



Proudly supported by
THE UNIVERSITY
of **EDINBURGH**

OHGE Community Meeting – Tuesday 16th June 2026

Lecture Theatre 4, Appleton Tower, George Square, Edinburgh

Programme

Welcome and Introduction

09:00 Professor Rob Ogden (RDSVS)

Session 1 - Chair: Professor Rob Ogden

09:10 Keynote Presentation: Professor Mirte Bosse (Wageningen University) – *“Reflecting On Homozygosity (ROH), from inbreeding to adaptation”*

09:40 Dr Rowan Schley (University of Exeter) - *“Hybridisation and Herbivory Help Fuel Tropical Tree Radiations”*

10:00 Chumeng Zhu (Roslin) - *“Predicting the function of cattle ancestral variants using deep learning”*

10:20 Professor Dan Macqueen (Roslin) - *“Unlocking the potential of genome duplication during evolution (through rediploidisation)”*

10:40 – 11:10 Break and posters

Session 2 – Chair: Professor Catherine Kidner

11:10 Keynote Presentation: Professor Pete Hollingsworth (RGE) – *“Understanding and conserving plant genomic diversity”*

11:40 Dr Emily Humble (RDSVS) - *“Genomics for manta and devil ray conservation”*

12:00 Dr Alex Martin-Geary (IGC) - *“Uncovering missed diagnoses in the National Genomics Research Library: identifying candidate variants in regulatory elements”*

EMS300 Special Lecture – Introduced by Professor Lorna Marson (EMS300)

12:20 Professor Wendy Bickmore (IGC) - *“Mutations and disease: From mustard gas to genome sequencing”*

12:50 – 13:50 Lunch

Session 3 – Chair: Professor Mark Stevens

13:50 Professor Laura Ross (IEE) – *“Beyond the Reference Genome: Germline-only DNA, an independently evolving genome compartment”*

14:10 Professor Ross Fitzgerald (Roslin) - *"Pan-genome dynamics of the bacterial pathogen Staphylococcus aureus"*

14:30 Dr Kyle Ewart (RDSVS) – *"Adaptable workflows for wildlife diagnostics"*

14:50 Dr Hannah Long (IGC) - *"Neanderthal-derived variants in a human disease enhancer alter regulatory activity during jaw development"*

15:10 – 15:55 Break and posters

Session 4 – Chair: Professor Martin Taylor

15:55 Keynote Presentation: Professor Didier Trono (EPFL) – *"Call me dark no more: tales of domesTEcation"*

16:25 Dr Alex Ball (RZSS) - *"RZSS WildGenes – using genomics in conservation"*

16:45 Professor Giovanni Stracquadanio (IQB3) – *"Building and Brewing: Adventures in Yeast Synthetic Genomics and Pharmaceutical Manufacturing"*

Closing remarks

17:05 Professor Tim Aitman (IGC)

17:15 Drinks reception

Photography will be taking place during this event for promotional purposes. The photographs will likely appear on social media, and our website and digital communications. Please notify the photographer and/or contact the event organisers if you do not give your consent to being photographed.