



**ADCH**  
Association of Dogs and Cats Homes

*together for  
dogs + cats*

**pet remedy**  
natural calming

## Conference Programme

The Vox,  
Birmingham

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Together Again  
for  
Dogs and Cats



**Petplan**<sup>®</sup>

[www.adch.org.uk](http://www.adch.org.uk)

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# A warm welcome

**Hello and welcome to the 2022 ADCH annual conference.**

This is the first time in two years that we have had the opportunity to hold this, the UK's largest animal welfare event. I'm delighted that we are once again joined by hundreds of our members from the eight jurisdictions, as well as a broad range of trade and industry specialists including insurers, pet food manufacturers, nutritionists, scientists, law firms, and many more. We are grateful to all our sponsors and supporters for making this possible. A huge thank you to all our sponsors, with special thanks to **Pet Remedy, Petplan, Pets at Home Foundation** and **Shakespeare Martineau**. And our special gratitude to our supporters **Battersea Dogs and Cats Home, Birmingham Dogs Home, Blue Cross, Cats Protection, Dogs Trust, RSPCA, The Kennel Club** and **Wood Green**.

This is a challenging period for our sector. Just as ADCH members began to recover from the vicissitudes of lockdown, the Cost-of-Living Crisis has emerged, presenting fresh trials.

These are difficult times to recruit and retain staff, fundraise, engage with supporters, rehome and – always and above all – maintain excellence in animal welfare. The ADCH recognises this, and this year's conference programme has been created to provide you with the guidance and support you need to navigate these tricky waters. Over the next two days, a range of speakers will engage with you about your current challenges. Our first keynote, delivered by **industry leading consultant, Rob Jackson**, will examine volunteer engagement in these challenging times. On Wednesday, **Dermot Murphy, Chief Inspectorate Officer for the RSPCA**, will be delivering a keynote to address issues around the Cost-of-Living Crisis, and then leading a group discussion, giving you the opportunity to share your views and perspectives. Other sessions will examine collaborative working; diversification of fundraising; developments in legislation; and a range of other relevant topics. Please see a full programme on pages 9 - 15.

However, this is also a joyous occasion. We are delighted to announce that we will be administering a £100,000 food fund on behalf of The Adoption Mission. Members will be able to apply for a food fund donation by submitting an application on the ADCH website from **17th October 2023**. Please see page 13 for further details.

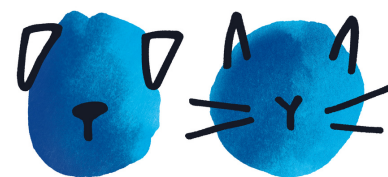
The evening event on Tuesday 4 October, sponsored by Petplan UK, will provide you with the opportunity to network, let your hair down and celebrate the fact that we are **#TogetherAgainForDogsandCats**.

Kind regards,

**Halita Obineche**  
**ADCH Executive Director**

# Event Information

Event Management  
generously supported by



**BATTERSEA**

HERE FOR EVERY DOG AND CAT

## Venue

The Vox Conference Centre  
2nd Floor, Resorts World, Birmingham, B40 1PU  
T: 0121 200 2000 W: [www.voxvenue.co.uk](http://www.voxvenue.co.uk)

## Parking

Free parking for 300 delegates is available for ADCH conference delegates in East 5 carpark. When parked, take a ticket from the machine and present at the conference registration desk, we will then validate the ticket for you. As not all delegates are driving we expect there will be enough free tickets for all, however these will be treated on a first-come, first-served basis.

## Event lanyard

All participants are required to wear their lanyard when attending sessions, social events, and when entering the exhibition. If you lose your lanyard, please go to the registration desk and a new one will be made for you.

## Lunch and refreshments

Tea, coffee, and lunches will be served during the official breaks in the Foyer.

## Mobile phones, filming and photography

As a courtesy to speakers and other participants, all mobile phones should be switched to silent before entering sessions. Any other electronic devices, such as cameras, laptops, and tablets should also be turned to silent. Photographs of the sessions, social events, and exhibition areas will be taken throughout the conference for use on the ADCH website, and other marketing platforms. If you do not want to be photographed, please inform the photographer.

## Security and safety

Please do not leave bags and luggage unattended at any time, whether inside or outside session halls.

## Smoking

Smoking is not permitted anywhere within the Vox, any smokers will be directed outside of the main building to the designated external seating areas of the Lower Ground floor restaurants overlooking the lake. E-cigarettes are also not permitted anywhere within the Vox Conference Venue or Resorts World building.



# The Vox site plan



# The Vox floor plan

All event rooms have been generously supported by Members as shown below



# Pre-conference Events

Pre-conference events  
generously supported by

Birmingham  
**Dogs  
Home**

## **Sponsors and exhibitors pre-conference reception** **Monday 3rd October, 19:00 - 20:00, The Vox**

Sponsors, supporters, and exhibitors are invited to join ADCH staff and Trustees for a drinks reception.

This is an invite-only event.

## **Pre-conference quiz** **Monday 3rd October, 20:00 - 22:00, The Vox**

All delegates are invited to join us for a fun and informal pre-conference quiz, with drinks and nibbles



## Pet Remedy invites you to join our exciting new Rescue Partnership Programme



With help from our colleagues in the Animal Rescue community, we have created a unique package which will:

- Aim to reduce the return of animals to the rescue.
- Increase educational awareness of the emotional/support needs of the animals with a tailored video for adopters to view before taking the animal home.
- Provide risk free revenue potential with generous discounts.
- Offer free product to be used by the rescue.
- Provide extra training and support from our team in the use of Pet Remedy, plus exclusive resources from industry experts in training and behaviour.

To learn more about how your rescue can benefit from our Partnership Programme please contact Gill on 01803 612772 or email [rescue@petremedy.co.uk](mailto:rescue@petremedy.co.uk)

# Tuesday 4th October

09:00	09:50	Foyer	<b>Registration</b>
10:00	10:25	Vox 3 – 5	<b>Opening address</b>
10:30	11:15	Vox 3 – 5 (Ref:KN1)	<b>Preparing for the future of volunteer engagement after COVID-19</b> Rob Jackson
11:15	11:30	Foyer	<b>Break</b>
11:30	12:15	Vox 3 – 5 (Ref:PS1A)	<b>How Battersea seeks to develop and support the sector through collaborative working</b> Paul Marvell, Battersea
		Vox 1 (Ref:PS1B)	<b>Infectious disease control and minimising stress in care</b> Naomi Williams & Daniel Cummings, Cats Protection
		Vox 2 (Ref:PS1C)	<b>Research session - what we have learnt or are learning</b> Rachel Casey, Dogs Trust
		B/Rm 1 (Ref:PS1D)	<b>Navigating challenging waters</b> John Grounds
12:25	13:00	Vox 3 – 5 (Ref:PS2A)	<b>Ownership disputes: A practical guide on how to determine the true owner of a dog or cat</b> Trevor Cooper, Cooper & Co Solicitors
		Vox 1 (Ref:PS2B)	<b>Preventing relinquishment</b> Charlie Hood, Cats Protection, Chris Bennett, Woodgreen & Karly Smith, Blue Cross
		Vox 2 (Ref:PS2C)	<b>Legacy disputes</b> Andrew Wilkinson & Catherine Rustomji, Shakespeare Martineau & Samantha Jackson, Battersea
		B/Rm 1 (Ref:PS2D)	<b>ADCH Assessors workshop (<i>Assessors only</i>)</b> Chaired by Standards & Animal Welfare Committee

# Tuesday 4th October

13:10	13:50	Foyer	<b>Lunch</b>
		B/Rm 1	<b>ADCH Assessors working lunch</b>
14:00	15:00	Vox 3 - 5 (Ref:PS3A)	<b>The pandemic puppy phenomenon: past, present and future canine welfare impacts</b> Dr Rowena Packer
		Vox 1 (Ref:PS3B)	<b>Why are human-cat interactions so important to get right in the shelter environment, and what can we learn (and apply) from the latest research</b> Dr Lauren Finka, Cats Protection
		Vox 2 (Ref:PS3C)	<b>Your digital presence</b> Vicki McDerby, Woodlands Animal Sanctuary
		B/Rm 1 (Ref:PS3D)	<b>Pets at Home Foundation - help us meet your needs</b> Laura Messenger & Amy Angus, Pets at Home Foundation
15:10	15:50	Vox 3 - 5 (Ref:PS4A)	<b>An evidence-based approach to choosing, combining and using commercial calming supplements in the rescue setting</b> Dr Robert Falconer-Taylor
		Vox 1 (Ref:PS4B)	<b>How the corporate partnerships landscape has transformed - and building partnerships within it</b> Nic Aquila, Remarkable Partnerships & Mary Haisman, Blue Cross
		Vox 2 (Ref:PS4C)	<b>Solving a stray dog problem - 10 years of Dogs Trust in Bosnia</b> Adam Clowes, Dogs Trust
		B/Rm 1 (Ref:PS4D)	<b>Cattery construction &amp; maintenance</b> Peter Shergold, Cats Protection



# Tuesday 4 October 2022

15:50	16:15	Foyer	<b>Break</b>
16:15	17:00	Vox 3 - 5 (Ref:PS5A)	<b>Behaviour and training on a budget</b> Kristina Glover, Dogs Trust, Daniel Cummings, Cats Protection and Caroline Yon, Oak Tree Animals' Charity
		Vox 1 (Ref:PS5B)	<b>Why, oh why, can't customers all want the same things?</b> Adam Stanley, Blue Cross
		Vox 2 (Ref:PS5C)	<b>'The Together Project' - Bath's volunteer programme providing free preventative veterinary care for the homeless and vulnerably housed</b> Jane Prothero & Nicola Chouler, Bath Dogs and Cats Home
		B/Rm 1 (Ref:PS5D)	<b>Making your story the heart of your strategy</b> John Grounds
17:10	17:25	Vox 3 - 5	<b>Closing remarks</b>

# Celebration Event



**Tuesday 4th October, 19:00 - 23:00, The Vox**

Join us for food, drinks, and live music as we celebrate being #TogetherAgainForDogsAndCats

**7 - 8pm: Drinks reception in the exhibition area**

**8pm: Party Time**

Complimentary food

Live music

Photo booth

Cash bar

**11pm: Carriages**

Dress for a party, dig out your dancing shoes and let's celebrate finally being together in person!

# **pets at home** **foundation**

We are pets people, and we know and understand the difference pets make to people's lives. That is why The Pets at Home Foundation exists; to create a better world for pets and the people who love them. Our team of pet loving colleagues, trustees and supporters are all dedicated to making a real difference by:

- Supporting pets and people through our grant programme and activities.
- Finding pets in rescue a forever, loving home, through our adoption centres and community partners.
- Working with partners to make a positive impact in local communities. What we have achieved since we began our journey.
- Supported over 1,300 rescues.
- Awarded over £25 million through grant funding and partnerships.
- Become the number one financial supporter of pet rescues in the UK.
- Recently broadened our objectives to support those organisations that help people through pets.

## **THE ADOPTION MISSION**

Championed by



The Adoption Mission is delighted to announce that a food fund has been created to help support the ADCH members registered to The Adoption Mission programme, to buy food for the animals in their care.

Shelters will be able to apply for a food fund donation by submitting an application on the ADCH website from 17th October 2022.

For further information please join Owen Johns, Senior Corporate Affairs Manager from Mars Petcare, for his talk on “Removing barriers to pet adoption: The Pedigree and Whiskas Adoption Mission” on **Wednesday 5th October** at **2pm** in **Vox 2**.

You can also contact [theadoptionmission@effem.com](mailto:theadoptionmission@effem.com) should you have any questions in the meantime.

# Wednesday 5th October

09:00	09:35	Foyer	<b>Registration</b>
09:45	09:55	Vox 3 - 5	<b>Opening address</b>
10:00	11:00	Vox 3 - 5 (Ref:KN2)	<b>The perfect storm</b> Dermot Murphy, RSPCA
11:00	11:15	Foyer	<b>Break</b>
11:15	12:00	Vox 3 - 5 (Ref:PS6A)	<b>Animal voice - using the five domains to understand how animals feel</b> Caroline Allen & Sam Gains, RSPCA
		Vox 1 (Ref:PS6B)	<b>Forming and implementing a diversity &amp; inclusion action plan: a case study and learnings from Battersea</b> Ellie Cannell, Bryony Glenn & Adele Nutt, Battersea
		Vox 2 (Ref:PS6C)	<b>Facing an uncertain future: the current challenges facing us all in small rescue</b> Marina Fiddler, MADRA and ADCH, Nigel Mason, Margaret Green Animal Rescue & Vickie McDerby, Woodlands Animal Sanctuary
		B/Rm 1 (Ref:PS6D)	<b>Charity shops</b> Vanessa Waddon, Hope Rescue
12:10	13:00	Vox 3 - 5 (Ref:PS7A)	<b>Diversified funding - which plates to spin and why</b> Fi Harrison, Birmingham Dogs Home & Chris Rushbrooke, Northern Bear
		Vox 1 (Ref:PS7B)	<b>One small step for rescue, one giant leap for cat-kind</b> Vicky Halls, International Cat Care & Susie Hughes RSPCA Manchester
		Vox 2 (Ref:PS7C)	<b>Spay/neuter impact on a dog's behaviour</b> Adam Clowes & Rachel Clowes, Dogs Trust & Caroline Allen, RSPCA
		B/Rm (Ref:PS7D)	<b>Salary benchmarking</b> Beth Verrechia & Niamh Hyland, Blue Cross

# Wednesday 5 October 2022

13:10	13:50	Foyer	<b>Lunch</b>
14:00	15:00	Vox 3 - 5 (Ref:PS8A)	<b>Licensing and Assessments</b> David Bowles, RSPCA and ADCH & Adam Clowes, Dogs Trust and ADCH
		Vox 1 (Ref:PS8B)	<b>Cat microchipping legislation</b> Trevor Cooper, Cooper & Co Solicitors & Stefan Blakiston Moore, Cats Protection
		Vox 2 (Ref:PS8C)	<b>Removing barriers to pet adoption: The Pedigree and Whiskas Adoption Mission</b> Owen Johns, Mars
15:10	16:00	Vox 3 - 5 (Ref:PS9A)	<b>Pre-adoption advice: supporting pets and their owners to a positive future together</b> Natalie Powdrill-Wells & Wendy Kruger, Woodgreen
		Vox 1 (Ref:PS9B)	<b>Setting up a TNR scheme</b> Carly Bradbury & Yvette Adams, Cats Protection
		Vox 2 (Ref:PS9C)	<b>The emotional experience-finding relief-for us and our dogs</b> Andrew Hale, Pet Remedy
16:10	16:25	Vox 3 - 5	<b>Closing remarks</b>
16:25	17:00	Vox 3 - 5	<b>Networking and close</b>

# Speakers



## Keynote Speaker

**Rob Jackson**, is Director of Rob Jackson Consulting Ltd, a consultancy and training company that helps engage and inspire people to bring about change. Rob has almost 30 years experience working in the voluntary and community sector, holding a variety of strategic development and senior management roles that have focused on leading and engaging volunteers. Rob has run his company since 2011 working with a wide range of clients in the UK, Australia, New Zealand, Europe, the USA and Canada. Rob is co-author of *The Complete Volunteer Management Handbook* (DSC, 2012 and 2019) and *From The Top Down - UK Edition* (Energize Inc., 2015).



## Keynote speaker

**Dermot Murphy** is the RSPCA Chief Inspectorate Officer and is responsible for all Inspectorate operations across England and Wales. Dermot has been with the RSPCA for 28 years and after starting as an Animal Ambulance Driver in London, he became an Inspector, Chief Inspector and Staff Officer in the Inspectorate Department with a responsibility for policy development. Dermot has been in his current role for 7 years.



**Adam Clowes** joined Dogs Trust in 2001, bringing extensive operational experience from his previous roles in the military, Aldi and at Royal Mail. At Royal Mail, Adam held a number of operational positions, focusing on organisational transformation and delivering complex frontline services. Before that, he served four years with the Royal Signals, having graduated from Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, and then subsequently achieving an MBA from the University of Birmingham. He became a trustee of the Association of Dog and Cats Homes in 2018, playing an active role on the Standards and Animal Welfare Committee and supporting members through chairing various webinars and open meeting sessions. Prior to joining Dogs Trust Adam had adopted from both Dogs Trust Salisbury and then Kenilworth.



Since April 2020, **Adam Stanley** has worked at Blue Cross for Pets as the Head of Rehoming Service Design and latterly the Head of Services & Products Design & Development. He oversees the design and development of compelling and impactful experiences for Blue Cross's service customers, taking a particular interest in drawing linkages and synergies between the wide range of services that Blue Cross offers. Prior to that, Adam has almost a decade of experience working in service design on the railway and in policing, before moving into the animal welfare and rescue sector two and a half years ago.

As someone who was recently diagnosed as autistic, Adam also speaks passionately about neurodiversity, accessibility and inclusion, and applies this to both the customer experience as well as for employees and volunteers providing those services.



# Speakers



**Adele Nutt** is Diversity & Inclusion Business Partner at Battersea Dogs and Cats Home.



**Amy Angus** is the Group Charity and Community Manager for Pets at Home, Amy looks after their charitable work as Foundation alongside her wonderful team. Amy is really looking forward to delivering her conference session, learning how best Pets at Home can continue to support the rescue sector, and she looks forward to meeting everyone.



**Andrew Hale BSc, ISCP.Dip.Canine.Prac** is a Certified Animal Behaviourist with Association of INTODogs. He is the behaviour consultant for Pet Remedy and the British Isles Grooming Association and is a Canine Arthritis Management Expert Advisor. He is the behaviour consultant for Animals in Distress, and also works to support many dog rescue organisations around the UK. With a human psychology background, Andrew is passionate about exploring the emotional experience that lies behind behaviour, both in dogs and the humans around them. Andrew has played a leading role in the UK Dog training and behaviour community, having been the chair of the Association of INTODogs, and being the driving force behind the UK Dog Behaviour and Training Charter.

In 2020, Andrew started Dog Centred Care, which focusses on supporting a dog led approach to providing the best care and support. Within the online FB Dog Centred Care group, he has been hosting on-line conversations with some of the world's leading trainers, scientists, researchers, trauma experts and veterinarians. Andrew has also co-hosted the Beyond The Operant series of conversations. ([www.youtube.com/c/DogCentredCare/videos](http://www.youtube.com/c/DogCentredCare/videos)). These conversations are credited with helping transform the perceptions and language around dog training and behaviour.



**Andrew Wilkinson**, is Partner & Head of Contentious Probate. Andrew acts for individuals and charities in resolving disputes regarding wills, trusts, estates and powers of attorney. As head of our contentious probate team, Andrew handles a wide variety of disputes for local, national and international clients. He has particular expertise in dealing with disputes regarding high value and complex estates, often including cross-border elements. He is an experienced litigator, both in the High Court and the Court of Protection, but is also very experienced in methods of alternative dispute resolution, particularly mediation. Andrew frequently acts as an independent trustee, executor or administrator, often in high value and complex estates involving disputed aspects.

# Speakers



**Beth Verrechia**, Director of people and development for Blue Cross



**Carly Bradbury** is Acting Neutering Manager at Cats Protection



**Caroline Allen** is the Chief Vet of the RSPCA. She worked in general practice for twenty years, gaining the Certificate in Small Animal Medicine. She has worked for the RSPCA for 6 years, first as London Veterinary Director and now as Chief Vet. Caroline was on RCVS Council for one term and was a committee member of the Association of Charity Vets. Her main interests are accessible, welfare focused veterinary care and practical welfare assessment.



**Caroline Yon** worked for over 25 years on the tiny Overseas Territory of Ascension Island where she founded and ran the Ascension Island Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals providing front line care to both pets and feral sheep and donkey populations. Caroline served 3 terms as an Island Councillor with a special interest in animal welfare and conservation legislation. On returning to the UK in late 2018 she moved to Cumbria in 2019 and began working for Oak Tree Animals' Charity where she is the current Head of Animal Welfare. As a qualified instructor in both Scentwork and Mantrailing her spare time is usually spent teach nose work related activities to local dogs and owners.



**Catherine Rustomji**, is Partner & Head of Charities at Shakespeare Martineau. She has been advising charities, social enterprises and not for profit organisations exclusively for over 20 years. Catherine is a specialist charities solicitor who advises charities, not for profit organisations, social enterprises, charity trustees and individuals wishing to establish charities. Her particular focus is on constitutional and governance matters including different legal structures and the duties and responsibilities of charity trustees. She regularly advises on charity registrations, incorporations of existing charities, mergers, the use of commercial subsidiaries including community interest companies and advising on the legal duties and responsibilities of charity trustees.

# Speakers



**Charlie Hood** Spent over a decade in the zoo, wildlife rescue and veterinary industries and found her calling in the welfare sector. As an unashamed crazy cat lady, I was beside myself with joy when my career and passions collided into an opportunity to work for Cats Protection. I feel right at home in my role as an Adoption Centre Manager and am proud to be part of the organisation. It's so heart-warming to be able to help owners and cats in need. Every cat has a story and the work is so rewarding and fulfilling. I absolutely love being on the front line of cat welfare in the UK.



**Chris Bennett's** role at Woodgreen is to lead on their Community Outreach and Education programmes. Leading a team of 12 staff plus volunteers their goal is for pets in the local communities to be able to lead happy and healthy lives, from accessing and supporting the most vulnerable through to helping others to lead their best lives. Their Community programmes educate, practically support and guide owners through all stages of pet ownership from pre acquisition to geriatric and end of life care.



**Chris Rushbrooke** is Chief Bear at Northern Bear. Helping charities to raise awareness, funds & impact by creating brands, websites and campaigns that work as hard as the charities themselves. Driven by an ethos to Do More Good, Chris has worked with charities of all shapes, sizes and budgets to support them in smashing their goals.



**Daniel Cummings** is Central Behaviour Officer at Cats Protection

# Speakers



**David Bowles** has been a Board member of ADCH since 2015, leading on analysing the ADCH annual returns and Covid-19 surveys and delivering the insights to members, Governments and legislators. As Head of Public Affairs and Campaigns at the RSPCA and a member of Defra's expert group on dogs and cats, David uses his legislative knowledge leading on this work for ADCH and analysing impacts of the cost of living on the sector. The RSPCA was the first animal welfare organisation in the world and was set up to investigate and prosecute animal welfare offences. In 2021 it received some 1.1 million calls a year to its cruelty line, investigated 51,000 complaints and dealt with over 138,000 welfare incidents. ADCH faces three important challenges in the coming year: delivering assistance and information to members as the cost of living starts to impact the sector, assessing what is happening on the ground as we crack down on the illegal puppy trade and ensuring ADCH is centre as rescue licensing is introduced.



**Ellie Cannell** is Head of Human Resources at Battersea Dogs and Cat Homes



**Fi Harrison** started her fundraising career at Save the Children in the corporate fundraising team and has worked in various fundraising management roles for national charities including St John Ambulance, Turning Point and the NSPCC. Fi has worked in the business as a senior marketer focussing on brand development and CSR. She became a fundraising strategy consultant advising small charities for a number of years to build sustainable incomes, brands and create engaging campaigns. Fi joined Birmingham Dogs Home as Head of Fundraising at an exciting time of expansion and development. Fi is a member of the Chartered Institute of Fundraising and member of West Midlands committee for three years, leading on sponsorship and supporting sole fundraisers. In her spare time she is a volunteer scout leader and has three rescue dogs; Hope, Joy and Sonny.



**Jane Prothero, BA Mental Health Nursing, PG cert Higher Education, Currently studying MRes Anthrozoology.**

Jane has worked as a Child and Adolescent Mental Health Nurse for more than 20 years before taking a break to work with her lifelong passion for animals. She joined the Bath Cats and dogs home in August 2022 to develop Outreach and Education programmes and is the Manager for the Together Project.



# Speakers



**John Grounds**, John is a consultant in organisational, brand and communication strategy, campaigning, fundraising and integration, as well as personal and team development. John spent over 25 years working at the highest level with some of the UK's leading not for profit, public and private sector organisations, including NSPCC, RSPCA, Barnardo's, The Body Shop, Forster Communications and CharityComms. As a consultant since 2014, his work has spanned charities across the sector in terms of size, scope and subject matter. He is also non-executive advisor to several small not for profit organisations.



**Karly Smith** is a regional Animal Behaviourist at Blue Cross, covering dogs, cats and range of small animals based in Worcestershire. Karly offers behaviour support for several of our rehoming sites, pet owners



**Kris Glover, Head of Clinical Behaviour Services, Dogs Trust**

Kris started with Dogs Trust as a Clinical Animal Behaviourist in April 2018. In February 2019 she took on the role of Manager for the Clinical Animal Behaviour team and in November 2021, became Head of Clinical Behaviour Services.

Previous to her employment with Dogs Trust Kris was self-employed and ran a private behavioural and training practice based in Berkshire from 2004-2018.

During her 18 year career in the pet behaviour industry Kris has seen over 4000 dog behaviour cases, and around 1000 cat behaviour cases. Behaviour problems she has worked with range from separation-related issues, sound phobias, people and dog aggression as well as some more unusual cases such as idiopathic overnight bed wetting.

Kris very much enjoys working with humans and their pets and has a special interest in how the relationship between dog and owner influences the success of behavioural rehabilitation programmes.

Kris has a BA (Hons) degree in Companion Animal Behaviour Counselling and an MSc also in Companion Animal Behaviour Counselling. Kris is a Certificated Clinical Animal Behaviourist (accredited through ASAB) and a member of FABC.

# Speakers



**Laura Messenger** is the Funding and Partnerships Manager at the Pets at Home Foundation. Her team looks after the relationships the Foundation has with their beneficiaries, through their grant support and Community Partner programme. Laura has been with the Foundation for over seven years. Before that she worked as a fundraiser at a rescue.



**Dr Lauren Finka** is a feline welfare and behaviour scientist at Cats Protection. Dr Finka has previously worked as a research fellow for a number of different universities and also as a welfare and behaviour consultant for various animal welfare charities. She has a PhD in cat behaviour and welfare, focused on the rehoming environment. Prior to her academic career she worked as a re-homer and care assistant for several different rehoming organisations. Dr Finka has published a range of research papers and reviews covering topics such as critical evaluation of evidence on cat welfare in multi-cat environments, cat sociability and welfare implications, optimising human-cat interactions and developing novel methods to measure cat facial expressions. Her current work at CP is focused on the development and validation of tools to assess the welfare of shelter cats.



**Marina Fiddler** is the co-founder of Irish dog rescue charity MADRA. Since its establishment in 2005, MADRA has successfully and exclusively worked with three local councils to bring the euthanasia rates down to single figures from highs of 83 per cent. Marina and a dedicated team of volunteers and staff have built an organisation that is recognised nationally for both its work with pounds and adoption initiatives. A lifelong advocate for animals, Marina has been invited to contribute to a number of national forums on issues of animal welfare in Ireland, and has been an ADCH trustee since 2019.



**Mary Haisman** is the Corporate Partnerships Manager for Blue Cross. Since starting in the Corporate Partnerships world in 2016, Mary has worked and led many large five and six figure strategic relationships in support of the charity sector, which includes a myriad of new business and account management. Mary currently leads the Corporate Partnerships Team at Blue Cross.



**Naomi Williams BVetMed MRCVS**, graduated from the RVC in 2005 and spent several years in first opinion practice followed by ten years working with PDSA. She joined Cats Protection in 2021 as Field Veterinary Office for Midlands and Wales.

Naomi's main interests are charity veterinary work and a delivering a high standard of care through a pragmatic approach.



# Speakers



**Natalie Powdrill-Wells** has worked at Woodgreen Pets Charity for over 10 years, holding a number of different roles during this time. As a Research Officer, Natalie is now helping the charity to use an evidence-based approach to develop ways to help more pets and their people. Prior to her role as Research Officer, Natalie managed the Welcome Centre at Woodgreen, overseeing the team responsible for all of the organisations rehoming activity. She has also worked in Woodgreen’s education team and with the dog care section, so has a wide range of experience in different areas of the charities work.



**Niamh Hyland** is People & Culture Advisor – Reward and Systems at Blue Cross



**Nicola Aquila** is a Partnerships Manager with 20 years' experience in account management and new business. She is super passionate about working with charities and corporates to drive significant change and impact through purpose driven partnerships enabling them to reach their fullest potential. Nicola’s charity experience is in the healthcare sector, where she secured corporate partnerships with companies such as Amazon and Virgin Money, doubling her corporate income within 2 years. Nicola also ran her own sales publication business for 12 years, where she grew to a monthly distribution of 12,000. Nicola is excited to bring her experience and enthusiasm to the team and believes with that, remarkable, purpose driven partnerships can be achieved.



**Nicola Chouler, BVSc MRCVS Veterinary surgeon**, qualified from Bristol university in 2013 and works in Bath as a small animal Vet in a large hospital. In 2018 she set up The Together Project with a colleague to provide free veterinary treatment for the pets of the homeless and vulnerably housed.



**Nigel Mason** is Chief Executive of Margaret Green Animal Rescue

# Speakers



**Owen Johns** leads Mars Petcare's UK plans to achieve its global ambition of ending pet homelessness by 2030. Since joining Mars Petcare, Owen has launched The Pedigree & Whiskas Adoption Mission, a campaign to tackle the barriers to pet adoption by partnering with and supporting UK animal shelters, while tackling common misconceptions around pet adoption. Owen has over 10 years' experience working across public relations and public affairs within the private and public sectors.



**Paul Marvel** is Director of Global Programmes at Battersea. Paul has worked in the charity sector for almost 30 years, holding senior roles at RNIB, the Chartered Institute of Fundraising, AMREF and British Red Cross. Paul joined Battersea in October 2017 and has previously held roles as Interim Fundraising Director, Interim Operations Director and has been Director of the Battersea Academy (now Global Programmes) since July 2018. He has held trustee roles at international children's charity Childhope and the European Fundraising Association and is currently a Trustee for the International Companion Animal Management Coalition.



**Peter Shergold** is the Head of Operations at Cats Protection, with oversight and responsibility for the effective running of the charity's nationwide network of centres and branches. He joined the charity in 2021 after working at St John Ambulance and Public Health England. Peter lives in Birmingham with his wife and two young children. When he's not working, Peter enjoys Judo.



**Rachel Casey** is the Director of Behaviour and Research at Dogs Trust. She leads a team of behaviourists and trainers working across the rehoming network and community-based programmes, including 'Dog School'. She also leads programmes of research to evidence policy and operational activity, the development of interventions to influence human behaviour to improve dog welfare, and stakeholder training and engagement.

Rachel has a PhD in animal behaviour, is an RCVS Recognised Specialist in Veterinary Behavioural Medicine, an European College Diplomat in both Veterinary Behavioural Medicine and Animal Welfare, Ethics and Law, and a Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

# Speakers



**Dr Robert Falconer-Taylor BVetMed, DipCABT, MRCVS**, has worked in the veterinary profession for nearly 30 years, as a partner in an innovative small animal hospital group and as a locum. He is now an international consultant to the pet industry where he champions the welfare of pets and their relationships with their owners. For late 2022, he is currently working with a commercial partner to develop a practical Mood State Assessment tool for owners to use with their dogs.

His current primary academic interests include companion animal cognitive science and emotionality, nutrition and its effects on behaviour, and applied neurophysiology, pharmacology, and therapeutics in companion animal behaviour therapy. For launch in 2023, Robert is working on a number of tools, resources and a book, as part of a range of accessible online education resources for the companion animal community.



**Dr Rowena Packer, BSc (Hons) PhD PGCert (VetEd) FHEA**

Rowena graduated from the University of Bristol in 2009 with a BSc (Hons) in Animal Behaviour and Welfare (1st Class). She joined the Royal Veterinary College as a PhD student in 2009 (awarded in 2013), and she has since been a Postdoctoral Researcher (2013-2016), a BBSRC Future Leader Research Fellow (2017-2021) and is now the Lecturer in Companion Animal Behaviour and Welfare Science (2020-Present). Rowena leads a research group exploring diverse topics in this area, including the impact of chronic and inherited disorders on dog behaviour and welfare, and the impact of pet owner knowledge, attitudes, and behaviour on canine welfare. In 2016, Rowena was awarded the UFAW Young Animal Welfare Scientist of the Year award. Rowena has co-authored over 70 papers on the health and welfare of dogs and cats since 2012, and her book 'Health and Welfare of Brachycephalic (Flat-faced) Companion Animals', was published in summer 2021.



**Dr Samantha Gaines** is Head of the Companion Animals Science and Policy department which sits in the Advocacy and Policy Directorate at the RSPCA. She manages a team of scientific and technical officers who, using animal welfare science, develop policy, position, advice and information to protect and improve companion animal behaviour and welfare. She is the Society's science and policy lead on a variety of issues that affect dog welfare including Breed Specific Legislation, racing greyhounds and dogs kept for working purposes. Sam is also a trustee for the Raystede Centre for Animal Welfare, East Sussex.



**Samantha Jackson**, is the Legacy Manager at Battersea Dogs and Cats Home. Samantha's first job after graduating with a History degree from the University of Kent was as a Legacy Assistant at Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, in 2014. Working at Battersea felt like a dream come true – Samantha's childhood dog Maggie (the most wonderful dog) was adopted from Battersea just before she was born. After a couple of years working at Battersea, she joined Cancer Research UK, first as Assistant Legacy Officer and then as a Legacy Officer. After this she was Legacy Administration Manager at Parkinson's UK, before going travelling and then heading back to Cancer Research UK for a fixed term contract. During this time in 2021, the role of Senior Legacy Officer at Battersea came up. Re-joining Battersea felt like a dream come true all over again. Samantha was promoted to the role of Legacy Manager in December 2021. She thoroughly enjoys working in the charity sector and legacy administration.



# Speakers



**Stefan Blakiston Moore** is the Senior Advocacy and Digital Campaigns Officer at Cats Protection, he joined the charity in January 2020 after spending a decade working in Parliament. As part of his role, he leads on digital advocacy campaigns for Cats Protection, most recently running the charity's digital campaigns on kitten smuggling and microchipping. He is also heavily involved with Cats Protection's Cats and Their Stats (CATS) Report, with a particular focus on the 'cat market' section which looks at shifts in acquisition methods as well as buyer behaviour and preference. Stefan has a Cats Protection cat called Neeve.



**Susie Hughes** has been involved in the animal welfare sector in paid and voluntary roles since 2000. In 2008 Susie took up post as the Branch Manager for RSPCA Manchester and Salford Branch, when the branch did not rehome animals in the area. Susie built the charity's profile, a network of foster carers and contracts with private boarding until funds permitted her to project manage a centre-build in 2019. During her time Susie has evolved the branch into a 'centre of excellence' for cat and small animal rehoming. Higher educational study in animal welfare and behaviour has consolidated her 22 years practical experience, leading to qualifications that are invaluable for her role with the RSPCA and ADCH, where she is a member of the Standards and Animal Welfare Committee.



#### **Trevor Cooper, Solicitor, Cooper & Co**

Solicitor **Trevor Cooper**, the Principal of Cooper & Co, is now in his 28th year of acting for pet owners in civil and criminal cases throughout England & Wales. Trevor was awarded the Phyllis Mayer Argus Medal by Dogs Trust "in recognition of long and distinguished service on behalf of dogs". He was also awarded the Lesley Scott-Ordish Memorial Award by PRO – Dogs for having made "an outstanding contribution to the world of dogs". Trevor has previously been a Principal Solicitor with the Environment Agency prosecuting cases in the North East (where he also served as a Magistrate on the North Yorkshire bench), and was the Doglaw Specialist for Dogs Trust + the Doglaw Consultant to Battersea Dogs and Cats Home. He currently chairs the Microchip Trade Association.



**Vanessa Waddon** is the Founder and Transformation Manager at Hope Rescue.

# Speakers



**Vickie McDerby** is a Trustee for Woodlands Animal Sanctuary



**Vicky Halls** is the Cat Friendly Homing Project Manager at International Cat Care. Vicky works specifically on projects relating to the welfare of unowned cats throughout the world. Vicky is a registered veterinary nurse and clinical animal behaviourist, having spent over 23 years specialising in cats. Vicky lectures all over the world on cat behaviour to veterinary and lay audiences. Vicky is also a qualified and registered person-centred counsellor. Vicky is the author of seven best-selling books on cats for the general public, several peer-reviewed papers for scientific journals and co-author of veterinary textbooks and published guidelines.



**Wendy Kruger** has worked at Woodgreen Pets Charity for 30 years. Wendy says that "Dogs are at the centre of my career and I love to see the relationships and communication that develops between dogs and people. I'm a trainer at heart and enjoy seeing people get success from training their dogs, but what motivates me most is when the dog starts to enjoy the learning process and buys into the communication. As far as learning about training, behaviour and all things dog are concerned; the more I learn, the more I realise there is to learn.



**Yvette Adams** has been working for Cats Protection for 13 years. She started at one of the adoption centres as a Cat Care Assistant and then moved into the neutering team 5 years ago. She loves working in the community, building trust and relationships with the cats and the residents.

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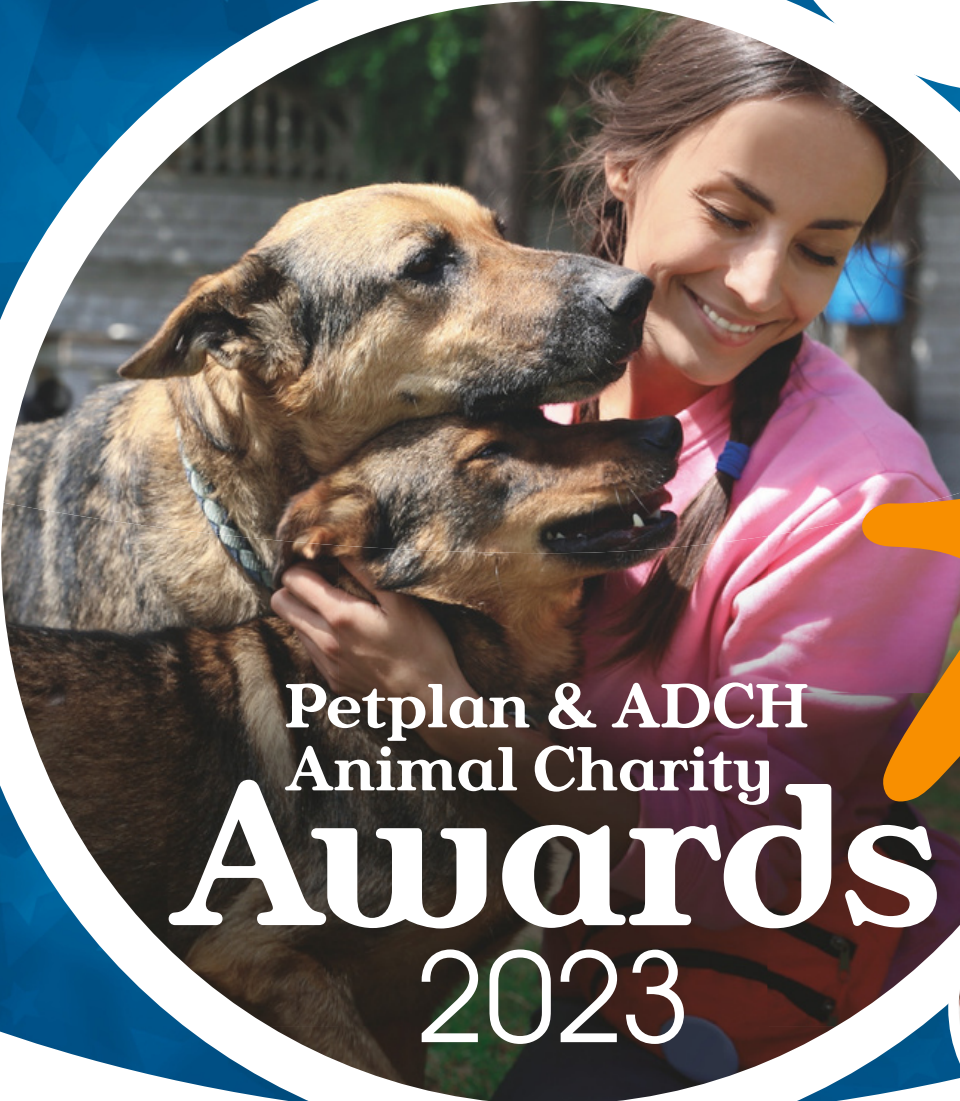
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