



## **Let's make this Christmas a turning point for animal welfare!**

As we approach the festive season, a time of giving and reflection, we at the Animal Behaviour and Training Council (ABTC) are reaching out to our valued supporters with a heartfelt appeal. The post-COVID-19 era has ushered in unprecedented challenges and opportunities in the field of animal behaviour and training. With a significant rise in animal ownership across various species, we've witnessed an increased demand for behavioural and training support and, sadly, a surge in animal relinquishment. Couple with other challenges for caregivers, including but not limited to the XL Bully ban coming into effect from 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, now more than ever, the public needs the expertise and guidance of knowledgeable trainers, behaviour therapists, and expert witnesses.

### **Your support is crucial**

The ABTC stands at a pivotal juncture. As a charity, we heavily rely on donations to continue our work. One of our major projects, which promises to reform the animal behaviour and training sector, is achieving UKAS accreditation. This is not just a milestone; it's the only government-recognised route to regulating our industry. Achieving this will benchmark quality and reliability, ensuring that animals and their caregivers receive the best possible advice and support.

### **Your contribution can make a huge difference**

Imagine the impact if every ABTC member organisation and practitioner could contribute. Even a small donation, as little as £1, can collectively amount to several thousand pounds. This significant sum can drive our UKAS accreditation project forward, marking a substantial step toward improved animal welfare.

### **How to donate**

Donating is simple and takes only a moment, but the impact of your gift will resonate far beyond this festive season. To make your donation, please visit [Donations – ABTC](https://abtc.org.uk/donations/) <https://abtc.org.uk/donations/> or contact us at [info@abtc.org.uk](mailto:info@abtc.org.uk) for more information on how to contribute.

## **This Christmas, raise the Standard**

By supporting the ABTC, you're not just giving a gift; you're actively participating in raising the standard across the animal behaviour and training sector. Your contribution aids in our mission to ensure that animals are understood, respected, and handled with expertise and compassion.

Together, we can make a significant difference in the lives of countless animals and their carers. Let's join hands this Christmas to support a cause that deeply resonates with all of us – promoting humane practice and lobbying for improvements in animal welfare.

Thank you for considering this appeal. Your support means the world to us and the countless animals and their carers that benefit from our collective expertise and care.

Warm regards

ABTC Trustees

**PS** Remember, every little bit helps. Your contribution, no matter the size, is a step towards a better future for animals and those who care for them. Let's make this Christmas a turning point for animal welfare!

### **Promoting Excellence in Animal Behaviour and Training**

Registered in 2015, the ABTC (Animal Behaviour and Training Council) is the only UK charity dedicated to ensuring that the approaches used in the field of training and behaviour optimise animal wellbeing. The council sets the standards of knowledge and practical skills needed to be an animal trainer, instructor, behaviourist and other specialist practitioner roles.

As an umbrella organisation, ABTC membership is open to all stakeholder organisations in the training and behaviour sector. Engaging with organisations focused on companion animals as well as those that work with and care for a diverse variety of other species, the ABTC has over forty member organisations within the UK and internationally.

For more information visit [www.abtc.org.uk](http://www.abtc.org.uk)

Email: [info@abtc.org.uk](mailto:info@abtc.org.uk)