



THE ITALIAN JOB

2025 VETs with HORSEPOWER Italian Tour



Vets with Horse Power

13th TOUR - July 2025



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About the Association

Vets with Horsepower is a registered charity in Scotland, and has received a 'point of light award' from the UK government, PM Theresa May.



The seed of the idea came to **Professor Derek Knottenbelt** after he won a Harley Davidson motorcycle in a raffle. Most people who won a motorcycle in their 60s would just sell it, but Derek being Derek, along with some prompting by a grandson, decided to learn to ride. Derek's philanthropic side then took over and he decided to find a way to use his new hobby to raise money for charities. So he got on the grapevine and recruited the first few bikers: Josh Slater, John Burford, Jessica Kidd, Caroline Hahn, and they recruited others; in 2010 the first Horsepower CPD set off from Liverpool and rode 1500 miles in one week, visiting all the vet schools (except Dublin, in Eire, who weren't happy to be left out, so they were first on the list for 2011). The trips definitely have an endurance element: riding long miles and then usually going right into the venue to begin the talks. So the entire trip is either riding, speaking, listening to other speakers, or sleeping but the challenge is one of the draws for all concerned.



[Click here for more information](#)

About IVSA Italy



Non-partisan, non-profit, non-governmental organization run by student volunteers from around the world. The organization was founded in 1953 in Germany. It is based in Brussels, Belgium. IVSA Italy was founded in 2020 but has been present in the area through LCs for more than 10 years. IVSA has more than 38,000 members from more than 73 different countries around the world.

IVSA is a global association, whose national reality is widely represented by **IVSA Italy**, established on the 26th September 2020. It unites and coordinates the current 11 local IVSA realities, operating in the Universities of Veterinary Medicine of *Bologna, Camerino, Messina, Milan, Naples, Padua, Parma, Pisa, Sassari, Teramo, and Turin.*





13th tour: The Italian Job

The team is riding from the north of Europe to Italy, giving the possibility to attend lessons about different fields of equine medicine.

ITALIAN STOPS:

LODI - Università degli Studi di Milano - 8th July >>>

[More information](#)

PERUGIA - Università degli studi di Perugia - 10th July >>>

[More information](#)

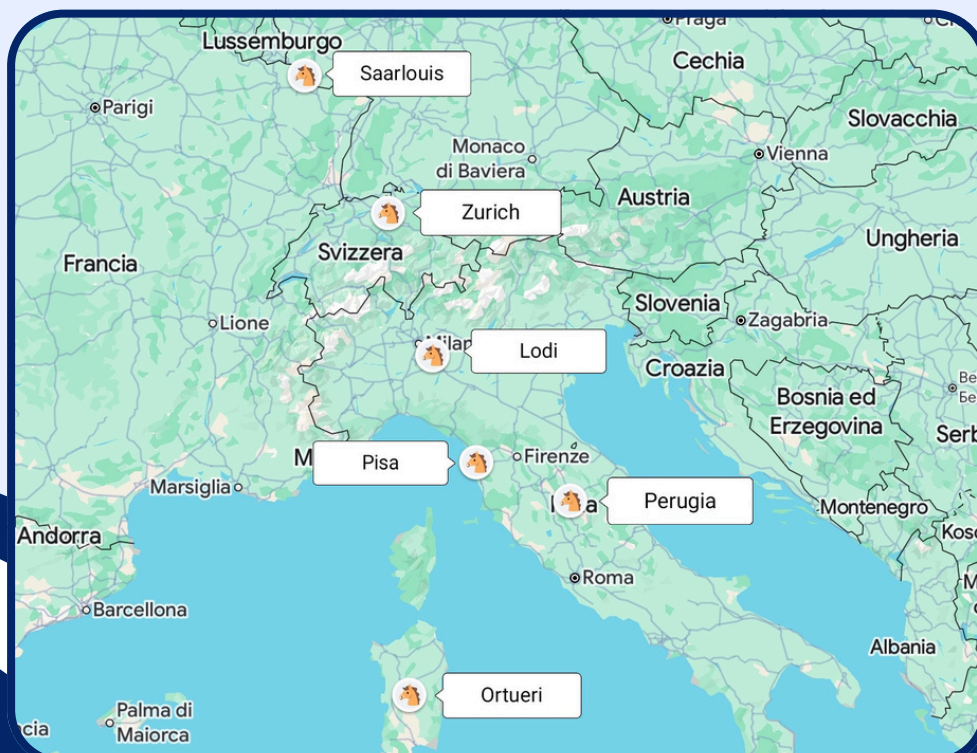
ORTUERI - Università degli Studi di Sassari - Mui Muscas park - 11th July >>>

[More information](#)

PISA - Università di Pisa - 14th July >>>

[More information](#)

Afterwards, they will head to Zurich and Saarlouis, before going back home.





Meet the Team...

Derek Knottenbelt

OBE, BVM&S, BVM&S, DVM&S, DIPECEIM,
DACVIM, MRCVS, PROFESSOR EMERITUS



Roger Smith

MA VETMB PhD DIPECVS DEO FHEA
DIPECVDI FRCVS



Gunther van Loon

DVM, PhD, dipECEIM



David Bardell

PhD BVSC CERTVA DIPECVAA MRCVS



Davide Zani

DVM, PhD



Jessica Kidd

BA, DVM, CERTES (ORTH), DIPECVS, MRCVS





Sanne Wilmink

DVM CertAVP MRCVS



Dietrich van Schweinitz

DVM BSC MRCVS



Caroline Hahn

DVM MSC PHD DIPECEIM DIPECVN MRCVS



Jenny Croft

BVMS CERTEP MRCVS



Michael Hewetson

PhD BVSc BSc CertEM (IntMed)
DipECEIM PhD MRCVS



Ed Whittle

MA, VETMB, MRCVS



Trevor Croft

RIDE LEADER





...and local speakers!



Emanuela Dalla Costa

DVM, PhD, ECAWBM – AWSEL
Milan - Lodi

Luca Stucchi

DVM, PhD
Sassari - Ortuero



Maria Grazia Cappai

DVM, PhD
Sassari - Ortuero

Irene Nocera

DVM, PhD
Pisa



Chiara Di Franco

DVM, PhD
Pisa

Giorgio Ricardi

DrMedVet(Cum laude), Cert.ISELP, MRCVS
Pisa





Supported Charities

“Every penny raised via sponsorship, donations and sold CPD tickets is going to amazing charity work. We support projects that are making a difference to humans or other animals, are achievable, where success can be demonstrated and that would not have been possible without our help.”

Changing Lives Malawi

A children's education charity REALLY changing lives of children and young people in Malawi, giving them a future of hope

The goal is to continue the collaboration started in 2017, in order to provide new services to the students of the University

The Mozambique Veterinary Faculty

Saving the Survivors

A charity that helps the victims of poaching attacks and provides info to capture the perpetrators and the criminals ordering the attacks

A charity that provided veterinary care to working animals and education for the families that rely on them

The Gambia Horse and Donkey Trust

Shy Lowen

“A safe place where violence is never the answer” is the motto of this charity which is about rescuing, re-training and re-homing horses in need, and educating the community



SAVING
THE SURVIVORS
CREATING HOPE FROM HURT



Email: contact_us@changinglivesmalawi.co.uk
Website: www.changinglivesmalawi.co.uk

How to join



The event is totally free, but donations are always welcome!

The event will be in English and open to University staff, students and all veterinary practitioners, in presence and online

If you want to take part in one or more stops, registration is required: scan this qr code, visit @ivsaitaly Instagram page or click [this link](#).



Instagram

[@ivsaitaly](#)



Website

www.vetswithhorsepower.com



Facebook

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