1982. Following a spell working for Kieran Bredin on the Curragh he spent a further 9 years working in Racing, Sport horse and Stud practices in the U.K. On returning to Ireland, he worked with Ned Gowing for 5 years before becoming a partner in Troytown in 1997 where he has been since.

He describes himself as a generalist equine practitioner i.e., a jack of all trades! He gained his experience from the tutelage of many wise sages including Prof. John O'Conner, Kieran Bredin, Ned Gowing, Mike Ashton, Robert Allpress, Mike O'Gorman to name but a few. He has always had a particular interest in wind conditions of horses and is a fan of high-speed treadmill endoscopic examination of racehorses to assess reasons for poor performance.



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Professor Padraic M Dixon MVB PhD FRCVS Dip EVDC (Equine)

Prof PM Dixon is a graduate of University College Dublin, later obtaining a PhD on equine respiratory disease at The University of Edinburgh. He has worked as a lecturer, senior lecturer, reader, and Professor of Equine Surgery in Edinburgh University where his main clinical and research interests were equine dental disorders and head and neck surgery. He left the University in 2021 but continues with his clinical and literary work. He and his 60 plus postgraduate students have published extensively on the above topics and he has over 250 refereed publications, multiple book chapters, books and over 7900 paper citations. He is a European Specialist in Equine Dentistry and a Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Specialist in Equine Soft Tissue Surgery. He has presented hundreds of lectures and practical courses around the world on these areas. Prof Dixon and his co-workers are widely recognised to have been at the forefront of highly relevant clinical and basic research on equine respiratory and dental disease for four decades



Dr Karen Dunne, PhD, MA, CertEM(StudMed), MVB

Following a veterinary medicine degree and a large animal surgical internship in UCD, Karen worked in ambulatory equine practice in Ireland and New Zealand. An interest in stud work and foal care resulted in a RCVS certificate in stud medicine. In 2008 Karen took up a lecturing post at Dundalk Institute of Technology on the newly developed veterinary nursing programme. A DkIT Masters in learning and teaching was followed by a doctorate in veterinary nursing education from UCD in 2019. Karen is the veterinary nursing programme director at DkIT, and combines clinical teaching on the Level 7 and Level 8 veterinary nursing programmes with postgraduate student tutoring. Her research interests include technology-enhanced learning, practical skills development, and veterinary nursing competence.



James Gibbons MVB PhD EBVS® European Specialist in Veterinary Microbiology

Member of European College of Veterinary Microbiology, Dr Gibbons qualified with a degree in veterinary medicine from University College Dublin (UCD) in 2000. After several years in general veterinary practice in Ireland and overseas he returned to UCD to study for a PhD in veterinary microbiology which focused on antimicrobial use and resistance in farm-animal production in Ireland. Following the completion of his PhD he lectured in veterinary microbiology and public health in the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies in the University of Edinburgh and in 2013 he was appointed lecturer in veterinary public health in UCD. In 2018, James commenced employment as Head of Microbiology in the Irish Equine Centre (IEC), an independent, not-for-profit organisation whose aim is to protect the wellbeing of Ireland's horse population. His interest include antimicrobial resistance in bacteria from all animal species, especially horses, and all aspects of bacterial diseases of horses.





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Anthony Hall RVN

Anthony graduated from Hartpury University 7 years ago and has been excelling in his role at a referral hospital in the Diploma lead imaging department. His exceptional skills include performing MRIs, CTs, and X Ray examinations. Anthony is a Hallmarq approved technician, having completed approximately ~200 exams per year and attending 2 Annual European meetings on Equine MRI in Chamonix, France.

Notably, he collaborated with the Cannon team 5 years ago to design his hospital's CT Scanning facility, and has since become a Cannon approved CT Operator. Anthony is also highly knowledgeable in radiology, having spent 6 years under the guidance of Jan Butler (author of Clinical Radiology of the Horse) before she retired



Ellen Hegarty MVB MRCVS

Ellen Hegarty has a career spanning 25 years, beginning in mixed practice before moving into emergency medicine and companion animal practice. After having children, she spent 10 years balancing working in practice with teaching in Further Education. She joined DAFM just over 2 years ago where she works in the VMAAT division in the Veterinary Medicines Section. She has a Masters in Climate Change. Her thesis examined the Irish veterinary professions in the context of a climate changing world. She is the resident vet on the RTÉ/BBC Irish language pet series 'Peataí' and the new upcoming RTÉ series Madraí.



Claire Hawkes BVSc, MSc, Cert ES (Soft Tissue), Dip ECVS

Claire is one of the Directors and Specialist Surgeons at Sycamore Lodge Equine Hospital. Graduated University of Queensland 2003 and then completes an Internship at Randwick Equine Centre 2004. Claire then spent a number of years in private equine practice in the UK before commencing a Residency in Equine Respiratory Medicine and Surgery at the University of Edinburgh She is a Diplomate of the European College Veterinary Surgeons 2011.



Simon Hennessy MVB, MSc, Cert AVP (ESO)(ESST) MRCVS DipECVS

Simon is one of the European Board-Certified specialist equine surgeons working at Anglesey Lodge Equine Hospital on the Curragh in County Kildare, Ireland. Here Simon works with a broad caseload of horses with a large predisposition for racing thoroughbred and competition Sport horses, giving a diverse caseload. Simon graduated for university college Dublin in 2007 and since then has worked in Ireland, the UK, Australia, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, and Sweden. Simon performs all types of surgical procedures but prefers orthopaedics, reproductive and minimally invasive surgery. He also performs many lameness assessments on all types of competition horses.





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**Professor Anna Hollis BVetMed DipACVIM DipECEIM MSc (Clin Onc) PGCTLHE
PGCMedEd SFHEA FRCVS, RCVS, American & EBVS European Recognised Specialist in
Equine Internal MedicineB1**

Anna qualified in 2004 and has worked in first opinion and referral private practice and academia in the UK, Ireland, and USA. She became a Diplomate of the ACVIM in 2009, and began offering an equine oncology referral service in 2016. Anna gained a MSc in Clinical Oncology in 2019, the only equine vet to have gained this qualification, and was awarded FRCVS in 2023 in recognition of her contribution to the profession in the area of equine oncology. Her particular area of interest is the development of novel treatments for difficult to treat lesions, and improving the standard of care of equine oncology cases.

Niamh Lewis, BVMS DACT Dip ECAR PhD

Graduated Royal Dick School of Veterinary medicine, University of Edinburgh in 2008 and spent several years in clinical practice focusing on equine reproduction in Ireland, Australia, UK, USA, and Saudi Arabia. Niamh then completed a residency programme at the University of Liverpool, subsequently becoming a European and American registered specialist in Equine Reproduction in 2015. While at the University of Liverpool, Niamh was responsible for instituting the first commercial intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) facility in the UK, from design through to successful operation. Niamh's PhD entitled "A metabolic approach towards optimising equine in vitro maturation," was a collaborative BBSRC funded project between the University of Liverpool, University of Manchester, and Texas A&M University. Niamh is in the process of establishing an ICSI laboratory within the School of Veterinary Medicine to continue research in equine assisted reproduction, specifically energy metabolism of the equine oocyte and embryo during in vitro maturation and culture and how it relates to developmental competence and health of resulting offspring.



Dr. Catherine McAloon, MVB DVMS Dip ECBHM MRCVS,

Assistant professor section of herd health and animal husbandry, UCD and module coordinator clinical extra - mural studies/placement. Catherine McAloon qualified from UCD in 2011 and worked in mixed practice in Ireland for 3 years before returning to UCD to undertake a residency programme in the Herd Health Department of the School of Veterinary Medicine. In 2017, Catherine successfully passed her European Board examinations and is a European Specialist in Bovine Health Management. She is also a RCVS recognised specialist in cattle health and production and VCI specialist in bovine health. During her residency Catherine completed a Doctor of Veterinary Medical Specialisation research degree in the area of dairy cow nutrition. Catherine works as an Assistant Professor in the Herd Health and Animal Husbandry section of UCD. As part of her teaching commitments Catherine co-ordinates the clinical extra- mural experience module for the last 4 years.





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Siobhan McAuliffe MVB DACVIM CertRA

Graduated from Dublin in 1997. After 4 years of general equine practice in Ireland, she completed a residency in Internal medicine in Kentucky. She then became head of Medicine for the Stables of King Abdullah in Saudi Arabia for 5 years before returning to private practice in central Ky for 2 years. In 2010 she moved to Argentina to take up a medicine role at the Kawell equine hospital and rehabilitation centre. Siobhan returned to Fethard Equine hospital in 2017 where she stayed until 2021. Siobhan now works part-time for MSD animal health and offers a second opinion medicine service.



David MacGuinness MVB MRCVS

David qualified from Trinity College, Dublin in 1977. He worked in the UK in small animal practice and equine practice from 1977 to 1980. David then moved to and worked in South Africa from 1980 to 1987 and was a partner in an equine and small animal practice which contained 12 vets. In 1987, David returned to Dundalk and set up an equine and small animal practice. His brother John joined him in 1988 as a partner.

Emma Moran MISCSP, CPAP, BSc (Physiotherapy), BA (Sci-Zoo)

Emma Moran is a Chartered Physiotherapist working in animal practice, primarily in the equine field. She completed her Physiotherapy degree in the Royal College of Surgeons in Dublin in 2008, following a degree in Natural Sciences in Trinity College (2003) where she specialized in behavioural zoology. In 2010, she completed the 2 year long Chartered Physiotherapists in Animal Practice (CPAP) training programme through the Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists (ISCP) and has since been an active member of the CPAP committee having spent many years as Chairperson and is passionate about promoting the role of the profession within the veterinary multidisciplinary team. Emma works with elite, amateur and leisure horses across a variety of disciplines including dressage, carriage driving and therapeutic horses and she has worked and travelled domestically and internationally with elite showjumpers and eventers as part of their therapeutic team. She also has in depth experience of working in the bloodstock industry from foals and stallions, horses in training and racehorse to riding horse retraining. Her specialist interest is in the mechanism of injury, biomechanics, management, and rehabilitation of musculoskeletal injuries in the elite sport horse.



Tom O'Brien

Tom graduated in 2006 University College Dublin. Following a surgical internship and medicine fellowship he completed a residency in large animal surgery at the University of Wisconsin in 2011. He became a diplomat of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons in 2012 and following 6 months at the University of Bern in Switzerland he started working at a Fethard Equine Hospital in 2012. He has a particular interest in orthopaedic development and surgery of foal and yearlings, arthroscopy, and fracture repair, as well as surgery of the reproductive tract in broodmares.



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Jeremiah O'Sullivan MVB Cert VR Cert ISELP MRCVS

Jeremiah O'Sullivan graduated from University College Dublin (UCD) in 1984. He first worked as house surgeon in the Royal Vet School in Edinburgh before lecturing in Large Animal Surgery at UCD. After gaining post-graduate certification in Veterinary Radiology, he worked in equine practice on the Curragh, Co. Kildare for over a decade. During this time, he was a two-time winner of the BEVA annual congress imaging competition, winning a BEVA Travel Trust scholarship to the University of Florida. He founded Clinic na gCapall in Co. Carlow in 1997. Jerry has delivered lectures nationally and internationally, principally on orthopaedics, diagnostic imaging, and reproduction. He is a panel member vet for Goffs, Tattersalls, the RDS, Cavan and Goresbridge Sport Horse Sales. In 2019, he was certified in Equine Locomotor Pathology by ISELP, the only practitioner in Ireland to date to achieve this qualification.



Dr. Stefānija Pankova

Veterinary surgeon specializing in equine integrative medicine, orthopaedics, and rehabilitation. She qualified in 2006 as a veterinary assistant and spent time working in Europe as an international dressage groom. In 2016 Stefānija qualified from The Latvian Agriculture University as a veterinarian. Over the years Stefānija has obtained numerous qualifications in equine behaviour, equine craniosacral therapy, trigger point and myofascial dry needling, kinesiology taping and more recently has become a certified veterinary acupuncturist with IVAS. As part of her integrative veterinary practice, she undertook a Diploma in Bit Fitting with ICPBC (International College for Professional Bit Fit Consultants) in The Netherlands. Stefānija currently provides rehabilitation services to various centres across the Baltic states and gives seminars, demos, and lectures on various topics.

Dr Gemma Pearson BVMS Cert AVP (EM) MScR CCAB PhD MRCVS, RCVS Specialist in Veterinary, Behavioural Medicine (Equine), RCVS Advanced Practitioner in Equine Medicine, Director of Equine Behaviour, The Horse Trust

Gemma combines her time between research and outreach as Director of Equine Behaviour at The Horse Trust and running a referral clinic for clinical equine behaviour cases where she is based at the University of Edinburgh. After working in ambulatory practice Gemma undertook a rotating residency programme in the equine hospital alongside an MScR investigating horse veterinarian interactions. Subsequently she completed her CCAB (certified clinical animal behaviourist) exam and her PhD thesis 'Stress in equids undergoing veterinary care and the development of interventions that positively influence the horses' experience'. As well as continuing with her own research she supervises several students at PhD, MSc and undergraduate level. Subsequently she has been recognised as the first species specific RCVS specialist in Veterinary Behavioural Medicine (Equine). Gemma is frequently invited to lecture internationally, as a recognised expert in this field and an excellent communicator.





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Dr. Seán E Rooney BVSc MRCVS.



Sean is an ambulatory vet based in Newcastle, Co. Down where Seán is from. Seán trained at the University of Bristol before starting at a mixed practice in Hay-on-Wye in Wales before pursuing his interest in the Equine Veterinary field. He worked for leading equine veterinary surgeons at Rosssdales Newmarket and has close links with them still.

His most recent jobs were working for Blaircourt Equine Clinic in Essex where he developed his interests in Orthopaedic lameness assessments, surgery and dentistry before moving to Shires Vets in Staffordshire as Equine Clinical Lead. In August 2016 Seán returned home to work in a mixed practice in Rathfriland, under the mentorship of renowned equine veterinarian Mr. Terry Smith MVB MRCVS Cert Equine Sports Medicine. Forever thankful for this opportunity to return home Seán saw a need for a solely equine practice to provide 24hour Equine Veterinary. He decided to invest in modern equipment in order to provide high standard of care to local owners; whether they are happy hackers or racing yards.

Dr Sarah Ross BVSc MRCVS Cert AVP Dip ECEIM

Graduated from the University of Liverpool in 2008. Thereafter worked in various equine clinical roles in the UK, Ireland, and Australia. Completed specialist training in Equine Internal Medicine at the University of Bristol and became a Diplomat of the European College in 2018. On her return to Ireland, worked as a hospital-based Medicine Clinician on the Curragh and most recently in Horseracing regulation.



Marcus Swail BVMS CertEqSportsMed MRCVS

Having grown up in Darragh Cross, Co. Down, Marcus graduated from the University of Glasgow in 1993. Following spells working in the UK and Australia he returned to Ireland in 1998 and subsequently became a partner in Anglesey Lodge Equine Hospital. Marcus set up EquiVET Ireland in 2008. He worked as Team Veterinarian for the Irish Showjumping and Eventing Teams between 2003-2013 and the Irish Showjumping, Eventing and Dressage teams from 2017 to the present time. During this time, he has attended four Olympic Games, three World Equestrian Games and multiple European Championships in Team Vet capacity. Marcus has presented talks at conferences such as American Association of Equine Practitioners Convention (AAEP), British Equine Veterinary Association Annual Conference (BEVA), European Veterinary Conference 'Voorjaarsdagen' and Veterinary Sport Horse Conference, 'Jumping Amsterdam'. Marcus also completed a Graduate Certificate in Equine Sports Medicine from University College Dublin in 2018. Marcus recently took on the role of president of the IEVA.



David Turley MVB MRCVS

Graduated UCD in 2011. Worked in mixed practice in south west England for 2 years. Been an equine general practitioner ever since. Set up his own practice in 2017 in County Down. Enjoys lameness and performance work. Plays rugby, 5-a-side, and pony club daddy in his spare time



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Nikki Walsh MVB, CertAVP, PhD, Assistant Professor in Equine Clinical Studies, School of Veterinary Medicine, UC Dublin

Main area of research interest is equine parasites, with a focus on cyathostomin, particularly the relationship between the gut microbiota and the host immune response within the intestinal ecosystem. Main area of clinical interest is in the equine parasitology herd health investigation, with a focus on behavioural change in equine practitioners and owners, with the view to applying risk-based analysis to create sustainable parasite control programs.

John Ortega-McCormack:

John Ortega-McCormack graduated from University College Dublin in 2014. After graduation, he completed a rotating internship at UCD, followed by a period in general practice in Ireland and the USA. He then undertook an equine surgery and lameness internship at BEH followed by a hospital internship at the University of Georgia (USA). He completed his surgical residency at the University of Georgia, and is now one of the staff surgeons at Anglesey Lodge Equine Hospital in the Curragh. He has a predominant interest in lameness, orthopaedics and minimally invasive surgical techniques.





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