Regional accents

From emerging parasites to that itchy feeling

The final North West regional CPD event of 2018 was an evening talk on Emerging Parasites and Diseases by Ian Wright held in Preston. This highly topical course proved a really helpful update for those of us in companion animal practice.

The first CPD event in the New Year is scheduled for Tuesday 29 January and is an evening intended for vets focusing on canine anaemia. The session entitled ‘The pale dog’ will be led by Dan Batchelor, at the Macdonald Tickled Trout Hotel, Preston from 20:00 to 22:00. The event is FREE for BSAVA members and £40 (incl. VAT) for non-members.

On 8 March, Sue Paterson and Alison Wilson will be visiting The Mere, Knutsford, Cheshire to ‘Fix that itch’, a 1-day course focusing on some of the newer therapeutics available for managing ectopic/itchy dogs, the importance of appropriate antimicrobial prescribing and when and how to use topical therapy. The day starts at 10:00, finishes at 17:00, costs £200 (incl. VAT) for BSAVA members and for non-members £300 (incl. VAT).

We are always keen to hear from local BSAVA members with feedback and suggestions for events, so contact regionsupport@bsava.com and let us know what you think!

Sarah Hart, BSAVA North West Regional Committee

Pancreatitis – what you need to know!

Penny Watson will be visiting the South East region on 24 January to give a 1-day course update on how to diagnose, approach and manage pancreatitis; cases which often prove to be difficult in general practice. This course is intended for both vets and VNs, will be held at the Holiday Inn, Gatwick and is kindly being sponsored by Protexin. We would love for you to join us!

For more information about South East region, getting involved, and to see our upcoming courses, please visit https://www.bsava.com/Education/CPD/Regional-CPD/South-East
Ellie Groves, BSAVA South East Regional Committee

Eleanor O’Leary
Southern Region Committee Secretary

A thbhlian faoi mhaise daoibh! (Now you know how to write “Happy New Year” in Irish!)
I graduated from University College Dublin in 2014. Not long after, I settled down in Hampshire and I haven’t looked back. I work as a full-time small animal general practitioner and I am set to start a BSAVA certificate in Small Animal Medicine this January.

Outside of work, my interests include gardening, yoga, baking, travelling and scuba diving.

I joined the Southern committee in 2016 as a volunteer because I was interested in being involved in the veterinary community outside my own work. I became the secretary in 2018. Having had the opportunity to attend the Regional Forum in Glasgow in 2018, it really made me realize just how much happens in the background that I was previously unaware of and how much volunteers make a difference.

Times are changing in how CPD is provided. Though webinars provide such a plethora of topics from amazing speakers and can be very convenient in that you can watch on demand while on the exercise bike or from the couch and be able to nip to the fridge for snacks as required, they do not, however, replace the social aspect.

I really enjoy local CPD for many reasons, from meeting the speakers, going to new places, practicing new skills and engaging with vets and nurses from other practices.

We are very fortunate in having a very passionate committee who dedicate a huge amount of effort into organizing first rate CPD. Last year we provided day meetings for topics such as Well-being in practice, ECC, Endoscopy, General Medicine and Internal Medicine this January.

recommend that people get involved with the BSAVA; it is nice to feel part of a community and knowing you are contributing to the development of others as well as yourself.

If you are interested in joining us and being a part of our committee do get in touch, we would love to get to know you! Please email volunteer@bsava.com.

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Coping with road traffic accident cases

The Metropolitan region has a choice of evening CPD meetings in January, February and March 2019.

- On 14 January, Dan Chan, specialist in Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care and Veterinary Nutrition, will be speaking about the approach to the road traffic accident patient. Do you get stressed when an RTA patient arrives at your practice? This meeting will give you a logical approach to these cases, and help you understand how to deal with the many problems these patients can have. Up-to-date information on optimum treatment and care will be described as well as a pragmatic approach for a first-opinion setting.
- On 5 February, Lindsay Kellett-Gregory, specialist in Emergency and Critical Care, will talk us through tricky toxicology cases: how to recognize them and how to treat them. This course is aimed at anyone in first-opinion practice or those working in a vet ER.
- On 9 March, David Neilson, a veterinary anaesthetist, addresses that common and difficult question: is my patient ever too old for a general anaesthetic? He will help everyone build confidence in how to improve anaesthetic technique for older patients and those with co-morbidities. Not to be missed!

All three meetings with be held at the Brookmans Park Golf Club in Hertfordshire and hot food will be provided. Please visit www.bsava.com/Education/CPD/Regional-CPD/Metropolitan for more information and to book. We would love to welcome as many of you as possible!

The BSAVA Metropolitan regional committee would also like to invite all its members to join them for an evening of relaxation and fun for their Annual Regional Meeting. There will be a very small bit of official business, alongside a pub quiz and a chance to catch up and network with vets and vet nurses in your region. A glass of wine and pizza will be provided for all. Come along and join us on 23 January at Brookmans (Herts), and book your place online!

Rebecca Geddes, BSAVA Chair of Metropolitan Region

Behavioural considerations

The North East region is hosting ‘Canine and feline behaviour’ a 1-day course on Wednesday 20 January at the Great Yorkshire Showground in Harrogate.

By the end of the workshop delegates should have an understanding of:

- Emotional motivations and behavioural responses
- Environmental optimization for cats and dogs living in a domestic environment
- Species-specific communication and its role in understanding emotional health
- Consideration of behavioural factors in decisions about neutering
- Stress audits and their importance in the veterinary practice.

The course costs £200 (incl. VAT) for BSAVA members, and for non-members, £300 (incl. VAT).

Then on Wednesday 6 February, Aidan Raftery with be hosting an evening update on tortoises

Sarah Heath, BSAVA North East Regional Committee

Getting down to the raw facts

Two excellent speakers will be visiting the East Anglia region on Wednesday 6 February to discuss whether we should be feeding raw food to dogs and cats, or not. Isuru Gajanayake, Head of Internal Medicine at the Willows and Morkel Pienaar, First Officer of the Raw Feeding Veterinary Society, will take part in the debate, which will focus on the evidence for and against the practice of raw feeding with a view to helping inform delegates in this controversial area.

The evening course being held at Wood Green, The Animals Charity, from 19:30–21:30, is FREE to BSAVA members, costs £40 (incl. VAT) for non-members and £20 (incl. VAT) for VN non-members.

Jim Hughes, BSAVA South West Region Chair

Confronting the reptile patient

The South West region will be welcoming Elisabetta Mancinelli to Bath Racecourse on Thursday 7 March to provide an overview of how to approach a reptile patient from not only a clinical and surgical perspective but also to highlight points relevant for emergency room veterinary professionals. Delegates will also be encouraged to seek additional species-specific information to better medically diagnose and treat these patients.

The evening session, from 19:30–21:30, is intended for both vets and VN and the learning objectives and topics covered include:

- How to deal with a reptile patient from the waiting room to the hospitalization area
- How to perform a complete clinical evaluation
- How to perform common and useful clinical techniques
- How to approach and care for the reptile surgical patient.

The course is FREE to BSAVA members, costs £40 (incl. VAT) for non-members and £20 (incl. VAT) for VN non-members.

Jim Hughes, BSAVA South West Region Chair