

# pact news

## MONTHLY ROUND UP



The summer is here!.. well at least the sun is! Despite still being a little cold we've thoroughly enjoying spending time outside at one of our lovely Southampton venues with dozens of students.

This month's edition of PACT News includes a Trainer/Behaviour Infographic, an important article from Tash on Compassion Fatigue, an exciting new Member Profile feature and so much more!

Over the last few weeks at PACT we've hosted a Skills Workshop and the first rounds of Fieldwork sessions for our January and April Canine Training Instructor intake.

## THIS EDITION

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- ABTC update
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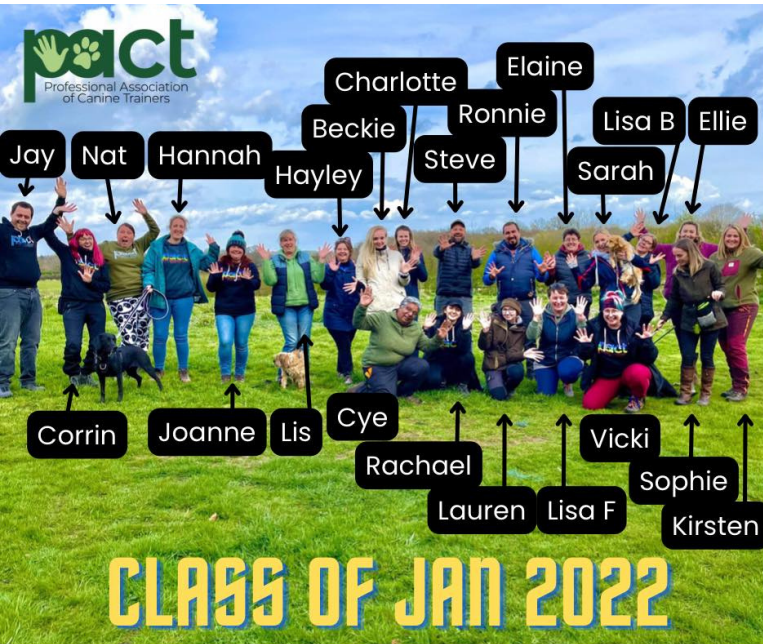
It's an understatement to say that it's been delightful meeting, teaching and working with some of the loveliest humans out there (and of course their amazing canine companions). We have had a wonderful time sharing time and space with likeminded individuals whose ultimate goal is helping people help dogs live better, happier lives with humans who understand them is (for us at least) the very DEFINITION of privilege.

We're still working hard in the background, listening to your feedback, creating new content, making improvements and developing our exciting annual conference. Don't forget to book your ticket or reserve your place at our first in-person conference. We hope to see you there!

Take care of each other!

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# FIELDWORK SESSIONS

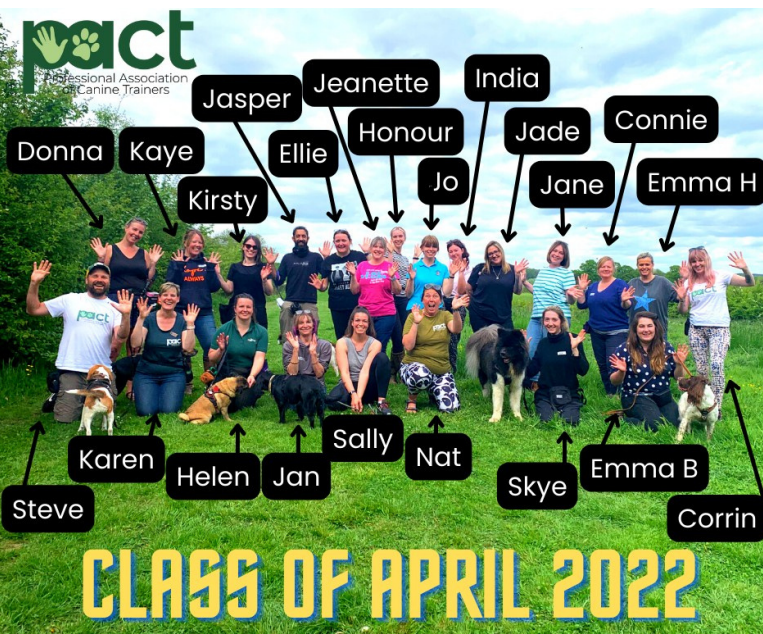


**CLASS OF JAN 2022**

Our ABTC recognised Canine Instructor Training Course has a hybrid element, which includes two sets of two day practical learning.

Having spent the year teaching our students remotely, it was an absolute delight for us to meet both our January and April intakes for the first time in person this spring. Even more importantly to us, it was wonderful to see the groups bonding, strengthening their support network for the course and beyond.

Students were encouraged to share their experience, views and training techniques in a safe, supportive and nurturing environment. Over the two days sessions, students took part in seminars, 1:1 demos and group exercises. All this takes place in a safe environment, with "Stuffies", stooge clients/dogs and some of our wonderful canine PACT members.



**CLASS OF APRIL 2022**

The sessions were planned with flexibility to respond to the students needs, with a mixture of talks, practical assessment preparation, confidence building, coaching techniques and much more. The sessions also covered difficult but necessary topics such as seeing first hand some of the aversive equipment prohibited by PACT.

We've already seen so much progress from the students, so are excited about their next Fieldwork session later this year.

Following Jaspers lead, several of the April course camped in the field, if this is anything to go by the second sessions in August we may just end up having more of a festival vibe.



Really enjoyed the two days being with like minded people. Out of my comfort zone with the role plays but appreciated the safe place to practice in.

Student April 2022

Loved it - was pretty tired at the end of the day as so much to process; but the energy of the students and course directors more than carried us through. Thank you!

Student April 2022

# SKILLS WORKSHOP



We kicked off May with our first Skills Workshop. The session, held at one of our venues near Southampton, was attended by a wonderful mixture of PACT Members, Students and non members (who we hope will now join the community!).

Filled with practical, interactive & collaborative learning, the sessions are designed to help developing the attendees ability to:

- Problem solve
- Observe & interpret canine body language
- Adapt training exercises
- Communicate with clients
- Conduct training consultations
- Coach and demonstrate effective & ethical methods
- Download the Skills Workshop brochure here.

There are no prerequisites for attending a Skills Workshops, you do not need to be a member or student as we want them to be open for everyone.

Finally, a massive thank you to our Stooze clients (human and non-human), without them the sessions would not be the success they've been so far!

Book now to join the PACT team on the 10th August  
<https://www.pact-dogs.com/learning/p/pact-skills-workshops>

What an experience! Learnt lots, great to have such a good mix of people with different backgrounds and skills.

Attendee May 2022

SKILLS WORKSHOP -  
MAY 2022

# CONNECTING COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE 2022

## PRIZE DRAW FOR A FREE HOODY!



The first 100 orders for the conference will be put in a prize draw for a free hoody/t-shirt/jumper of their choice!

16th October 2022  
University of Winchester  
[www.pact-dogs.com/conference2022](http://www.pact-dogs.com/conference2022)



You and your friends are all invited to our fantastic conference this autumn! It's gonna be AMAZING and even better, the first 100 tickets will be in for a chance to win a hoody!

The all day in-person conference aims to share knowledge, science, ethics & skills for the benefit of humans and dogs. We have already lined up a diverse range of speakers, covering a variety of aspects of the sector.

We are passionate that the event is as inclusive as possible. We've partnered with the University of Winchester's Centre for Animal Welfare to arrange a venue which is fully accessible and equipped to ensure everyone can have a wonderful time.

"You will leave our conference feeling confident & better equipped to be the dog professional you want to be."

We aim to create a friendly, fun, informative and supportive environment where you can:

- Learn with industry experts with short, interactive, 'TEDx-style' talks
- Ask questions, make comments and contribute
- Connect with like-minded people
- Enjoy a vegan lunch and refreshments
- Take a break in our 'quiet area'

Book your ticket now for £120, or reserve your place for £20 to make sure you don't end up with FOMO in October. Everyone is invited, you don't have to be a PACT member, although if you are there is a discount.

### Connecting Communities Conference 2022

Sharing knowledge, science, ethics & skills for the benefit of humans & dogs



SUNDAY 16TH OCTOBER 2022

The Stripe Auditorium  
University of Winchester  
Sparkford Road, Hampshire, SO22 4NR

Book online [www.pact-dogs.com/conference2022](http://www.pact-dogs.com/conference2022)



Connecting Communities Conference  
SHARING KNOWLEDGE, SCIENCE, ETHICS & SKILLS FOR THE BENEFIT OF HUMANS & DOGS



**PATRICIA MCCONNELL** *Reading & questions from the floor*

Patricia McConnell, Ph.D., a Certified Applied Animal Behaviourist (CAAB) Emeritus, has made a lifelong commitment to improving the relationship between people and animals. She is a highly-sought after speaker on dog behaviour and training, and will be joining us remotely to read an excerpt from one of her much-acclaimed books along with taking questions from the audience.



**SUZANNE ROGERS** *Conversations for change interactive session*

Suzanne is the co-Director of Human Behaviour Change for Animals (HBCA). She specialises in applying behavioural science (human) to improving the lives of animals.



**AMBER BATSON** *Connecting with the veterinary community*

Dr Amber Batson is a vet and behaviourist who works in the UK having graduated from the Royal Veterinary College, London in 1999. Amber strongly believes that the latest science about behaviour should be accessible to all who live and care for animals so presents in a way to bridge the gap between science and the practical world.

#### TAKING CARE OF . . .

- . . . your business with Karen Murray
- . . . yourself with (TBC)
- . . . the planet with Jason Light



#### CONNECTING WITH . . .

- . . . the rescue community with Sarah Tapsell
- . . . the behaviour community with Daniella Beck
- . . . the training community with Kirsten Dillon



PANEL DISCUSSION, QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR,  
INTERACTIVE NETWORKING & POST-CONFERENCE DRINKS

**£120** (inc VAT)  
refreshments & a full vegan lunch provided



Find out more & book at [www.pact-dogs.com/conference2022](http://www.pact-dogs.com/conference2022)

# HEALTH & WELLBEING

## Wellbeing Spotlight: Compassion Fatigue

Compassion fatigue is often referred to as 'the negative cost of caring' – it's that sensation of your empathy resources being overwhelmed and overused, resulting in emotional exhaustion which can sometimes contribute to feelings of apathy, stress and helplessness. This sensation can be part of the experience when working with animals and humans and feeling responsible for the overall wellbeing of families and their beloved pets, and can result in the neglect of your own wellbeing. It's difficult to switch this feeling off, and you can feel like you're not doing enough to protect/fix/help (insert what feels most relevant here).

In our next group, we'll be opening up the space for members to discuss their experiences of Compassion Fatigue, and through the creation of a mutual safe space, we'll talk about the impact of this, as well as coping strategies that aid in managing this experience. We'll do this with the hope that by sharing our experiences about this complex feeling we can start removing the sense of isolation, stigma and feeling 'stuck', and instead begin the process of sharing knowledge and offering an understanding towards one another and leave the group with a developed sense of restorative connectedness.

To book or find out more, email [wellbeing@pact-dogs.com](mailto:wellbeing@pact-dogs.com)



## ECOPAW-RIOR: EARTH DAY



We're sure you love our planet as much as we do! Sustainability is at the core of everything we do at PACT & this is reflected in us proudly becoming a Certified Pending B Corp.

At PACT, we measure, and proactively take steps to reduce the environmental impact of all of our business activities. We offset beyond our unavoidable CO2e emissions using the Woodland Trust scheme to ensure that we have a positive ecological impact.

You can do the same here  
<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/.../give/personal-carbon/>

# EXTERNAL APPLICANTS TO PACT

## New Full Member Gretta Ford



"Having been practising as a dog trainer & CCAB for a number of years, I decided to apply for membership of PACT because I felt that their values & ethics aligned really well with my own. The whole application process was really supportive & I'm proud to have been accepted into such a forward thinking and empathetic community."

The  
Pitter Patter  
of  
Tiny Paws

Please join us in welcoming the wonderful Gretta from The Pitter Patter of Tiny Paws who transferred her ATI registration over to join the PACT family!

*"Having been practising as a dog trainer & CCAB for a number of years, I decided to apply for membership of PACT because I felt that their values & ethics aligned really well with my own. The whole application process was really supportive & I'm proud to have been accepted into such a forward thinking and empathetic community."*

In order to be registered with the ABTC you must be a member of a recognised practitioner organisation. There are currently eight ABTC practitioners with ATI registered members, and most (like PACT) have processes to allow professionals like Gretta to switch to them or hold dual membership.

We feel that the ability for members to switch between Practitioner Organisations is crucial as it democratises the sector by giving people ultimate control over who they are governed by. It encourages us all to strive to continually improve and move the sector (and the organisations within it) forward. Switching is only possible due to the uniformity of the ABTC ATI standard, as all 450+ ATIs will have been assessed to the same standard regardless of the organisation/assessor.

The process of switching varies depending on your ABTC membership, and in order to join PACT, we ask external applicants that are ATI, ABT & CAB or undertake straightforward remote theory and practical assessments which involves sending us some of your work. The theory is a number of simple multiple choice questions that you do at home online and the practical involves sending us some videos of you in action. These don't need to be new videos so if you have some already that you use with clients, you simply send us the link. Our external assessment process ensures that when we're audited by the ABTC, we have details on file which demonstrate we've seen how you work and best of all we get to see what a fantastic trainer you are!

Depending on your qualifications the cost of assessments can vary, but is usually around £180 (inc VAT). This cost covers your full membership for the year until our annual renewal in March 2023 which costs £120 (inc VAT). ABTC listing is £15 per year.

The ABTC are putting the finishing touches to an exciting new initiative... ABTC Advocates.

Initially this will be available solely to veterinary practices (but if successful they hope to roll out to other areas).

Advocates are practices who support the ABTCs aims & values. They do not provide specialist training & behaviour services themselves but they acknowledge the importance of helping their clients find an accredited & qualified behaviour professional.

The practice will pay a small annual fee & in return receive a behaviour related webinar for their staff, a listing on the ABTC website & be able to proudly display their ABTC Advocate logo.

Are you a practice manager or director & want to know more? Drop them a message: [info@abtc.org.uk](mailto:info@abtc.org.uk)

## ABTC UPDATE



# MEMBER PROFILE: AMEY MARKHAM

Amey Markham is an Animal Training Instructor (ATI) with PACT. She runs The Good Dog Journey & Amey's Dog Services.

**Why did you become a Dog Training Instructor (ATI)?**  
I have always loved dogs and been interested in behaviour and training. When I was younger, no one had told me it was possible to work with dogs. Almost from the moment this became a realisation, I knew what I wanted to do.

**What was your first job in the in the animal welfare sector?**  
I started running a dog walking business whilst I studied dog training.

**What do you do in the Animal Welfare Sector?**  
Now I run a dog walking and training business and have just opened a new business The Good Dog Journey which is all about meeting people who are thinking about getting a dog and helping them with the daunting process of finding the right breed for them, all the way through to workshops pre-puppy and mentoring as their puppy grows. The whole journey.

**What is the best part of your work?**  
Watching the owners gain confidence and be impressed by their own skills and their dogs skills.

**What are the most important skills for your role?**  
Communication and people skills. Being able to look at each person and dog individually and ensure that the plan suits them. I think it is also important to have a mountain of knowledge to be able to think on your feet as they can throw any question at you at any time!

**What motivates you?**  
My stupidly big heart wanting to help everyone



**Where do you see the profession going?**  
I will continue with the CPD in the areas I am interested in, such a breeding, whelping, pre-puppy stage as well as reactivity and aggression. Two opposite ends of the spectrum but I have a keen interest in both.

**Where would you like to be in five years time?**  
Doing the same as I am doing now but having grown The Good Dog Journey to it's full potential.

**What advice would you give someone entering the profession?**  
Never believe you have learnt everything, there is always more to learn. Take on things you are comfortable with and never be scared of networking. Knowing fellow dog trainers and shadowing others can be invaluable.

**If you had to describe yourself in three words, what would they be?**  
Driven, thoughtful, talkative!

**What would be your personal motto?**  
Slowly slowly catchee monkey (for dog training and life!)

**If you could go back in history who would you like to meet?**  
Jaak Panksepp for some interesting discussions.

Are you a Full Member and interested in a Member Profile in a future edition of PACT News?

Visit the members area of the website and complete our questionnaire.



# UPCOMING WEBINARS

- DATE TBC due to reschedule: Identifying & Preventing Musculoskeletal issues in Dogs (In Partnership with Canine Arthritis Management)
- 11th July 2022: Let Sleeping Dogs Lie: Why sleep matters in canine behaviour (In partnership with Amber Batson)

MORE WEBINARS COMING SOON!

All webinars will cost £18 inc VAT, this is before the 25% discount for all eligible PACT Members, Students and Associates.

Book now

[www.pact-dogs.com/webinars](http://www.pact-dogs.com/webinars)



## WEBINAR

"Identifying & Preventing Musculoskeletal Issues in Dogs"



Monday 9th May 2022  
7pm  
£15

Join Hannah Capon MA Vet MB MRCVS, to hear more about the work of Canine Arthritis Management (CAM) and how, as trainers, we can identify and prevent musculoskeletal in young dogs.



Book online  
[www.pact-dogs.com](http://www.pact-dogs.com)



## WEBINAR

Let Sleeping Dogs Lie: Why sleep matters in canine behaviour



Monday 11th July 2022  
7pm  
£15

Join Amber Batson to discuss what we currently know about canine sleep.

Amber will summarise current scientific findings & discuss how to apply them in a practical setting. There will also be a Q&A at the end of the presentation.

Book online  
[www.pact-dogs.com](http://www.pact-dogs.com)

## COURSES

Visit [www.pact-dogs.com/learnwithus](http://www.pact-dogs.com/learnwithus)

Last few places for July & September

Book now for August

Book now for October

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**CANINE TRAINING INSTRUCTOR**



BOOK YOUR PLACE  
**SKILLS WORKSHOPS**



BOOK YOUR PLACE  
**INTRODUCTION TO CAB**



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