

# The Gazette



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

Welcome to the eighteenth edition of the ABTC Gazette. Work has continued to expand on many fronts building the Council’s profile, membership and influence in the animal behaviour and training sector.

Progress towards regulation has taken another notable step forward with the decision to pursue UKAS accreditation. A project of this magnitude requires significant financing and the topic of fundraising features highly in this edition.

### Progress towards regulation



UKAS is the National Accreditation Body for the United Kingdom. They are appointed by government, to assess and accredit organisations that provide services including certification, testing, inspection and calibration.

At a special meeting of the Council it was agreed that ABTC should make an application to UKAS for accreditation. This marks a significant step forward in the drive to establish ABTC as the animal behaviour and training sector regulator as UKAS accreditation is an important element in government recognition.

Trustees have been working hard to prepare for this moment and although it will be a lengthy and detailed process, there is a determination to succeed. Arrangements are now being made for the preliminary inspection which is expected to happen early in the new year.



### BVNA Congress 2022

Taking a stand at the BVNA Congress has now become a regular feature in the ABTC Autumn calendar.

It always creates a high level of visitors to the stand, particularly this year following the launch of the BVNA/ABTC Learning Pathway in Behaviour.

There was a whole day of behaviour presentations sponsored by ABTC on the Friday. The level of interest from the delegates was high and the presentations were very well attended as usual.



*‘Promoting excellence in Animal Behaviour’ and Training’*

Special points of interest:

- > UKAS
- > Fundraising
- > ABTC Advocates launched

### ABTC Advocates



The ABTC Advocate scheme has now been launched and we welcome the first two practices who have joined us.



### Fundraising

The topic of fundraising is now receiving a particular focus of our energies to provide for the expenses associated with the UKAS project.

A special sub-committee has been formed to apply for grants and all of our registered practitioners are being encouraged to sign up for smile.amazon or easyfundraising (see page 2) to help finance our accreditation.

## 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 £250 annually.

### Advisory Organisation

Advisory organisations are those that are animal welfare related stakeholders but do not directly represent practitioners. Membership fee £200 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 £75 annually.

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

Individual practitioner registration fees are £15 annually.

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## Launch of Diversity Working Group

This Summer saw the launch of a Diversity Equity and Inclusion working group by ABTC.

The group will raise awareness of related matters within the animal training and behaviour sector. They will also propose strategies to address any identified weaknesses.

## Congratulations to our first cohort of zoo keepers!



We are so pleased to announce that our very first cohort of @officialbiaza Animal Trainers are now fully fledged ABTC registered trainers.

The BIAZA Animal Behaviour and Training Working Group (ABTWG) was founded to provide support, education and guidance in the fields of training and behaviour management.

Our main drive has always been to achieve practitioner status of the Animal Training and Behaviour Council (ABTC) in order to implement a formalised accreditation process for zookeepers and aquarists who are responsible for training the animals in their care. This process will in turn provide greater credibility, professionalism and minimum standards for animal training in our member Zoos and Aquariums, maximising the welfare impact of animal training.

BIAZA are excited to collaborate with the ABTC on this scheme which we feel will shape the future of animal training in zoos and aquaria, setting precise standards to adhere to and ensuring reinforcement based training methodology is entrenched as best practice.

## Fundraising

**Easyfundraising**—Thank you to everyone for raising donations for Animal Behaviour and Training Council with #easyfundraising! If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE. 7,300 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to do your everyday online shopping - at no extra cost to you! Every donation you raise makes a difference to us so please sign up & share today. <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/abtc/>

**AmazonSmile**—AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support ABTC every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) on your web browser. When you shop with AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same shopping experience as amazon.co.uk, with the added bonus that AmazonSmile will donate a portion of the purchase price to the 'Animal Behaviour and Training Council' as your chosen charity.

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<https://abtc.org.uk/>  
Contact: [admin@abtc.org.uk](mailto:admin@abtc.org.uk)

Registered Charity Numbers: 1164009

## BSI Membership

Because we're committed to

The Equality Register

Member

## New Membership



The National Institute for Canine Ethics becomes the latest organisation to join the ranks of ABTC Practitioner organisations. Their assessment processes meet the required standard for Animal Trainers, Training Instructors and Behaviour Technicians. This brings the total membership to 40 organisations.



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