

Dr Anne McBride BSc PhD FRSA

Dr Anne McBride has a degree in Psychology, a Doctorate in animal behaviour (Aspects of Social and Parental Behaviour in the European Rabbit) and a Certificate in Conservation and Ecology from Birkbeck College, London. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Anne has been a practising animal behaviour therapist since 1987 and is a senior lecturer in the School of Psychology at the University of Southampton. She is the director of the Applied Animal Behaviour unit and is Academic Director for the Postgraduate Diploma / MSc in Companion Animal Behaviour Counselling at Southampton University and the Masters in Human-Animal Interactions.

She has always had a strong interest in the human - animal relationship. Her research interests cover both animal behaviour and the relationships people have with animals and how these are formed, both normal and abnormal relationships. She is particularly interested in how human interactions with animals affect animal, and human, welfare; be that how we talk to them, train them, feed them or allow them to behave. She has published on various aspects of human-animal interactions, and has written and lectured on this area both nationally and internationally and teaches the human psychology part of the BVNA Companion Animal Behaviour Course.

Her personal view of her 'best' professional achievements are being the co-founder of HOPE - the Homeless Owners with Pets project, now subsumed under the wing of the Dogs Trust and helping move forward the education of behaviour counsellors by the setting up of the Southampton course in 1994.

Her loves are cooking, walking, bonfires, friends and family. Her favourite book is still Winnie the Pooh, and she is a great believer in asking "Why" of everything, to keep the sense of the curious and of objectivity alive.