



PUPPY SCHOOL REPORT 2020

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Summary of events for 2020

by Gwen Bailey

We started the year well with a brilliant practical day course on the power of play with Craig Ogilvie on 25th February. Craig's easy style with dogs had us all hooked and it was good to be with everyone again.

As February drew to a close, we ran Part 1 of the Spring Tutor Training Course and 12 new tutors attended. Crufts went ahead in March as usual, despite growing concerns about the threat of infection from the deadly COVID-19 virus. We had worked with Natures Menu to help them devise and run a Tail Wagging game and our tutors were on hand to help people learn more about what dog's tails tell us.

Due to the rapidly spreading pandemic, we were in lockdown on 22nd March and everyone had to stay at home until the restrictions eased in July. This took an unprecedented toll on bookings, despite a mad scramble to get videos together and the syllabus changed so that we could teach puppy classes online. Fortunately two of our most able tutors, Louise Taylor and Claire Luscombe both had young puppies at that time and the lovely puppies Tig and Beansprout became the stars of our online



Our Tail Wagging Game at Crufts on the Natures Menu stand (Nicole Harris explains how to play)

videos (although actually it was the incredible handling and training by Louise, Claire and Lou's partner Neal Otter that made those videos so good). Consequently with a lot of effort, we were ready to go within weeks.



Practical course with Craig Ogilvie (February 2020)



The only face-to-face course we ran in 2020 Part 1 of the Spring Tutor Training Course

Incredibly, PS Online proved really popular for those who tried it and it is a credit to our tutors who proved resourceful and flexible enough to teach and coach online just as well as they do in the classroom. Puppies learnt better in their own homes away from distractions, owners found lessons enjoyable and found more time to practise and tutors enjoyed teaching them too, happy that there was no setting up of halls and, at the end of class, they were back in their living rooms in minutes. Tutors found time to run online FaceBook groups for each class and reported much more of a happy connection with individual clients than at conventional classes. Whether this was due to being accepted into their homes, more virtual contact, or a bit of a wartime spirit, we are not sure.

Bookings hit the floor but slowly picked up, although not to previous

levels. So we put our heads together and came up with SuperPup, a series of 6 follow-on lessons that helped owners in lockdown to carry on with practising their training in a fun way. This had a good take up by tutors and clients alike and helped us all keep our financial heads above water in difficult times. We even developed a Snakes & Ladders game that encouraged owners to do all the vital socialisation exercises with their puppy that were so difficult because of lockdown.



During lockdown we all learnt how to use online video meeting software. The speed of your home broadband has never been so important. We also learnt how to use video editing software and made some short fun and promotional videos, and supported each other through as best we could.



As lockdown ended in July, we tentatively begin classes again, but these had to be outdoors and subject to all sorts of precautions and restrictions to keep people safe from the disease. Eventually we could go back to training indoors again in the Autumn just as the bad weather



started. There was even a puppy boom at this time as owners scrambled to take on a new friend while they were still at home. Prices for puppies soared and so did our bookings. Just as things were looking up, we went into our second lockdown in November and we were back online again. It was easy this time as we were prepared but it was an administration nightmare for everyone as some clients wanted to postpone, some wanted online and some refunds.

Rather than teach our Autumn intake of new tutors face to face with restrictions and in masks for days on end, we decided to teach them online instead. During October and November, we ran evening classes twice a week on Zoom. Students

appreciated the extra time to absorb the lesson before the next one and, although we missed getting to know people in person, we appreciated the ease of doing the teaching from home. The Spring intake who had only done the first weekend course before lockdown joined us for part 2, but, sadly, the rescue centre where we run our practical courses had to close their doors because of restrictions and we have had to postpone that until things settle down again next year.

We also had to postpone our bi-annual conference, scheduled for June until next year, as well as all the behaviour courses and other cpd events we had planned. To counter this and to end the year on a high, we pulled together an online learning week for the PS family with a week of webinars run by in-house 'experts' and one external speaker at the weekend. These were a lot of fun, as well as being educational. Some of the highlights were learning how to make snuffle mats, teach our dogs force-free handling, how to make the most of Instagram, best practise for learning from games, how to truly 'get ahead' in our business, and how to run recall classes for clients. It was a great week and a very good way to reconnect with everyone after our distanced year.



We ended the year open again in some areas but December is always a disrupted month as people have other priorities than puppy training. It was a year none of us could ever have predicted and one we are unlikely to forget in a hurry. For all the hardship it brought, the strength of the Puppy School family helped us all keep going and provided a welcome support in a difficult time. Fingers crossed next year will be better for all of us.

Key Puppy School Statistics for 2019

Tutor Numbers

At the end of 2020, Puppy School is comprised of 98 full tutors and 43 associate tutors teaching Puppy School, Puppy University and SuperPup courses. We have 10 resting tutors/associates (those not currently active, either on maternity leave or taking a break). We have 17 provisional tutors and 12 provisional associates currently working on their correspondence course whilst there are already a handful of keen new applicants waiting to undertake their tutor training course in 2021.

New Tutors and Assistants

We had new 11 tutors and 9 new associate tutors train with us during 2020. This year was a little different as the tutor training courses went online via Zoom. Huge thanks to all that made that happen. Well done to those who managed to complete their correspondence course this year and best of luck to those who are in progress of completing their training. A big, warm Puppy School welcome to:

- Faye Rogers
- Charlotte Sherwood
- Rob Nunn
- Jade Bailey
- Imogen Docherty
- Karen Wilson
- Susan Hussey
- Catherine Coleman
- Jo Ninham
- Amie Robbins
- Demi Mansell
- Francesca Lees
- Sian Lawley-Rudd
- Christine Curtis
- Kelly Kane
- Melanie Matthews
- Keely Needham
- Ellie Morton
- Lizz Folwell
- Jo Thiselton-Dyer

Puppy Numbers

Despite it being an incredibly difficult year, the number of puppies going through our Puppy School classes in 2020 has continued to be strong and 8,122 went puppies through our classes this year. This is only a 10% decrease compared to 9,016 puppies in 2019. Not bad in a worldwide pandemic.

This brings the total number of puppies passed through the hands of Puppy School tutors in to 82,904 during the 18 years we have been running! What an achievement, we should all be very proud of our efforts and the difference we are making to families and puppies who benefit from our work.

Top Tutors

Within our group of hard working tutors at Puppy School, there are five tutors who stand out for training the most puppies/owners in 2020. They are:

1. Louise Taylor and Neal Otter at Surrey and South London Dog Training and Behaviour – a staggering 463 puppies trained
2. Rachel Butler and the team at Happy Dog Training Company - 296 puppies trained
3. Louise Williamson and the team at South Coast Dog Training – 248 puppies trained



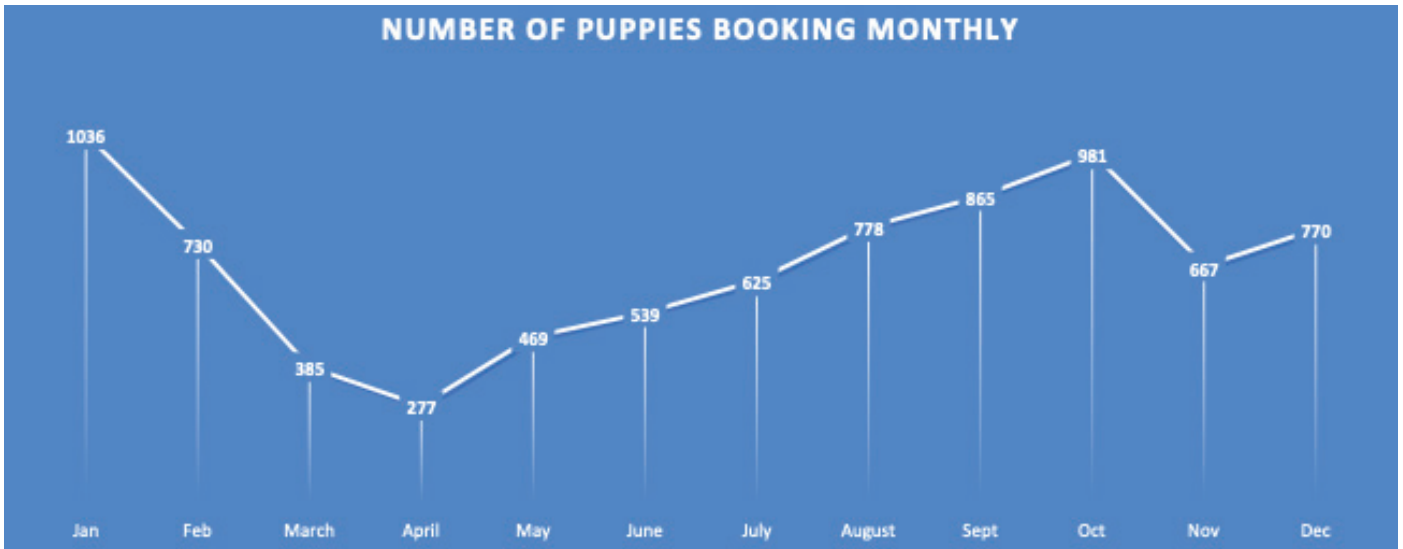
Delighted owners receiving their certificate and rosette through the post

- 4. Amanda Blatch at Happy Buddies – 229 puppies trained.
 - 5. Michelle Cleary at Cleary Canines – 225 puppies trained
- (Figures for each tutor calculated at the end of November 2020)

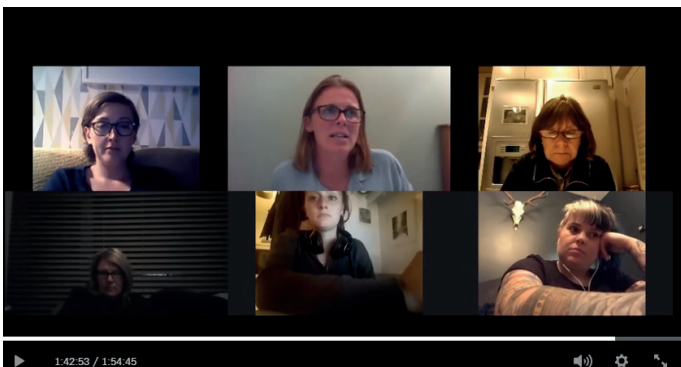
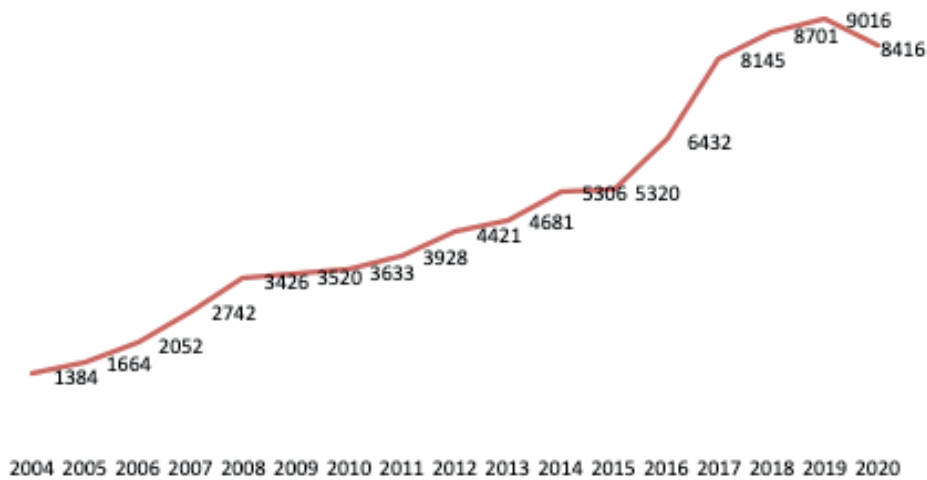
A further 18 Puppy School Tutors registered over 100 puppies this year (as of end of Nov.) – big congratulations to: Imogen Haley, Karen Boyce, Claire Luscombe, Alice Crick, Emily Mazon, Eleanor McCall, Pen Higgs, Caroline Duder, Delia Graham, Catherine

Tomlinson, Sam Price, Claire McKnespiey, Emma-Clare Dunnett, Catherine Pleasance, Nicole Harris, Cheryl Holden, Chrissie Pargeter and Vicky Fitch-Taylor.

Well done to absolutely everyone in our Puppy School family for taking on such a challenging year. We did not expect such a shake up to our businesses and this year has come with many challenges so thank you all for continuing to work so hard to make such a difference to owners and puppies' lives.



Number of puppies trained by Puppy School



Autumn online new tutors course



Improvising with household items to train at home

2020 Highlights from our Tutors

Puppy School Online is well liked by tutors

Pen Higgs is an APBC behaviourist working in London and has been with Puppy School for over ten years. Like many people, Pen took to working online over lockdown. Here is what she had to say about her experiences:

“As well as the usual exercises one would expect from an excellent training programme such as Puppy School, I was pleased to see that the course content for Puppy School online included exercises specifically tailored for pups who were perhaps seeing fewer people than normal due to lockdown. The classes were taught live, but the pre-recorded videos we showed were clear (and cute!). As a tutor, I then took the time to go around to the individual puppy owners, coaching them through each instruction - making sure they could do it correctly before moving on.

I have been running classes for over a decade now and I’ve realised that online, puppies learn a lot faster without the distractions of other puppies around, and the human owners seem a lot more relaxed in their own homes too (sometimes with glass of wine in hand too!). Owners reported that they really enjoyed the classes and I felt that they seemed to retain the information better too.

HOME-SCHOOL YOUR PUPPY DURING THE COVID-19 LOCKDOWN



- Six week course ✓
- Small classes ✓
- Individual coaching ✓
- Video demonstrations ✓
- Train live with our tutors ✓
- Fewer distractions ✓
- Self-isolation friendly ✓
- Child-friendly learning ✓
- Guided learning ✓

Featuring Tig!



Alongside the classes, my clients have really got on board with the socialisation snakes and ladders game - sharing their pup’s progress and achievements within the WhatsApp groups, and even getting competitive (in a fun way!).

As an APBC behaviourist, working online means that I can help my clients more. Rather than spending my time driving, online means that I can offer more in my behaviour packages at the same price. More follow up means more sticking to the plan. Happy dogs. Happy clients. Happy me! It really has been brilliant. The only downside is I don’t get to meet the lovely puppies and dogs in person!”

Socialisation Snakes and Ladders

We invented this game for our SuperPup course to help owners socialise their pups during lockdown. It provides an interactive way to educate and encourage clients to socialise and habituate their puppy to new experiences and helps them realise that socialisation is about so much more than playing with other puppies. Once we trialled it and found out how successful it was, we released it for use in all Puppy School classes.



Socialisation exercise "Go to a supermarket carpark and sit with your puppy in the boot of your car"

the threat of COVID-19 has receded) and go up and down the game board landing on a specific

socialisation challenge which is then their 'homework' for the week. They are encouraged to share photos and videos with the tutor and the group via an email or a WhatsApp group, and this has proved to be very popular.

Socialisation Snakes and Ladders



Clients roll a virtual dice (or an actual one during face-to-face classes - or rather the tutor does it for them until

Socialisation exercise "See a different animal from afar and reward your puppy for calmly observing"

Socialisation exercise "Take your puppy to a train or bus station"



This new way of communicating with clients has been a great way to keep in touch with them during this difficult time, and it offers great encouragement and motivation for the clients to see their pup's classmates achieving their socialisation exercises. At present, this is a game to played online only but we are looking to adapt this for face-to-face classes going forward in 2021 and keep it going once we get back to live classes.



Socialisation exercise "Say 'hi' to someone new from a distance"



Socialisation exercise "Spatial awareness and confidence building"

First in the UK to gain City & Guilds in Scent Detection

Sandie Dallow who runs classes in Kidderminster started her journey to becoming one of the first in the country to gain a City & Guilds qualification in Scent Detection in February this year. Here's what Sandie had to say about her experience:

"To qualify, I undertook a six-day course with The UK College of Scent Dogs Ltd with my retired police dog Ceto. She was a natural at search. There was a lot of theory and being the first C & G Scent Instructors course, there was a written pass or fail exam. Thankfully I passed! Then lockdown loomed and our courses, as were everyone's, put on hold.

During this time, sadly due to medical reasons, Ceto had to be put to sleep. At the beginning of August, we packed up the motorhome and travelled to a Railway Museum in Staffordshire and began the second leg of our journey, the C & G Scent Handlers course. This time I took along my five-year-old Schnoodle Libbie. Anyone who knows Libbie or have taken us on training



Socialisation exercise "Get your pup used to you doing the household chores...."

courses will know she is not an easy dog to train. If she doesn't feel like training, there is no budging her (she takes herself off to her bed for a snooze). The week's training was really informative and fun but it was hard work trying to train Libbie. I had already booked and paid for the assessments due in November so months of hard work ensued including lots of tears (from me).

At the beginning of November, we once again packed up the motorhome and travelled to Staffordshire to undertake three days practical revision followed by three days of assessments..... all my hard work paid off.... Libbie was amazing and was voted by far the most improved dog. My hard work didn't go unnoticed by our fabulous instructors who were amazing. I am pleased to say Libbie and I passed our assessments with flying colours and WE are now only one of eight teams in the COUNTRY to hold a City and Guilds Qualification in Scent Detection!".



PS Dates for your diary: 2021

With so much uncertainty about what the pandemic situation will be next year that we are unable to give as many specific dates as is usual.

Feb - March
Spring 2021
Tutors Training Course will be online

ASAP
Practical handling courses at Cheltenham Animal Shelters for new tutors + weekend 'live' courses for those doing their TTC online

Online - dates to be decided (possibly end of May)
Behaviour 5 (The Human on the end of the lead)

25 - 27 June (hopefully!)
Puppy School Conference

Sometime in the Summer
Another online learning week

Probably face-to-face, dates to be confirmed

Autumn 2020
Tutors Training Course

Probably face-to-face, dates to be confirmed
Behaviour 6 (Dog Dilemmas)

Autumn dates to be confirmed
Practical Handling course at Cheltenham Animal Shelter (for new tutors)

15 - 18 July
Crufts

12-13 June
Dogfest Cheshire

26-27 June
Dogfest Bristol

11-12 September
Dogfest Hertfordshire

25-26 September
Dogfest Warwickshire

How Puppy School survived 2020

by Gwen Bailey

When the pandemic started we were busy with preparations for helping with the Tail Wagging game on the Natures Menu stand at Crufts. We were all surprised when that went ahead and soon after, we were all in lockdown for 2.5 months, ending all our classes.



Claire Luscombe teaching her Papillon puppy, Beansprout, for the video demo for online classes

We were fortunate that two of our most experienced tutors had young puppies at that time, Louise Taylor (and her partner Neal Otter) and Claire Luscombe, and thanks to them, we were able to gather enough demo videos together and adjust the syllabus to get everyone online within a few weeks of the start of lockdown. There were many refunds at the start but, gradually, as clients tried online classes and started giving high praise through their testimonials, numbers taking up the offer of online began to increase. We limped through those 2 months, making videos to keep our spirits up and advertise our services, and, importantly, asking owners not to wait to start training as precious weeks of their puppy's lives were going past.

At that time, a task force team of Nicole Harris, Louise Taylor, Claire Luscombe helped us to come up with ideas and keep motivated. Adam Smith joined us to help lend his business knowledge and IT skills. From this magnificent 6, PS soon moved online and SuperPup was born as a way of helping tutors keep money coming in at a difficult time. In addition, we held regular meetings with the Regional Managers to keep in touch with how everyone was coping. It was at one of these meetings that the

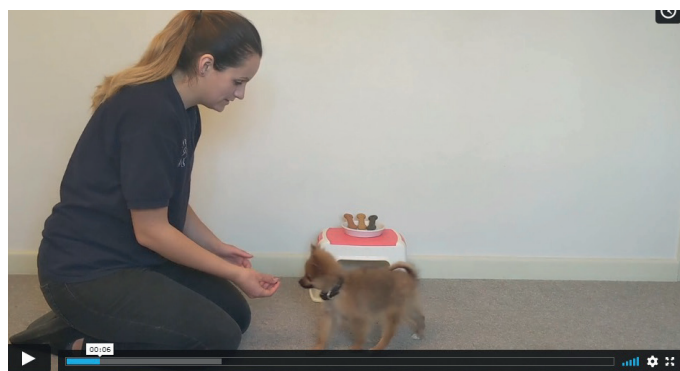
Snakes & Ladders socialisation game was invented.

Throughout the summer, we sorted guidelines and ways to help tutors keep COVID secure and safe as they slowly returned to face-to-face classes, outdoors at first and then inside. Endless revision of Government rules meant constant changes and updates to try to keep tutors within the law.

In the Autumn, we turned our face-to-face weekend tutor training courses into online evening classes. Catherine Tomlinson has considerable lecturing skills and found online lessons easy, and we took it in turns to host twice weekly lessons on Zoom. We even introduced an online assessment for each lesson which gave us the opportunity to check that everyone was learning what we were trying to teach. This allowed us to pick up those few people with lower scores and check they had learnt all they needed to know to move forward.

By November we were all tired, especially of COVID restrictions, so we put on an online learning week of 6 lessons specially for the PS family which cheered us all up and helped us all feel in touch. It was REALLY nice to see everyone again, even if only on Zoom.

In the end, it was a very different year from the one we had planned. All our normal activities were put on hold, such as the PS



Louise Taylor and Neal Otter with puppy, Tig, produced clean expert videos for online demos



Rachel was one of the first to master the technology and settle down to run classes online

Conference scheduled for June, the behaviour courses, Dogfest appearances, and we even had to suspend our usual monitoring class visits.

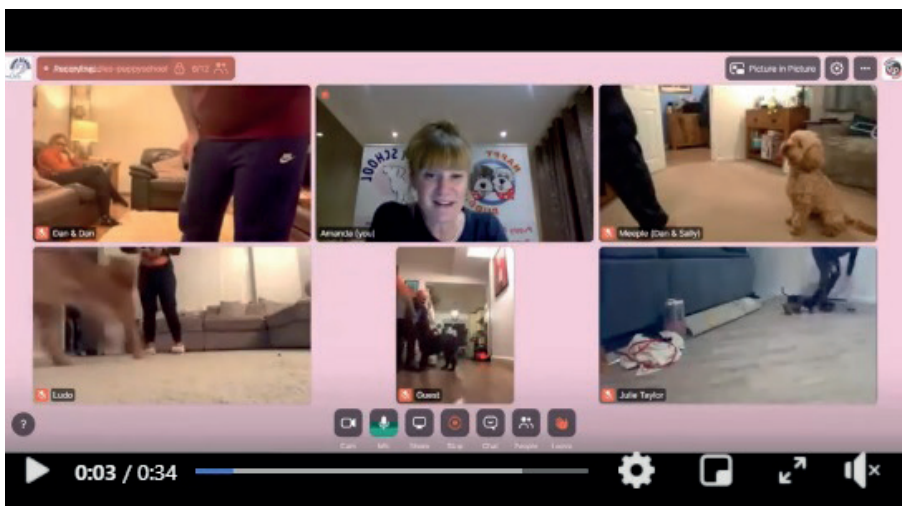
the Puppy School family pulled together in times of crisis, supported each other and stayed true to our mission of helping puppies and owners to achieve their full potential even when normal life for most people had completely evaporated. Thank you to everyone who stepped up during this year. Your efforts were truly appreciated.

Puppy School Plans for 2021 by Gwen Bailey

On the positive side, I learned that I can rely on my team, particularly Rachel Butler, to be innovative and to step up a gear when the chips are down. I also learned what a great family we have with brilliant skills, expertise and knowledge. Plans are in place to make full use of that in the future. We've all learnt much more about how to do things online, such as video editing and how to use conference platforms, that we can take into the future. It is likely that, long term, we will always have an online class presence for those people who, for whatever reason, are unable to attend a live class. We may also continue to run the online learning weeks periodically, as well as keeping part of our tutor training online. We will continue with the tutor training online assessments if that aids their learning, and we will incorporate the Snakes & Ladder socialisation into our

2021 is likely to be a busy one as we attempt to run all the events that were postponed in 2020 as well as develop all the plans we had for 2020 that couldn't be moved on because we were too busy staying afloat. Much will depend on when we are safe to run training courses live again so all plans for next year are dependant on what the pandemic situation will allow.

Goals for 2021 include running the Spring and Autumn tutor training courses (Spring course will be online) as well as catching up with all the practical courses and face-to-face weekends needed for last year's intake, continuing with the new Puppy School behaviour courses, this year courses 5 & 6 (course 5 to be run online), to continue the phone-friendly redesign of the website, to run the postponed PS Conference at the end of June (if we are allowed), and to develop the ideas for the online Puppy School extra. Plenty to be getting on with and so dependent on how fast the world gets back to normal. In addition, key players Gwen Bailey and Rachel Butler are getting married next year (May and June) so we may be a little distracted for a while. We are thankful that Puppy School is a small business that is easily manouverable and adaptable. Lets see what the future holds in store for us next year.



Amanda Blatch soon settled into online classes despite her concern over using the technology

My 2020 by Gwen Bailey, Founder and Director of Puppy School

Thanks to the pandemic, I was flat out until March with Puppy School events and skiing and then tumble weed quiet for the next 9 months while we all waited for it to be over. Despite this I've had one of my busiest years ever. I finished off my book (Happy Healthy Hound – no idea what the actual title will be, the publishers always have the final say), chose the photos and took some of Otto so he could be in the book too (publishing in USA and UK in May 2021). I gave a talk at the Association of Pet Behaviour Counsellors' virtual conference in June and completed my last months as Secretary on their interim committee. We handed over a very different organisation, mended and ready to go, to the new committee, which includes Puppy School's Nicole Harris and Lauren Watts with chair Dr Anne McBride, who are busy doing great things with it and taking it to new heights.



Filming the videos needed with the neighbour's lovely beagle, Oscar, was fun as was all the amazing pulling together of the PS family in time of crisis. I've enjoyed all our online meetings and feel closer than ever to everyone despite not seeing people in person. Lack of travel gave me plenty of time for training Otto and we managed to pass our Silver good canine citizen test and the Grade 3 Gun Dog test with distinction (working on his Grade 4 now despite having to pull out of the gun dog world for the Winter because of the shooting!). Otto was 3 this year and suddenly matured at 3 years and 2 months. I thought it was never going to happen but he really has become the perfect dog, responsive, thoughtful and everything you would want a dog to be. I'm so proud of him – time for another one now? Dan and I



Dan and I got engaged in March just as the first lockdown hit (he had planned a lovely weekend away on a Swiss mountain to propose but it had to be postponed). It was good to have something amazing to look forward to and plan for in the dark days of lockdown especially since big plans for my 60th birthday in June also had to be put on hold.

Getting Puppy School online and then creating the SuperPup course took a massive effort and kept me from fretting about the plummeting bookings for a few months.



recently went on an alpaca husbandry course and learnt what lovely gentle creatures they are. I've sold all my horse stuff (end of an era) and we are planning the alpaca barn with a view to acquiring some next year.

My 2020 from Rachel Butler, Puppy School's Operations and Business Development Manager

Wow it's been a year like none before, and hopefully none that we will ever see again and I am hugely thankful to the Puppy School family for helping to get me through. Things were ticking along nicely back in March both for Puppy School and also for my own little Happy Dog business. Who knew what was to come... Roll on a few weeks and all of our lives had turned upside down.

My first massive challenge was perfecting the skill of home schooling, whilst also juggling my work life too. Thanks to a reduction in hours and Gwen's amazing support, we struck up a balance which involved lots of early mornings, late nights and a huge whiteboard on my kitchen wall which became our family 'control centre!' I embraced the first week of home schooling like many other mums –with the enthusiasm of MaryPoppins, we set off across the fields and produced the kids' Hide and Seek training video, which was meant to be the start of many. There were no more after that – the reality of the challenges of homeschooling kicked in rapidly and I became best friends with BBC Bitesize (the amazing resource offered to children during lockdown to help with education). At the same time, we were feeling the pressure to take Puppy School online and we spent a really frantic couple of weeks preparing a product that I am, still now, suitably proud of.

The buzz of taking those first puppies online was incredible and suddenly, it felt like maybe there would be light at the end of the tunnel and our little beloved businesses might just survive after all. There then followed the

craziness of getting everyone else up and running too and it was amazing to watch the tutors, one by one, embrace this challenge and adapt their businesses to compete with the challenges they were facing.

I look back really fondly on that time now. We spent many an hour in the garden with four noisy children, two boisterous dogs and



a huge amount of laughter (and evening gin!) I remember being genuinely saddened when lockdown ended and the kids returned to school, the house felt so empty and I realised how much I had adapted to this new way of life. Still, we had to move on and things were beginning to get really really busy again before lockdown v2 interrupted our lives once more. As I write this, we are in week one of a four-week lockdown, but this time we were prepared, we were newly skilled and we had hope (and an end date, possibly) is in sight. I didn't hit the rock bottom moment that knocked me for six last time round – I simply took a deep breath (or 100), poured another gin (or 5) and started planning.....

Thank you, Puppy School, Gwen, Alice, Gail and all of the tutors for being amazing to work with on a daily basis. It has been one hell of a year but we've nearly done it and we've come out stronger, ready for the next chapter.



My 2020 from Alice Crick, Puppy School's Operations Assistant

Well...my fourth year at Puppy School HQ has been ever so slightly different this year. Despite it being a year that nobody will forget in a hurry, there is much to celebrate! My focus this year has really been on routinework (as oppose to new projects) which freed up a lot of Gwen and Rachel's time so that they could concentrate on bringing us Puppy School Online, SuperPup and converting the tutor training courses to online seminars.

In between the two lockdowns, I was lucky to attend a couple of gundog workshops with Helen Phillips. It was SO nice to see a few familiar PS faces and although Evie wasn't as keen as jumping into the lakes as Otto – we got a little swim out of her which I was delighted with. I am not sure who enjoyed the day most, me for seeing everyone again and having a lovely catchup, or Evie for showing off her new little lifejacket.



I turned 30 in this year and I had planned to spend my Summer at several Drum and Bass festivals all across

the UK to celebrate the end of my 20's with a big celebration! (Drum and Bass is my soul and my secret passion!) Alas, all the festivals were inevitably cancelled but my wonderful friends and family held a little socially distanced surprise 30th birthday



festival in the garden for me once we were out of lockdown which was very sweet and quite special.

On another positive note, this year has given me some time to reflect on the simpler things in life and Luke and I have had some time to work on our garden. We tried our hands at growing fruit and



veg and we loved it (as did Evie – aka the cheeky little raspberry thief!). Gardening is something we have surprisingly taken to and long may it continue.

My own business adapted and continues to do well thanks to the huge help of the PS team during this very difficult year. The launch of PS Online and SuperPup really kept my head above water and I personally want to thank all those involved in making our online classes such a success. I am not saying it was easy and that I didn't have moments of real lows but being able to offer these services has seen me through some trying times and I am very grateful! We have all had our ups and downs this year but thank you to each and every one of you for being so supportive of each other. I am truly very lucky to work alongside you all.



My 2020 from Gail Hutchman, Puppy School's Administrator

What a year it has been! It started so well and then come March and it all turned upside down. I was overwhelmed with refund requests for cancelled courses and just felt for all of our lovely tutors at how devastating this must have been. However, I was amazed at how quickly Gwen, Rachel etc were able to adapt to the situation so quickly so that Puppy School could offer online courses so that many of our Tutors could carry on with classes. Who knew how much Zoom etc would become the normal for many of us (I enjoyed many hours doing quizzes and staying in touch with friends and family via Zoom). How glad we were when lockdown ended, restrictions started to ease and life could slowly start to get back to some sort of normality.



On a personal note, I continued to work in the local nursing home throughout and saw the sad effects of the pandemic there with visits being cancelled and how my colleagues became family to the residents whilst they were not able to have their own visit them. In addition, there was the home schooling my teenage son although I don't think I was much help there and looking after my Dad who lived with me for almost two months. I also had the chance to spend a lot of time developing my gardening skills which was really relaxing, along with many long walks with my lovely Barney. And, here we are again – at the time of writing we are a few days into the second lockdown but we have been here before, we will adapt as necessary again and get through it once more. I really hope that 2021 is a better year for all of us.