

# Viking Surgeons Association (VSA) Annual Conference 2020

**Hosted by RCSEd Faculty of Remote and Rural Healthcare**

 **Date: 15, 16 and 17 September 2020, 19:00 BST**

The Viking Surgeons Association (VSA) Annual Conference 2020 hosted by The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh's Faculty of Remote and Rural Health Care (FRRH) will take place as three, one-hour long Webinars.

The aim is to provide a program of interest to Rural General Surgeons in the UK, trainees in general surgery, and the many Rural Surgeons practicing throughout the world.

Each one-hour webinar will include the following:

15 September 2020, 19:00 - Trauma in rural areas

16 September 2020, 19:00 - Tips and Tricks for the Rural General Surgeon

17 September 2020, 19:00 - How do we train a Rural General Surgeon?

The Viking Surgeons Association is comprised of surgeons working in remote areas of Scotland and Nordic Countries and it is hoped during this series to forge links and discuss problems relevant to rural surgeons throughout the world.

**Coming soon!** Follow up webinars that will run one per month from October 2020 to February 2021 as part of the VSA annual conference offering.

**To register free attendance to individual days or all three days:**



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 15, 16 and 17 September 2020



## Introduction

The Viking Surgeons Association (VSA) Annual Conference 2020 hosted by The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh's Faculty of Remote and Rural Health Care (FRRH) will take place as three, one-hour long Webinars on the evenings of Tuesday 15th to Thursday 17th September 2020.

Each one-hour webinar will include topics such as 'Trauma in rural areas', 'Tips and Tricks for the Rural General Surgeon' and 'How do we train a Rural General Surgeon?'. The aim is to provide a program of interest to Rural General Surgeons in the UK, trainees in general surgery, and the many Rural Surgeons practicing throughout the world.

**The Viking Surgeons Association** is comprised of surgeons working in remote areas of Scotland and Nordic Countries and it is hoped during this series to forge links and discuss problems relevant to rural surgeons throughout the world.

## Trauma in Rural Areas

 Tuesday 15 September 2020

 19:00 BST

This webinar, the first of a series of three sessions, focuses on trauma in rural areas, including pre-hospital assessment, local hospital treatment/stabilisation and transfer to a major trauma centre. Who needs treatment at the local hospital? Who should we transfer from the roadside to the trauma centre? How do we make that assessment and decision?

The interactive webinar will be chaired by Prof Angus Watson, Consultant General and Colorectal Surgeon, who is also Director of Research and Development at NHS Highland.

[Register now!](#)

### Speakers

Luke Regan RCEM, DRTM – *“Overview of North of Scotland Trauma Network and Prehospital Care”*

Luke is an Emergency Medicine consultant in Inverness with roles in the trauma and prehospital teams based there. His real passions lie in fair weather visiting of the more interesting hilly and watery bits of the highlands and in any opportunity offered to argue with relative strangers about the state of the world.

Speaker TBC

David Sedgwick MBChB FRCSEd – *“A view from Rural Scotland”*

David has been an ATLS and Basic Surgical Skills Course (BSSC) instructor for over 25 years and BSSC Convener for over 15 years on behalf of the RCSEd. Retaining general surgery in the Rural General Hospitals and establishing a training pathway for those committed to this in Scotland have been two

## Tips and Tricks for the Rural General Surgeon

📅 Wednesday 16 September 2020

🕒 19:00 BST

The second webinar in the series focuses on how the trainee working in a district hospital, and the consultant general surgeon working in a rural unit will deal with a huge variety of cases across the surgical specialties and subspecialties. This session aims to give some practical guidance to some of the commoner problems and highlight some of the issues that arise where the relevant expertise may be a 4-hour flight away.

The session will be chaired by Mr Stuart Fergusson, General Surgery trainee based in the West of Scotland, who qualified from the University of Glasgow in 2006 and has been orientating surgical training towards rural surgical practice. From 2012-14 he was a Clinical Teaching Fellow at the University of Edinburgh where he undertook research on the relationships between geography and surgical outcomes. From 2016-17 he was a Clinical Leadership Fellow at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. Stuart co-led the College's 2017 report on the value of international volunteering by NHS Scotland workers, "Global Citizenship in the Scottish Health Service." This report's recommendations have formed the basis for the Scottish Government's NHS Global Citizenship programme which is described here: [www.scottishglobalhealth.org](http://www.scottishglobalhealth.org). Stuart has continuing interests in global health, medical education and surgical outcomes research, and intends to combine these interests with a career as a general surgeon in one of Scotland's remote and rural hospitals.

[Register now!](#)

### Speakers

Karina Laing MBChB MSc FRCS (Urol) – "Testicular torsion and the difficult catheter"

Keith Buchan MB ChB FRCS C/Th – "Pneumo/haemothorax: insertion, adjustment, removal"

Keith is a Consultant in Cardiothoracic Surgery at ARI since 2001 and Higher Cardiothoracic Surgical Training in Glasgow, Cambridge and Cardiff. He spent 4 years in General Surgical Training, including one year in South Africa (Durban).

His professional interests include research and teaching and is the author of 66 publications, many first authored by medical students.

Beatrix Weber, Consultant Surgeon, Gilbert Bain Hospital, Shetland – "Bleeding into the peritoneum"

Andrew W Kent MBChB FRCSEd (Tr&Orth) – "Fingertip injury and dislocated shoulder"

Born in Malaysia and brought up in Fife, Scotland, Andy attended Edinburgh University Medical School and whilst there he became a commissioned army officer in the Royal Army Medical Corp. He trained in the services to become a consultant orthopaedic surgeon and was deployed throughout the globe including active duty in several austere and hostile environments. Andy has always been engaged in training and humanitarian work. He continues to teach on Advanced Orthopaedic, ATLS, and primary trauma courses and very recently has been appointed as the Surgical Director for UK-Med.

## How do we train a Rural General Surgeon?

📅 Thursday 17 September

🕒 19:00 BST

This third webinar of the series will look at how surgical care is becoming increasingly subspecialised and how training has become much more focused on small areas of expertise. Yet 46% of the world's population is classified as rural (World Bank 2016), and the majority will never have ready access to this type of care. How do we train surgeons to work in these locations when specialist equipment and expertise may be a huge distance or many hours away? What has worked well? Where are we encountering problems?

The session will be chaired by Dr Ken Walker, Colorectal Surgeon in Inverness and Professor of Surgical Training.

[Register now!](#)

### Speakers

Gordon McFarlane, ChM FRCS

Gordon a Consultant Surgeon in Lerwick, Shetland Islands. He worked for 9 years as a surgeon in Chogoria, Kenya, a 300 bed rural church hospital. While there he undertook a ChM thesis on H. Pylori and gastric cancer. On returning to UK, Gordon spent 4 years on the West of Scotland Training Rotation in General Surgery, the last year of which was as a Rural Surgical Trainee with the North of Scotland Deanery. He was appointed to Gilbert Bain Hospital, Shetland in 2004. A Fellow of the College of Surgeons of East Central and Southern Africa, and a member of the Viking Surgeons Association, Gordon maintains an interest in rural surgical training and surgery in Africa.

Dr. Jesudian Gnanaraj, MS, MCh [Urology], FICS, FARSI, FIAGES

Jesudian is a urologist and laparoscopic surgeon trained at CMC Vellore. He has over 400 publications in national and international Journals related to rural surgery and is part of the editorial board for several national and international medical journals. Jesudian has many innovations awards and several patents. His low-cost equipment is listed in the WHO compendium of medical equipment for resource poor setting. He has helped more than 30 hospitals start Minimally Invasive Surgeries and his popular innovations that have made MIS possible in rural areas are the Gas Insufflation Less Laparoscopic Surgeries and the Laptop Cystoscope.

## Coming soon:

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