

**BCVA representation
and education**



BCVA Congress 2026

Delegate Information

15th - 17th October 2026

Telford International Centre, International Way, Telford, TF3 4JH



**Early Bird discount until
31st August 2026**



Your Invitation from BCVA President, David Black

I am delighted to invite you to BCVA Congress this October.

Congress remains the highlight of the cattle veterinary calendar. It is our opportunity to step away from the demands of everyday practice, reconnect with friends and colleagues, make new acquaintances across our profession, challenge our thinking and remind ourselves why being a cattle vet is such a rewarding career.

When I joined the BCVA Board as Junior Vice President in October 2024, it was at relatively short notice, so the learning curve was certainly steeper than I had expected. Becoming President a year later has been one of the greatest privileges of my professional career. During that time, I have had the opportunity to work alongside an exceptional Board of Directors and an outstanding office team whose professionalism, enthusiasm and commitment have been truly inspiring. I have been proud to play my part in helping the Board develop into an increasingly cohesive and high-performing team, united by a shared ambition to serve our members and the wider cattle industry.

That experience has reinforced something I have always believed: **trust is at the heart of everything we do**. Trust between vets and farmers. Trust between colleagues. Trust between our profession and the public. Protecting and strengthening that trust has been the common thread running through BCVA's work over the past year.

Together we've contributed to national discussions on responsible antibiotic stewardship, veterinary sustainability, national biosecurity, the future of veterinary regulation and ensuring the voice of practising cattle vets is heard where it matters most. **Our influence as a profession depends not only on what we do, but on how well we can demonstrate it.** These aren't isolated pieces of work—they help protect the trust that allows us to care for farm animals, support farmers and use the medicines and technologies entrusted to our profession.

Congress is where that community comes together. Our programme once again brings together outstanding speakers from across the profession and beyond. I am particularly delighted that our long-standing friend of BCVA, **Professor Joe Brownlie**, will deliver one of this year's keynote presentations. Joe has inspired generations of farm vets through his leadership in animal health, and I know his keynote will be one of the highlights of the meeting.

Returning to Telford also allows us to make the most of one of Congress's greatest strengths—practical, hands-on learning. Alongside an outstanding lecture programme, you'll have the opportunity to develop practical skills in workshops with expert guidance and plenty of opportunities to learn by doing. These practical sessions sit alongside an exceptional scientific programme designed to offer something for every stage of a cattle vet's career.

The exhibition is another essential part of the Congress experience. It is the ideal place to meet the companies and organisations that support our profession, explore the latest medicines, technologies, innovations and professional services, and take home ideas that can make a real difference in practice.

Of course, some of the most valuable moments happen away from the lecture halls. Whether over coffee, in the exhibition or during the evening socials, Congress provides the chance to exchange ideas, renew old friendships, make new connections and strengthen the professional relationships that make BCVA such a special organisation.

I also hope you'll join us at our fundraising events in support of **The Farming Community Network** and **Vetlife**, two charities that make an enormous difference to our farming and veterinary communities.

Finally, my sincere thanks go to our Congress organising committee, speakers, exhibitors, sponsors and, above all, the BCVA office team. Their hard work, professionalism and attention to detail make this event possible year after year and ensure BCVA Congress continues to set the standard for cattle veterinary CPD.

Whether you're attending for the first time or returning to catch up with familiar faces, I look forward to welcoming you to Telford this October. I hope you leave with new knowledge, practical skills, new friendships and renewed enthusiasm to play your own part in shaping the future of our profession. **BCVA has always been strongest when its members get involved, and I look forward to seeing many of you there.**

*BCVA President,
David Black*



Venue Information

Venue Address

Telford International Centre,
International Way,
Telford
TF3 4JH



Travel options

By Road



By car, it's conveniently located near the M54, with ample on-site parking* available and plenty nearby.

By Rail



Telford Central Station is just a 10-minute walk or a short taxi ride away. Bus services also operate frequently between the station and the venue.

By Air



Birmingham Airport is about a 50-minute drive, and connections via train or car make the trip straightforward.

Accommodation



We have secured an event discount for our delegates at a the Voco and the International Hotel. To book rooms for these:

- Call 01952 527000 option 1 – Monday-Friday 8.00am-5.30pm
- Quote “BCVA allocation” and confirm which hotel you would like to book for (Voco or International Hotel)
- You will need to give card details to guarantee the bookings
- The cancellation terms on these rooms is 14 days prior to arrival

Below is a list of other accommodation available in the area:

Hotel	Address	Link	Distance from TIC
Travelodge Telford	Unit 4, Park Avenue, Southwater, Telford, TF3 4BF,	https://bit.ly/4aJPEyt	486ft
Telford International Centre hotel (Premier Inn)	Unit 8, Southwater Square, Southwater Way, TF3 4DE	https://bit.ly/4yccDMD	0.2 miles
Ramada by Wyndham Telford Ironbridge	Forgegate, Telford, TF3 4NA	https://bit.ly/4pc9to3	0.8 miles
Mercure Telford Centre Hotel	Forgegate, Town Centre, Telford, TF3 4NA	https://bit.ly/4f3VPim	0.8 miles
Telford Central hotel	Euston Way, Telford, Shropshire, TF3 4LY	https://bit.ly/4fcZRVM	0.8 miles

AFTER THE SCIENCE COME THE SOCIALS

The chance to let our hair down, catch up with old friends, and make new ones is one of the best parts of BCVA Congress – socials are where the memories happen. Oh, and it's also a great opportunity to raise some serious money for two brilliant charities...

Head along to the Thursday Party and the Friday Gala Dinner and you're in for great food, top entertainment, and the warm glow of knowing you're helping support the Farming Community Network and Vetlife – two charities that mean a lot to our sector.

So, grab a drink, raise a glass, and join us in celebrating the incredible work these organisations do for us and our farming clients.

YOUR SOCIAL DIARY

WELCOME GET-TOGETHER



Wednesday
14th October, 2026



Time
19:30 - 23:00



Getting to Congress a day early is the smart move – and we'd love for you to kick things off with us. Join the BCVA Board on Wednesday evening for a drinks reception and three-course dinner, the perfect way to ease into Congress, meet familiar faces, and get to know the BCVA team over a great meal.

LET'S WRANGLE A GREAT FUNDRAISER



Thursday
15th October, 2026



Time
19:30 - 00:00



Calling all cowpokes – our Thursday informal social is all about having a lot of fun and raising a lot of money. Stetsons as the ready for our Western theme night, with a rodeo bull – and line dancing! And you'll be tempted to indulge in the locally sourced street food style menu and a well-stocked bar.

This is the night we raise funds for The Farming Community Network (FCN), an important charity that supports farmers and families through difficult times.

FCN has a network of over 400 volunteers across England and Wales who provide free, confidential, pastoral and practical support to anyone who seeks help. In addition to local groups of volunteers, FCN runs a confidential national helpline (03000 111 999) and e-helpline (help@fcn.org.uk) which is open every day of the year from 7am-11pm.

GALA DINNER



Friday
16th October, 2026



Time
19:30 - 00:00



Friday night is your excuse to properly dress up, kick back, and let your hair down. President David Black invites you to the BCVA Gala Dinner – a night of brilliant food, great company, and the kind of atmosphere that makes Congress so special.

Whether you're catching up with old friends or making new ones over dinner, this is the night to relax, laugh, and celebrate everything that makes our profession such a fantastic community. Expect a fabulous menu, plenty of fun, and (if the dancefloor calls) a chance to show off your best moves.



And once again, we'll be raising vital funds for Vetlife, the charity providing invaluable emotional, financial, and mental health support to the veterinary community. BCVA delegates and exhibitors always show incredible generosity, and our raffles and auctions have raised tens of thousands of pounds over the years – so come ready to bid, win, and give back to a cause that matters.

WORKSHOPS

BOOK EARLY TO GET YOUR CHOICE

Our workshops are always popular – it is where you'll benefit from both the expertise of the presenter and from the experience of your fellow delegates. Spaces are limited, and whilst the sessions are free, you must book in advance, so please add them when you register, if possible. Make your selection from the options here, and you'll leave Congress with your skills elevated and your confidence boosted.

Please keep an eye on our website for updates on workshops as new ones are confirmed.

James Breen, Jude Roberts and Julia Moorhouse

Mastitis Infection Control Workshop: Interactive Herd "Case" Examples

This workshop helps veterinary surgeons apply evidence-based, epidemiological approaches to mastitis infection control. Delegates work through one of three real, anonymized herd case studies, analysing data and developing a structured action plan using the AHDB Dairy "Quarter PRO" framework. The session also addresses common clinical queries, including point-of-care mastitis diagnostics, non-antibiotic treatment options, and drying-off strategies, giving attendees practical tools for advising farmers on management changes to reduce infection risk and treatment needs.

Helen Carty and Martin Tomlinson

We Buy Any Bull: How to demystify CHeCS pen cards and EBVs for you and your clients

This interactive workshop helps vets confidently advise suckler beef clients on bull purchasing decisions, using real herd examples. It covers assessing infectious disease status, EBV/gEBV data, and fertility information available pre-sale or penside, plus interpreting pen cards and EBV graphs by breed. Delegates will learn to evaluate herd disease risk, determine appropriate mitigation strategies, judge data accuracy, and understand future between-breed comparisons—equipping them to guide clients' purchasing decisions and replicate the session with discussion groups back in practice.

Peter May

Bovine reproductive manual and ultrasound examination

Fertility visits provide the kind of essential contact time for developing client relations and consultancy level advisory services. This workshop will consider combining rectal palpation and ultrasound examination to optimise diagnosis and demonstrate best practice is strongly recommended. We'll look at how all multiple births should be diagnosed and appropriate management advice given and how foetal abnormalities can and should be detected and dealt with appropriately. We hope everyone will come to appreciate that, if you have time, sharing what you are seeing with your client/student/work colleagues is recommended.

Emily Collins-Wingate

Omphalitis revisited: updating our understanding of an old problem

This workshop addresses omphalitis (navel ill), an under-recognised condition affecting calf welfare, productivity and antimicrobial stewardship. Through discussion, interactive ultrasound assessment and farm case studies, delegates will learn about disease prevalence, clinical impact, diagnosis and prevention. The session builds practical, clinically applicable skills, enabling practitioners to advise clients on navel care and support improved calf welfare and sustainable cattle production.

Julia Moorhouse and Rose Jackson

Making dairy–beef count: the veterinary role in optimising integrated beef pathways from breeding to rearing a valuable calf

This workshop explores how vets can guide dairy clients through integrated dairy-beef pathways, from breeding decisions to calf sale. With dairy-beef calves now central to UK beef supply, it covers selecting appropriate beef-on-dairy genetics, optimising calf health (colostrum, dystocia, disease control) and improving feed efficiency to boost performance and sustainability. Delegates will learn to reframe dairy-beef calves as valuable future beef animals, integrating breeding advice, health planning and monitoring to support farm profitability, welfare and net-zero objectives across the supply chain.

Vicki Shepherd

Advanced ultrasound skills: maximising diagnostics work-ups on farm

This session covers advanced ultrasound techniques beyond routine PD diagnosis, including ovarian mapping, twin detection, and Doppler applications for CL integrity, embryo viability and endometritis. It also introduces lung scanning (landmarks, lesion grading, treatment options) and other diagnostic uses—cardiac (traumatic reticulopericarditis), haematoma vs abscess, renal examination and tendon injuries. Using videos, practical demonstrations and scanner settings guidance, attendees will build confidence applying these techniques on farm and develop a framework for objective, ultrasound-informed clinical decision-making and treatment monitoring.

Thursday 15th October

Friday 16th October

Vicki Shepherd**Beyond blanket synchronisation: driving reproductive efficiency through dynamic, data-driven management**

Designed for early-career vets moving into dairy fertility work, this workshop progresses beyond individual scanning towards whole-herd analytics. Using interactive case studies with ultrasound clips, fertility data and lab results, delegates learn a structured decision-making framework: evaluating herd indicators, interpreting physiological and management patterns, developing evidence-based strategies, monitoring outcomes and refining protocols. Working in small groups, attendees build confidence using farm data as an ongoing feedback tool—transforming routine fertility visits into proactive opportunities that improve reproductive efficiency and sustainable herd performance.

Ginny Sherwin and Laura Tenant**Youngstock that pays: practical strategies that actually get used on farm**

This workshop addresses why veterinary involvement in calf health remains low despite calves' strategic farm importance, and how vets can offer practical, economically viable advice. It covers common causes of on-farm failures, key improvement opportunities (particularly daily liveweight gain and feed efficiency), making nutrition economically justifiable using case scenarios, and practical strategies for overcoming farmer engagement barriers. Delegates will leave equipped to build trusted client relationships and drive sustainable improvements in youngstock health, welfare and productivity through evidence-based, farm-specific recommendations.

Pig Veterinary Society**Engaging farmers in contingency planning for notifiable disease**

This interactive workshop explores methods for engaging farmers in proactive contingency planning, particularly for notifiable disease outbreaks, drawing on the pig sector's experience delivering African Swine Fever contingency planning workshops. Delegates will understand the value of proactive planning, work through practical outbreak scenarios, and learn engagement techniques for developing effective contingency plans with producers. The session also introduces AHDB's "Workshop in a Box" model, demonstrating how a scalable format can be delivered by multiple facilitators across producer groups.

Rob Smith**Dairy fertility monitoring – can on farm technology give use better insights?**

This workshop explores how vets can integrate activity/health monitoring technology and treatment protocol data into fertility visit decision-making. Using worked examples—such as investigating a "not seen bulling" cow via app data combined with ovarian ultrasound findings—delegates will practice diagnosing management versus physiological causes and determining appropriate action. Through group participation, attendees will learn to combine multiple data sources, identify factors reducing monitoring system efficiency, assess treatment protocol compliance and efficacy, and ultimately enhance their approach to fertility visits and farm management advice.

Kat Hart**Calf housing: getting the basics right – from quick fixes to new build designs**

This interactive workshop explores extending colostrum feeding beyond current practice—multiple feeds, adding colostrum to milk, and transition milk—while weighing benefits against disease risks (Johne's, TB, Q fever, Salmonella, Mycoplasma). Through breakout groups, real farm scenarios, and risk-vs-reward exercises, participants will tackle practical trade-offs, mitigation strategies (pasteurisation, selection, cow-calf matching), and what's genuinely feasible on-farm at scale.

Practical Sessions

Being back in Telford means we are able to run our popular practical sessions.

Updates will be sent to members and put on our website.



EXPERIENCE THE EXHIBITION

Please make time to see all that's on offer from our exhibitors because the BCVA Congress exhibition is an invaluable opportunity to access industry expertise, discover new products or services, and connect with your suppliers.

Of course, it's also a great place to win prizes and pack your Congress bag full of treats!

We are grateful to the important contribution our commercial partners play in this event, and we encourage our delegates to engage with those colleagues on the stands to make the most of their specialist knowledge.

Special thanks to our sponsors, who help to make Congress possible.



Silver Sponsors



Delegate Registration Form

BCVA Congress 2026 - Telford International Centre - 15th - 17th October

Please print clearly, in capital letters.

Title:	Name: (to appear on badge)
Practice / Institution:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
Email:	
(please make sure this is a unique email address)	

Please note, you will be issued with a bar coded name badge on entry to the event. Exhibitors and other associates may have bar code readers. By allowing your badge to be scanned you are deemed to have consented to passing over your registration details. Allowing your badge to be scanned is akin to handing over a business card.

Registration - Prices include registration and lunch.		Price before or on 31/08/2026	Price after 31/08/2026	(All prices include VAT)
BCVA member	Whole Congress		£ 851	£
	Thursday		£ 409	£
	Friday		£ 409	£
	Saturday		£ 348	£
Retired	Whole Congress		£ 633	£
	Thursday		£ 283	£
	Friday		£ 283	£
	Saturday		£ 241	£
Post-graduate Student	Whole Congress		£ 257	£
	Thursday		£ 105	£
	Friday		£ 105	£
	Saturday		£ 90	£
2025/2026 graduates	Whole Congress		£ 429	£
	Thursday		£ 165	£
	Friday		£ 165	£
	Saturday		£ 140	£
Undergraduates	Whole Congress		£ 224	£
	Thursday		£ 99	£
	Friday		£ 99	£
	Saturday		£ 84	£
Practice Registration (different delegate each day. Each delegate will get their own delegate bag)	Whole Congress		£ 901	£
	Delegate on Thursday:			
	Delegate on Friday:			
	Delegater on Saturday			
Virtual Congress (deadline for registration is 25th September)	Whole Congress		£ 224	£

2025/2026 Graduates Registration and Dinner Package - If registering for a day, please tick which day(s) you wish to attend. Prices include registration, lunch and 1 or 2 dinners.		Price before or on 31/08/2026	Price after 31/08/2025	(All prices include VAT)
Whole Congress (includes lunches and Thursday and Friday Dinner)			£ 554	£
Day Registration (includes lunch and one dinner. Please indicate which dinner you would like)	Thursday reg ☐		£ 224 (per day)	£
	Thursday dinner ☐			
	Friday reg ☐			
	Friday dinner ☐			
	Saturday reg ☐			

Dinner / Social Events - Option to bring guests for evening events and lunches			
Welcome reception	Wednesday 14th at 19:30 hrs	£ 50	£
Additional guest(s)	Number of guests:	£ 50 pp	£
Thursday dinner	Thursday 15th at 19:30 hrs	£ 50	£
Additional guest(s)	Number of guests:	£ 50 pp	£
President's dinner (black tie)	Friday 16th at 19:30 hrs	£ 90	£
Additional guest(s)	Number of guests:	£ 90 pp	£

Lunches for additional guest(s)	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	£ 46 (per person per day)	£
Number of guests:					

Please tick boxes if you or your guest(s) require a vegetarian alternative: Delegate(s) ☐ Guest(s) ☐

Please number if more than one guest is vegetarian

Details of any other dietary requirements:

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Non BCVA Member Supplement			
	Please tick below for 2026 / 2027 membership		
Full Membership	I wish to become a member for 2026 / 2027 ☐	£ 202	£
Post Graduate (second year) 2025	I wish to become a member for 2026 / 2027 ☐	£ 141	£
Post Graduate (first year) 2026	I wish to become a member for 2026 / 2027 ☐	£ 97	£
Post Graduate Student (Full time)	I wish to become a member for 2026 / 2027 ☐	£ 108	£
Undergraduate/retired	I wish to become a member for 2026 / 2027 ☐	£ 36	£

Total £

*Please note, Refunds will **NOT** be given on dinners*

Special Workshops (limited spaces) – Please tick if you wish to attend				
Bovine reproductive manual and ultrasound examination	<i>Peter May</i>	14:00 - 15:30	Thursday 15th October	
Focus on Fluke - a practical approach to diagnostics and control	<i>John Graham-Brown, Phillipa Page and Rebecca Mearns</i>	14:00 - 15:30	Thursday 15th October	
Mastitis infection control workshop: interactive herd “case” examples	<i>James Breen, Jude Roberts and Julia Moorhouse</i>	16:00 - 17:30	Thursday 15th October	
We Buy Any Bull: how to demystify CHeCS pen cards and EBVs for you and your clients	<i>Helen Carty and Martin Tomlinson</i>	16:00 - 17:30	Thursday 15th October	
SCOPS/COWS liver and rumen fluke focus	<i>John Graham-Brown, Phillipa Page, Rebecca Mearns</i>	09:00 - 10:30	Friday 16th October	
Making dairy–beef count: the veterinary role in optimising integrated beef pathways from breeding to rearing a valuable calf	<i>Julia Moorhouse and Rose Jackson</i>	09:00 - 10:30	Friday 16th October	
Preparing ewes for lambing	<i>Joe Angell and Phillipa Page</i>	11:00 - 12:30	Friday 16th October	
Extending colostrum feeding: practical strategies, real challenges	<i>Kat Hart</i>	11:00 - 12:30	Friday 16th October	
Advanced ultrasound skills: maximising diagnostics work-ups on farm	<i>Vicki Shepherd</i>	14:00 - 15:30	Friday 16th October	
From consult room to cow data: a hands-on workshop in practical AI for cattle vets	<i>Adele Williams-Xavier</i>	14:00 - 15:30	Friday 16th October	
Beyond blanket synchronisation: driving reproductive efficiency through dynamic, data-driven management	<i>Rosie Armstrong and Vicki Shepherd</i>	16:00 - 17:30	Friday 16th October	
Youngstock that pays: practical strategies that actually get used on farm	<i>Ginny Sherwin and Laura Tenant</i>	16:00 - 17:30	Friday 16th October	
Engaging farmers in contingency planning for notifiable disease	<i>Pig Veterinary Society</i>	09:00 - 10:30	Saturday 17th October	
From gut feeling to hard Data: A hands-on workshop using computer vision AI to investigate cow comfort on real farms	<i>Liz Cresswell and Robert Hyde</i>	09:00 - 10:30	Saturday 17th October	
Title to be confirmed	<i>Prof Reinaldo Fernandes Cooke</i>	11:00 - 12:30	Saturday 17th October	
Dry cow therapy and restrictions on ‘routine antibiotic use’: what have the Veterinary Medicines Regulations (2024) meant for you in practice?	<i>Alison Bard</i>	11:00 - 12:30	Saturday 17th October	
Dairy fertility monitoring – can on farm technology give use better insights?	<i>Robert Smith</i>	14:00 - 15:30	Saturday 17th October	
Calf housing: getting the basics right – from quick fixes to new build designs	<i>Kat Hart</i>	14:00 - 15:30	Saturday 17th October	

Practical Workshops (limited spaces) – Please tick if you wish to attend				
Lung Scanning	<i>Kat Baxter-Smith</i>	14:00 - 15:00	Thursday 15th October	
Goat Disbudding	<i>Ben Dustan</i>	14:00 - 15:30	Thursday 15th October	
Supporting impactful hoof care as a practicing vet – developing practical skills to deliver positive mobility in cattle	<i>Jay Tunstall and Tim Carter</i>	09:00 - 10:30	Friday 16th October	
Large Animal Rescue	<i>BARTA</i>	09:00 - 10:30	Friday 16th October	
Supporting impactful hoof care as a practicing vet – developing practical skills to deliver positive mobility in cattle	<i>Jay Tunstall and Tim Carter</i>	11:00 - 12:30	Friday 16th October	
Large Animal Rescue	<i>BARTA</i>	11:00 - 12:30	Friday 16th October	
Postmortems	<i>Ben Strugnell</i>	14:00 - 15:30	Friday 16th October	
Postmortems	<i>Ben Strugnell</i>	16:00 - 17:30	Friday 16th October	

Payment details

METHOD OF PAYMENT

Please send completed forms with remittance (in £ sterling) to:

BCVA Office, 17 The Glenmore Centre, Waterwells Business Park, Quedgeley, Gloucestershire, GL2 2AP

Tel: 01452 725735

Email: bcvacongress@bcva.co.uk

DETAILS FOR PAYMENT BY BACS

Account name: **BCVA Ltd**

Sort code: **20-33-83**

Account number: **13495434**

Please send a remittance advice slip.

PAYMENT BY CHEQUE

Cheques should be made payable to: **BCVA Ltd**

PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD

Credit card no:

Issue no:

Expiry date:/.....

CSC (card security code):

Cardholder's name:

Cardholder's address:

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Our privacy statement can be found at <https://www.bcva.org.uk/privacy-policy-and-terms>

Please return your completed form to the BCVA Office using the details below.

Post: BCVA Office, 17 The Glenmore Centre, Waterwells Business Park, Quedgeley, GL2 2AP

Email: bcvacongress@bcva.co.uk

Alternatively you register online at <https://www.bcva.org.uk/cpd/bcva-congress-2026-reg>

Refund Policy for bookings.

Cancellations - Please note a cancellation fee will be charged as follows:

- Cancellation made at least 14 days before the event - no charge.
- Cancellation made between 7-14 days of the event - 20% of the event fee charged.
- Cancellation made within 7 days - event charged in full.

You can transfer dinner tickets but there will be no refunds issued for social events.