

Pippa Hutchison MSc CCAB

Clinical Animal Behaviourist

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Summary

Pippa is passionate about teaching both undergraduates and post graduate veterinary students to ensure that welfare and the behavioural needs of the animals they treat are considered on a daily basis.

Owner expectation and reliance on the family pet continues to increase, placing increased pressure on these companions. Pippa strives to reinstate and improve the human-animal bond between a client and their companion animal, through manageable behaviour modification programmes.

Behaviour treatment programmes should become part of the management protocol of chronic clinical cases and in-patient care; indeed, it should be used in every aspect of animal interaction within the veterinary practice.

Education

Pippa Hutchison qualified from the School of Psychology at the University of Southampton with a Master of Science (MSc) degree in Companion Animal Behaviour Counselling. She also holds a post-graduate diploma in Companion Animal Behaviour Counselling Dip (AS) CABC.

Pippa has been accredited with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons' (RCVS) recognised post nominal of CCAB (Certificated Clinical Animal Behaviourist). In addition, she has affiliate status of Honorary Lecturer at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies and Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Glasgow, School of Veterinary Medicine. And is a visiting faculty member at Ross University, School of Veterinary Medicine; and Newcastle University, UK.

The Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour (ASAB) certifies practitioners as certified clinical animal behaviourists, a scheme recognised and supported by the RCVS.

Clinical Experience

As a companion animal behaviour counsellor, Pippa works with the most popular companion animals; predator species – dog and cat; prey species – horse and rabbit.

Veterinary referred virtual consultations are held throughout the UK via internet. Valuable case data and video footage is obtained for lecturing purposes.

Previous Experience

Previously as Managing Director of Veterinary Business Development Ltd (VBD), publishers of *Veterinary Times*, *The Veterinary Business Journal*, *VNTimes* and the *Henston Range* she has been affiliated with the veterinary profession all her working life.

Working as a volunteer behaviour assessor at Wood Green Animal Shelter, UK, provided her with invaluable practical experience in handling both cats and dogs. In particular, each dog was assessed, and recommendations made as to the most suitable home environment or whether the dog was unsuitable for rehoming.

She keeps abreast of knowledge in the rapidly developing area of behavioural science as a member of:

- The British Veterinary Behaviour Association (BVBA) which is affiliated to the BSAVA
- International Association of Animal Behaviour Consultants (IAABC)
- Fellowship of Animal Behaviour Clinicians (FABC)
- The Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour (ASAB)
- International Cat Care (ICC)
- Association of Pet Behaviour Counsellors (APBC)
- The Society for Companion Animal Studies (SCAS)

Media Experience

Regular contributor to BBC Radio on animal behavioural and welfare matters.

As Press and PR Officer for the Association of Pet Behaviour Counsellors (2003-2013) represented the APBC on National Television; national and regional radio; providing quotes and statements for national and regional press.

Lecturing Experience

Elective course in Animal Behaviour

Ross University, School of Veterinary Medicine. Developed and provide an elective on Companion Animal Behaviour and Welfare, provided over a 4-6-week period including case videos. Over 1000 students have attended the elective since 2015. Overall student satisfaction 93.5%.

Master in Clinical Animal Behaviour, and Clinical Animal Behaviour in Practice

University of Edinburgh, Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, Master's programme. These courses include both face-to-face and on-line learning. Her role in these programmes is to develop content and teach; monitor discussion boards and mark assessments. Lectures include relevant case studies. Overall student satisfaction 96.9-100%.

Master in Applied Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare

Newcastle University, School of Agriculture, Food & Rural Development

These courses include both face-to-face and on-line learning. Her role in these programmes is to develop content and teach; monitor discussion boards and mark assessments. Lectures include relevant case studies.

Master of Veterinary Public Health

University of Glasgow's Master of Veterinary Public Health (MVPH) Programme, where she has been involved from its inception in 2007. Her role in this programme is to teach the public health benefits

of human-animal interaction and the concepts of interdependency (human-animal bond) at all levels. Lectures include relevant case studies.

Master in Applied Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare

University of Edinburgh's Master in Applied Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare. Her role in this programme is to teach ethology and learning theory; and by applying this knowledge help students understanding 'how the home environment can affect pet behaviour and welfare' and 'why relationships break down and how to put them back together again'. Lectures include relevant case studies.

Undergraduate teaching

University of Edinburgh, Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies 3rd year Undergraduates: Lectures on Canine and Feline behaviour - Feline fear and anxiety; Canine separation related disorders and common anxieties. Lectures include relevant case studies.

Final Year Elective

University of Edinburgh, Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies Final Year Elective on Applied Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare: teaching how to take an accurate behavioural history; establishing the motivation for the inappropriate behaviour, including differential diagnosis; using appropriate behaviour modification techniques; managing owner expectations; achieving owner compliance; measuring success.

Self-assessment expertise

CCAB annual review and 5 year renewal programme ensures continued self-assessment and active engagement in diverse CPD continues to challenge and update/refine current knowledge.

Regular discussion with peers at congresses and specialist meetings, allows debate on current thinking and protocols.

Justifying protocols with students ensures continuous development, self-assessment and refinement of procedures and protocols used.

Client feedback questionnaires used in clinical practice, confirm procedures and protocols remain relevant and allow for self-assessment.

Publications

AAFP and ISFM Guidelines for Diagnosing and Solving House-Soiling Behaviour in Cats

<http://jfm.sagepub.com/content/16/7/579>

Canine Pseudopregnancy: an evaluation of prevalence and current treatment protocols in the UK (BVET-D-17-00035R3) BMC Veterinary Research 14/17 2018. Root AL, Parkin TD, Hutchison P, Warnes C, Yam PS.

Children, parents and pets exercising together in (CPET): Exploratory randomised controlled trial https://www.researchgate.net/publication/258953193_Children_parents_and_pets_exercising_together_CPET_Exploratory_randomised_controlled_trial

Pilot study: Exploring the introduction of a pet therapy program for RUSVM veterinary students ([poster attached](#))