

Fostering talent in the veterinary profession

With huge thanks to our esteemed judging panel and founding partner Pioneer Veterinary Products, we are proud to announce London Vet Show's 30 Under Thirty Class of 2023!

The initiative, founded last year in partnership with the London Vet Show and Pioneer Veterinary Products teams, aims to create and elevate tomorrow's veterinary leaders by giving them a chance to attend networking events, creating a forum for discussion and collaboration and contribute to other industry-wide initiatives.

The Class of 2023, is an outstanding cohort of veterinary professionals spanning all different roles within the industry, we look forward to presenting this next generation of veterinary leaders at our Induction Ceremony on at 5pm Thursday 16th November 2023 in the Business Theatre.

"It is incredible to see that only in its second year, the number of people that were

nominated for this year's 30 Under Thirty. As a profession, we do have challenges to overcome, but nothing gives more confidence that the profession will continue to thrive and overcome these than seeing how many gifted, driven, and talented are coming through, as well as the ideas and actions created by the class of 2022. It is clear to see that the future is in a safe pair of hands!" **Harry Norman, Event Director of the London Vet Show.**

"Congratulations to the 2023 VS30 winners! We're delighted to continue our support to the next 30 Under Thirty cohort and we are very much looking forward to meeting you all at LVS in November at the awards ceremony. We've achieved so much with the class of 2022 already and with the

THE JUDGING PANEL...



JILL MADDISON



CLIVE GROOMBRIDGE



PETER WRIGHT



RORY COWLAM



LOUISE NORTHWAY



MOLLY FIANDER

new class of 2023 joining this great initiative, we're starting to build a strong network of veterinary professionals who strive for excellence and

who want to make a positive impact on our industry. It's a privilege to be working with such talented individuals and we look forward to

building on our Innovation Community sessions in 2024" **Clive Groombridge, Managing Director of Pioneer Veterinary Products.**



CLASS OF 2023

RACHEL ALLEN

Vet

A vet at St George's Vets in the West Midlands, Rachel has been recognised for hard work in her senior mentoring and coaching role for new graduates.

Her nominator said: "Rachel is an exceptional mentor and vet, and a most kind and compassionate human. She is a role model when coaching new graduates to become confident surgically, during consults, and advocating a growth mindset, being kind to ourselves and speaking up when making mistakes to create a no-blame culture in practice."



ALICE BARKER

Vet and business development manager

Alice provides support for vets and nurses on topics from personal finance to mental health. Alice created thisvetcan.co.uk and @thisvetcan_blog Instagram page, and in 2023 the first ThisVetCan Mastermind, and has built a community of 2,500 members on Instagram engaged in conversations about finance.

Her nominator said: "Alice has turned the challenges she's faced as a vet into help for others. I wish there had been an Alice around earlier on in my career."



JOSEPH BEND

RVN

Joseph is a lead surgical nurse at Wildbore Vetstop, Worsop, where he is a huge source of inspiration for the other nurses and vets in his practice. He transformed its CT scanning service into a nurse-led service, and after completing his NCert in dentistry, Joseph introduced nurse dental assessments.

His nominator said: "Joseph is an inspiration to work alongside. He genuinely goes above and beyond – both to increase what we can offer our patients and to maximise what we as RVNs can achieve as a team."



SHONA BRENNAN

Clinical Nursing Manager

Starting her career as a PCA, clinical nursing manager Shona fast-tracked her academic qualifications and looks at how she can help the careers of others, too.

Taking every opportunity, having qualified as an RVN in March 2021, she then completed a certificate in anaesthesia in March 2023. In her spare time, she has started a journey into guest lecturing for the College of West Anglia.

Her nominator said: "It is obvious that Shona lives and breathes her work, and looks at and analyses every aspect of animals under her care and how it can be improved."



NATASHA CLARK

Vet

Natasha has developed a passion for research that improves animal health and welfare.

Natasha has pioneered the development of the first canine mobility-monitoring smartphone app (going live December 2023).

Her nominator said: "Natasha is dedicated to her cause of helping to promote the early detection of canine mobility impairments. Nothing is ever too much trouble for her and she will spend lots of time helping you understand something or lend a helping hand to an uncompleted task. Natasha will do great things in the future."



RACHEL DAVIDSON

Mixed Practice Veterinarian

Rachel has proven resilient in mixed practice since qualifying in 2020 and is great example of a new graduate, dealing with large and small animal cases with confidence and ability. Gaining the nickname "Pocket Rocket", colleagues said she always rises to the occasion with a positive attitude and shows up with a smile.

Her nominator said: "Farm work is still a large part of mixed practice in Northern Ireland. Her attitude to her work as a vet is every employer's dream and an inspiration to any vet considering working in a mixed practice."



KATHRYN DE HAMEL

RVN-Head nurse

Kathryn is devoted to a simple, yet very difficult, aspirational vision: "Do it right, then do it big".

She has actively driven positive change, introduced best practice standards, implemented continued learning to nurture the growth of individuals and the entire team, and proven she can execute on that vision.

She has expanded her influence, from colleagues to teams, and her nominator said: "We need people like Kathryn in our industry, oozing passion and determination to change for the better."



GAVIN GAN

Founder and CEO of Pet Impact, Vet

Within a year of graduating as a vet, Gavin had created and scaled sustainable pet product business Pet Impact, all while still working a full-time vet job.

He has shared his experiences with many in the profession, and continues to be a great first opinion vet while running a growing business.

His nominator said: "Gavin has a strong passion for entrepreneurship and business. He has faced challenges in both his business and his career as a vet, but this has never seemed to faze him, and he never fails to look at it in a positive light."



MACAULY GATENBY

RVN

Before becoming an RVN, Macaulay completed a masters on orangutans in Africa. He joined the BVNA council two years ago as an SVN and, despite his studies, has been an active member of council.

A role model to students, he has set up groups to look at the holistic support a new RVN needs and to encourage SVN's to take part in the veterinary profession.

His nominator said: "Macaulay's achievements so far clearly show that his strengths are in providing direction and lead in emotional issues and diversity, where clearly there is much work to be done."



DANIELLE GOLDS

Vet

Starting as a receptionist at the London Cat Clinic during her veterinary studies, Danielle's unstoppable drive led her to graduate from the RVC while juggling work commitments, including working every other day during the pandemic.

Now a vet at clinic, she is affectionately known as "Dr Dani" by clients.

Her nominator said: "Danielle's journey is a testament to her unwavering resilience and determination, showcasing not just her own growth, but the positive ripples she creates in the lives of those she touches."



HANNAH GRAINGER

RVN

Hannah became a nurse manager at 25 years old for The Neighbourhood Vet. Excelling in her new role, she is respected, admired and appreciated by staff, clients and their pets.

Stepping up while two managers have been on maternity leave, she always strives for clinical excellence and she supports, mentors, teaches, encourages and makes every day better for the nurse team.

The nomination said: "Hannah shows incredible leadership skills, not only to professionals under the age of 30, but to vets nurses, too."



CHARLOTTE HEATH

Vet

Charlotte started her vet career in general practice and now works in ECC.

Outside of work, she helps other graduates, as well as the wider vet community, and is a representative of the BVA Young Vet Network. Alongside her emergency care work, she organises walks through the Veterinary Voices Hiking Group.

Her nominator said: "Charlotte is a fantastic ECC clinician who cares for her patients."

"She has demonstrated a keen interest in helping other recent graduates, as well as trying to help the wider vet community locally."



ELLA HICKS

RVN

Ella qualified as an RVN from the RVC in 2022 and joined Dumbledore Vets in October 2022.

Alongside finding her feet with new equipment, new premises, new computer systems and a new team, she has been solely responsible for social media and internet branding, helping the business to grow and develop in the local area, and through its fantastic online presence.

Her nominator said: "The perfect example of a vet nurse using her skills and diversifying in such a brilliant way to support and grow a start up practice."



ALICE JUDGE

Vet

Alice co-founded Pet Impact in 2020, taking the role of sustainability strategist. Balancing her veterinary work alongside building a sustainable pet product brand, Alice's impact has stretched far beyond her practice's doors, and will positively affect pets, people and our planet.

Her nominator said: "Alice's achievements thus far are a direct result of her strong core values and constant desire to do the right thing over what's easiest."

"She demonstrates perseverance, dedication and commitment to reaching goals."



AJITH REKHA

RVN

A vet scientist with a strong educational background in biological science, Ajith has a strong enthusiasm for laboratory work. Currently an endocrinology laboratory scientist at NationWide Labs (NWL), Ajith is passionate to share his experiences to help others with areas of their studies, and is described as an avid goal setter.

His nominator said: "Aji is a wonderful team member of NWL Cambridge. One of his key qualities is his helping attitude; whenever someone needs help he is happy to carry it out. He is an ever-joyful person."



NATALIA MAKOWSKA

Administrator

A dynamic and experienced team member who joined BattLab in September 2022, Natalia has integrated herself into the veterinary industry – the administrative side of the business and marketing being her focus.

She has implemented systems to enhance the client experience, including a more efficient sample tracking system, and improved website search engine optimisation.

Her nominator said: "Natalia's journey is an inspiring example of how dedication, adaptability and a positive attitude can lead to success, for the individual and the team."



GEORGIA LINDLEY

Vet

Georgia has advanced the inpatient care services at her practice, to enable the team to provide a thorough inpatient service with high-quality work-up and diagnostics.

Georgia mentors the future vet generation as a VetGDP advisor and teaching university students as a part of Bristol's intramural rotations.

Her nomination said: "Georgia constantly goes above and beyond for her team mates as our group well-being champion and for her patients. Despite Georgia's achievements, she never seeks the limelight and is true team player."



BETHAN LOVVORN

RVN

Bethan has developed interests in ECC, nutrition and anaesthesia, and is studying a second degree around her RVN role.

Bethan has led a meeting to advise colleagues "how to run effective weight clinics" and ensures clients and patients get consistent care.

Her nominator said: "Bethan is an outstanding example of what hard work can achieve. She is not only an asset to our team and the profession, but she provides a friendly, warm and comforting shoulder for colleagues, patients and clients who need support."



SAMANTHA LYMPANY-TIER

Education and Development Officer

Samantha's veterinary career hasn't been linear, and starting as a VCA in a busy referral practice, she created and implemented a euthanasia and pet bereavement protocol.

An advocate for change, Samantha is working towards the culture shift of analysing and positively impacting the mental state of the patient, as well as the physical.

Her nominator said: "Samantha is incredibly driven by patient welfare, and constantly striving to ensure it is at the forefront of every decision."



REMI ONABOLU

RVN and RVC Vet Student

Remi is an RVN and current RVC vet student with a keen interest in ECC and soft tissue surgery.

She is the cofounder of Scrub Mentors, a free online mentoring service for students in years 11 to 13 interested in pursuing a career in vet medicine, vet nursing or dentistry.

Her nominator said: "Remi's levels of strategising and organisation outstrip people I know 10 years her senior. Her attention to detail and passion for supporting not only nurses, but also vet students, is wonderful; her empathy and compassion show wisdom and kindness beyond measure."



EMMA ONYEJEKWE

RVN

An aspiring wildlife RVN and wildlife advocate, Emma is helping inspire the veterinary sector to increase its love and knowledge for British wildlife through her social media accounts and website, The Wildlife Vet Nurse.

She has volunteered all over the world, supporting her local wildlife hospital, a wildlife vet in South Africa and wildlife rehabilitation in Vietnam and Thailand. Emily has spoken on the online version of the BVZS conference and created a short webinar for the Born Free Foundation, as well as conferences such as the BVNA Congress.



GEORGIA OWEN

Fourth-year vet student

Georgia has become president of the National Farm Animal Veterinary Society. Georgia also founded The Vet Student Network in 2022, a free mentorship platform designed to help students from state school backgrounds access veterinary medicine courses.

Her nominator said: "Her journey to vet school hasn't been easy and I admire her perseverance during adverse times. Her resilience makes her the perfect example to aspiring students who aren't able to take the stereotypical route of entry to vet school."



EMMA RUGGLES

Clinical Director

Emma has volunteered with numerous animal care and veterinary projects around the world, aiding in wildlife conservation and improvement of animal welfare.

She uses her social platforms to share her knowledge and insights, and created her first nursing webinar for the Worldwide Veterinary Service.

Her nominator said: "Emma has an infectious mannerism for those she works with, a relaxed and positive attitude and is always willing to offer support to those who need it, in a helpful and uncritical manner."



STEPHANIE STAPLETON

Veterinary Surgeon

Hugely passionate about the care of exotic animals, Stephanie started at The Neighbourhood Vet in 2021 as a new graduate and has been integral to improving and refining the practice's exotic anaesthesia protocols.

Her nomination said: "Steph is hugely passionate about the highest level of care for all exotics entrusted to her. She will always go above and beyond for the small pets that many people would dismiss, and will always advocate for and provide compassion and huge expertise despite being in the early stages of her career."



UPEKSHA WIJEMUNI

Veterinary Surgeon

Upeksha has a keen interest in emergency medicine and surgery, and is known to always support others within the practice to improve, teaching new graduate vets and nurses with Schedule 3 procedures and how to use a lap kit in practice.

Training in ECC and striving to meet the best level of care, she is now moving to evening shifts to put her training to full potential.

Her nominator said: "Upeksha makes a positively infectious impression and has achieved so much in a clinical setting, supporting vets and nurses alike."



REBEKAH WRIGHT

Equine Vet

Rebekah works in the Scottish Highlands, routinely making outlying visits to islands and remote regions. She is passionate about making the profession accessible to more people – especially in rural and mixed practices.

Her nominator said: "Rebekah is a real credit to the equine veterinary world; her kind and caring attitude shines through when caring for her patients, and her drive and enthusiasm makes it a delight to work with her. It has been a joy to work with such a professional young vet who brings so much to our practice."



A special thank you...

to the debuting Class of 2022 who are passing the torch on. We couldn't have asked for a better first class, what you have achieved in the year since your ceremony has been unbelievable, we can't wait to see what's in store for you next. A huge congratulations again.

