

The Gazette



The twice yearly round up of news and developments in the Animal Behaviour and Training sector

Welcome to the thirteenth edition of the ABTC Gazette. This issue reflects the now familiar theme of the Council’s continued development, growth in support and influence in the animal training and behaviour sector.

There have obviously been some major changes to scheduled events due to the global Covid-19 crisis and the pet and wider animal industry has been affected as badly as any. We wish all our readers well and hope for a speedy solution to these awful circumstances.



Accreditation of ABTC

The process of RCVS accreditation is still progressing however it has to be acknowledged that both Brexit and the Corona virus outbreak have caused delays. Despite these setbacks dialogue continues and it is hoped that substantive progress will resume in the not too distant future.

There is a little more work to do then we will await the finalised documentation from RCVS and a timetable for the formal assessment process to begin.

There is currently no time scale for re-starting the process, which is understandable given the present circumstances but as soon as we are all in a position to return to something approaching normal service we will report on progress.

Call for more Volunteers

ABTC is expanding its board of trustees. We are looking for volunteers who are prepared to give their time and expertise to assist in the running of the Council. Anyone who feels able to contribute should contact us by email with a brief outline of how they could help. Email: valharveyabtc@gmail.com

People and Animals

The International Journal of Research and Practice



Paper downloaded over 1000 times

Animal Welfare: A Contemporary Understanding Demands a Contemporary Approach to Behavior and Training

<https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/paij/vol1/iss1/4/>

This paper detailing the rationale for regulating the animal behaviour and training sector was published in December 2018 and has now been downloaded over 1000 times worldwide.

Dick Vet 🍌
Animal Behaviour Society



ABTC at the Royal Dick

Just prior to the current shutdown the second annual conference was held at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies Edinburgh. It was exceedingly well attended and there was a packed programme of fascinating lectures and workshops.

Special points of interest:

- > RCVS accreditation
- > NCVO membership
- > Call for trustees



ABTC joins National Council

ABTC is now a member of the National Council of Voluntary Organisations. The NCVO was formed over 100 years ago following a legacy from Edward Vivian Birchall, who died of wounds in France during World War I. It aims to champion the voluntary sector by connecting, representing and supporting voluntary organisations. They work to help voluntary organisations and volunteers make the biggest difference they can. Many established voluntary organisations started out as projects within NCVO, including Age Concern and Citizens Advice Bureau

‘Promoting excellence in Animal Behaviour’ and Training’

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in Animal Behaviour
and Training'*

Membership Categories

There are a number of different categories of membership of the ABTC.

Practitioner Organisation

Practitioner organisations are those that directly represent practitioners of animal training and behaviour therapy. Membership fee £220 annually.

Advisory Organisation

Advisory organisations are those that are animal welfare related stakeholders but do not directly represent practitioners. Membership fee £220 annually.

Individual

Individuals can only be members by invitation of the ABTC and they must have a particular skill or specialist knowledge that will benefit the work of the Council.

Supporting Organisation

Supporting organisations are similar to Advisory organisations although they have a much reduced membership fee. They may take part in discussions and consultations but they do not have any voting rights. Membership fee £50 annually.

Applications are always welcome and the necessary forms can be found on the website .



Advice sheets to help owners care for their animals and each other

UK's best-loved national pet charities and experts have joined forces to offer advice to help owners care for their animals and each other during the Coronavirus crisis. Info graphics covering care of pets and dog walking have been published so far and can be seen on the Public Information page of www.abtcouncil.org.uk

Suspension of Registration fees

Given that a large proportion of our registered trainers and behaviourists will be badly affected by the current crisis ABTC are not charging the annual registration fee this year.

We also acknowledge that annual CPD will be more difficult given the cost of studying and the number of events that have been cancelled.

However, this does not mean that the CPD requirement has been removed, practitioners should still aim to keep up through reading, self study and engaging with the wide range of free webinars that are becoming available.

Next ABTC meeting postponed

The 31st scheduled meeting and 11th AGM were to have taken place in Lantra House at Stoneleigh Park on 17th April 2020 with a trustees meeting prior to this.

These meetings have been postponed and will be carried out electronically at a later date to be confirmed.

The agenda and details will be made available to member organisations in due course.

This promises to be a full agenda given all the activity since the earlier meeting in Jan 2020 and plans for the forthcoming RCVS accreditation.

New Membership

One new organisation has become a member of ABTC since the last edition of the Messenger.



The recently formed Fellowship of Animal Behaviour Clinicians is a professional body that aims to inspire and nurture the relationship between people and animals, promoting the human-animal bond and the emotional well-being of animals.

They promote the highest standard of practice in clinical animal behaviour and support independent accreditation of clinical animal behaviourists conforming to standards set by the Animal Behaviour and Training Council and the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.



Plans for new website

Our plans for a new updated website are now being put into place and web designers are invited to tender for the work.

Our current website has been in place for nearly ten years and has grown considerably in that time. It has served us well but is now in need of modernising and making more user friendly.

Interested parties should email: valharveyabtc@gmail.com

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Contact: valharveyabtc@gmail.com

BSI Membership

**Because we're committed to
the highest standards**

The Equality Register

Member

Forthcoming events

A system of advertising quality events of an educational nature that support the aims of the ABTC is available.

Such events will be publicised on the ABTC website and Facebook page for free. Applications to valharveyabtc@gmail.com in the first instance. The right to withhold publication is reserved.

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