Issue 20

The Gazette



A periodic round up of news and developments in the Animal Behaviour and Training sector

Welcome to the twentieth 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.

Achieving UKAS accreditation of ABTC remains the central theme of our work.



Membership

ABTC now has an amazing total of 43 member organisations making it by far and away the largest institution in the animal behaviour and training sector.

Since its inception ABTC has transformed from a group of like-minded people seeing the need for higher standards for behaviourists and trainers to the greater force it now represents.

As the only charity in the sector, the board of trustees work tirelessly making the case for improvements in education and training of practitioners. This will lead to the end of unethical methods and improved standards of animal welfare.



ABTC have partnered with Sign Solutions to support ABTC practitioners who are either British Sign Language (BSL) users or working with clients who are.

The InterpretersLive! service provides practitioners with access to a British Sign Language video interpreter who can assist them during their pre-booked training or behaviour appointments, and on-demand virtual signing where practitioners need instant signing support while attending to caregiver enquiries.

'Promoting excellence in Animal Behaviour' and Training'

Special points of interest:

- > ABTC Membership
- > British Sign Language
 Service
- > BSAVA Congress

BSAVA Congress 2024



The ABTC stand was at the BSAVA Congress again this year and was as well attended as ever. It was fantastic to hear from so many delegates that they already knew about the ABTC, and recommended the charity and it's Practitioner Directory to their clients.

Registered Trade Mark



The more 'eagle eyed' readers of the Gazette will notice that our logo has a small addition in the top right corner now that it has been officially registered as a Trade Mark.

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.



Vet Advocate Scheme

The ABTC vet advocate scheme is aimed at vet practices who support the aims and values of the ABTC. They acknowledge and value the importance of animals' psychological well -being and support the use of kind, ethical and evidence based methods in all interactions.

The scheme offers

- Access to a closed Facebook group, which will contain a minimum of 12 hours CPD which is available to all staff members; this will include webinars, lives, discussions on research papers
- Listing on this page of the ABTC website
- An 'ABTC Advocate' logo which can be displayed on your website/paperwork to show that you support the work the Council is undertaking

A short video explaining the scheme can be found at https://abtc.org.uk/advocates/





easyfundraising

Fundraising

Thank you to everyone for raising donations for Animal Behaviour and Training Council with

#easyfundraising! Thank you also to those who have recently signed up. 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/?

So far over **£800** has been raised to assist our work for improved animal welfare.



As we go to press with this edition of the Gazette the initial stage of our application for UKAS accreditation is being assessed.

With Council approval, we will then engage in stage two, which involves inspections of those policies and procedures (particularly assessments) in practice.

ABTC at the BVBA Study Day

The annual British Veterinary Behaviour Association Study Day was held in Manchester on 20th March and ABTC did not miss the opportunity to promote itself with a stand. A successful day was had with a

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lot of delegates seeking information. Pictured at the stand is Chris

Pictured at the stand is Chris Laurence OBE the ABTC treasurer and trustee.

Animal Behaviour and Training Council, c/o Milsted Langdon Winchester House Deane Gate Avenue Taunton TA1 2UH https://abtc.org.uk/ Contact: admin@abtc.org.uk

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